

HANDS-ON MACHINE QUILTING CLASSES



MAY 2 - 4 2024

We are so excited to host our Spring Handi Quilter Van Event, running along with the Niagara Modern Quilt Expo, at the Meridian Community Centre. Join us and Handi Quilter National Educator Janel Metsker for hands on learning on an HQ Amara with Pro-Stitcher.

Event Highlights:

- Low student teacher ratio ensures you will get individual attention
- 2 students per machine gives you lots of time to practice during class
- Variety of classes to suit all quilters
- Rare opportunity for hands-on Pro-Stitcher Training
- Free admittance to the Niagara Modern Quilt Expo both Friday and Saturday

The classes are well suited to those considering purchasing a longarm system and longarm owners. Join us to learn new skills and build your quilting confidence! This will be a hands-on learning environment. Classes cannot be recorded or streamed.

Please call 905-397-9500 or visit Kindred Spirits to register for classes.

LONGARM BOOTCAMP

Thursday May 2, 9 AM – 4 PM

Does longarm quilting interest you, and you'd like to learn more about it? Or do you just want a review of longarm quilting basics? This class removes the mystery of longarm quilting by explaining machine and frame elements and features, how to load a quilt, and vital facts about thread, needles, and tension. Handi Quilter longarm machine and frame systems come in various sizes for every budget and are user-friendly because they are designed by a quilter, for quilters – just like you!

Objective: Learn skills that will help you manage your long-arm machine with confidence

Topics Include:

- Basic machine and frame elements and features
- Bobbins, tension, needles and thread
- How to load a quilt onto a frame
- Rulers, Adjustable and Micro Handles, and basic free-motion

Class fee: \$199, includes lunch & EXPO admission



SWEET AND SIMPLE FREE-MOTION QUILTING

**Friday May 3, 9 AM – 12 PM
(Morning Session)**

Quilters everywhere LOVE the excitement and fun of free-motion quilting – and it's easier than you think! Create flowing designs by connecting simple design elements with continuous lines, traveling across the quilt or filling in a specific area. Learn how drawing and muscle memory contribute to beautiful free-motion quilting, and how you can create stunning designs.

Objective: Learn to create free motion designs that can be used to finish any quilt.

Topics include:

- How to develop an inventory of free-motion designs
- Proper scaling and spacing of design elements
- Edge-to-edge free-motion quilting
- Adjusting your quilting path to create your own new designs
- Using Micro Handles and adjustable handlebars for free-motion control

CREATIVELY CUSTOMIZE YOUR QUILTS

**Friday May 3, 1 – 4 PM
(Afternoon Session)**

Blocks, backgrounds, sashings and borders – these are the basic components of many pieced quilt tops, and there are tricks to quilting them with a cohesive overall look, while creating your own personal style. Learn how to select and adapt designs to complement each area, and how to accomplish the quilting efficiently and easily. Tried-and-true fillers and “go-to” designs will be featured.

Full day class fee: \$199, includes lunch & EXPO admission

QUILTMONIALS TRUNK SHOW & GUIDED QUILT SHOW TOUR

Friday May 3, 6 PM – 8 PM

Bonus class open to all

Come enjoy a guided tour with a discussion about the quilts on display at the Niagara Modern Quilt Expo with Handi Quilter National Educator Janel Metsker. Learn more about Janel's journey as a quilter, pattern designer, small business owner, longarm quilter and educator through her quiltmonial's trunk show! Each one of her projects has a story or testimony from the seasons that she created them. Visit www.niteowlquilting.com to see over 25 of her published patterns and tutorials.

Class fee: \$25

EXPLORING PRO-STITCHER

Saturday May 4, 9 AM – 4 PM

Pro Stitcher has so many wonderful features! In this class, we will learn step-by-step processes for each function that will create confidence to go home and use this fabulous computer-guided quilting system! Repetition and practice is key to gain confidence in your computerized quilting skills! Come learn, practice, and grow as a quilter in this hands-on class designed to help you really learn the basics of Pro Stitcher to set you up for some quilting success!

This class is for all Pro-Stitcher owners and those interested in exploring the unlimited possibilities of Pro-Stitcher. Students should be prepared for a full day with lots of information. Come prepared to pick Janel's brain!

Class fee: \$199, includes lunch & EXPO admission

CLASSES PRESENTED BY HANDI QUILTER NATIONAL EDUCATOR JANEL METSKER



**JANEL
METSKER**

Janel Metsker lives in Springeld, Missouri with her supportive husband, two sons, and adorable dogs! She grew up sewing with her mom making clothes, bags, home decor, and furniture reupholstery projects. Her Aunt Carol introduced her to quilting when she was 21 years old, and it was the perfect fit for her creative outlet as she loves sewing, color, math, design, and creating custom homemade gifts. She loves travel, adventure, playing her string bass, and restorative time in nature. These experiences are often inspiration for her projects!

In 2011, Janel started her own company designing quilt patterns called Nite Owl Quilting.

She considers her style modern quilting with traditional charm! There have been many amazing opportunities over the years collaborating with Robert Kaufman fabrics, Stof Fabrics, Maywood Studios fabrics, Checker Distributors, Brewer Sewing Supplies, E.E. Schenck, Keepsake Quilting catalog, and Nancy's Notions catalog. She now has over 25 published patterns with several more on the way!

In 2016, Janel began working at a local high school as a Family Consumer Sciences teacher. She grew the design pathway program, wrote an extensive curriculum for sewing and interior design courses, equipped students for FCCLA state and national competitions, and completed her Master of Arts in Teaching degree for Family Consumer Sciences in 2019.

Janel loves hand-guided quilting and Pro-Stitcher®! Sharing her love of sewing, design, and quilting has been a huge source of joy as she has helped others find confidence with a growth-mindset approach to all skill building processes! Her love of quilting, education experience, hard work, and passion to help others creates a positive and productive class experience!



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