



The Brush Art Gallery & Studios seeks entries for **“Out of the Blue” - Guest curated by Mary Walter.**

Juried Quilt Exhibit – Aug 1 through Sep 12, 2026

PROSPECTUS

Out of the Blue -- Art quilters share your best blue quilts. Were you inspired to make a quilt from a flash of an idea? Was it a song, a quote, a summer sky or ocean scene, or fabrics from your stash of blues? Grab your camera, sketchbook, scissors and sewing machines to design your next blue quilt for The Brush Gallery's 2026 Art Quilt Exhibit.

All entries must be three layers stitched together. The techniques of hand and/or machine work, surface design, embroidery and embellishments to complete your entry are welcome.

Finished quilts should not be larger than 60” wide and 65” high. Please include a 4”- 6” sleeve on the back for hanging.



Full Circle quilt by Mary Walter

AWARDS

The winner of Best in Show will receive \$200 and the Juror's Award will receive a \$100 cash prize.

ELIGIBILITY

This is an international call for artists, open to all. Artists may submit up to 3 images for consideration.

METHOD OF SELECTION: Digital images only (no slides)

COMMISSION: 30% for Brush members, 40% for non-members.

ENTRY FEE: Non-refundable entry fee of \$25.00, Up to 3 entries, 2 views each (Full and Detail). Follow this link for payment online: <https://thebrush.org/quiltentryfee.htm>. To make a payment by check or money order, please mail directly to: The Brush Art Gallery and Studios, 256 Market Street, Lowell, MA 01852

ENTRY PROCEDURE: Artists may submit up to three entries (Full and Detail images) for a total of 6 images. [ONLINE APPLICATION](#)

- Only original art quilts completed within the past 5 years are eligible. All quilts should be no larger in height than 65” and no more than 60” wide and must be ready for hanging with a 4 to 6 inch sleeve (large enough to comfortably accommodate a wood dowel or wood/plastic slat). All quilts must be accompanied by dowels or slats. Dowels need hardware and slats should have hardware or holes for hanging. Quilts that don’t meet these requirements will not be accepted for hanging. Quilts should be clearly labeled on reverse with artist’s name and title of quilt.
- After completing the on-line form, either pay online or mail a check for \$25.00 made out to the Brush Art Gallery & Studios at 256 Market Street, Lowell, MA 01852. Follow the instructions of the e-mailed form.
- **Please email a description of 25 words or less for each entry to director@thebrush.org.**
- Note: all communication, including jury decision will be done via e-mail, so make sure to provide an e-mail address that you check frequently.

Please keep in mind, The Brush Art Gallery and Studios is open to the public. All submissions should be suitable for both children and adults. Submissions will be reviewed for exhibit suitability and response to show theme. We reserve the right not to display entries that appear different than the submitted artwork.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

Entries must be submitted online and **received no later than 11:59pm on Saturday, June 13, 2026**. The required entry fee must also be received by this time. Incomplete submissions will be disqualified. No late entries will be accepted.

IMPORTANT PROJECT DATES

April 15 – June 13, 2026	Open period for artist submissions
June 13, 2026	Deadline for submission of application materials
June 28, 2026	Artists notified of selected works for exhibit
Sat, July 18, 2026	Hand-delivered and shipped work must arrive on or before
Aug 1, 2026	Show opens/First day of exhibit
Saturday, August 15, 2026	Public reception for artists
September 12, 2026	Show closes/Last day of exhibit
Tue, Sept 15, 2026, 12-4 p.m.	Pick up of work at Brush Gallery
Wed, Sept 16, 2026, 12-4 p.m.	Pick up of work at Brush Gallery
Week of Sept 20, 2026	Work shipped back to out-of-state artists

LENDER INFORMATION

Please see loan agreement (http://thebrush.org/PDF/LOAN_AGREEMENTweb.pdf) for detailed information regarding shipping, photo reproduction, insurance, sales, and commission.

ABOUT THE JURORS

Guest Curator Mary Walter:

For over 35 years, quilter Mary Walter has been recognized for her original quilting style, often incorporating a mix of traditional, ethnic, and contemporary quilting techniques into her quilts. Mary is also a freelance curator presenting exhibits for a variety of cultural organizations nationwide. You may also find Mary teaching in her studio designing patterns and fabric, meeting, and teaching on Zoom, traveling to exhibits, lecturing, and judging quilts. She is a member of Quilters Connection, The Cambridge Modern Quilt Guild, SAQA-Studio Art Quilts Association, and NACQJ - National Association of Certified Quilt Judges.

Guest Juror: Valerie Maser-Flanagan uses self-created hand-dyed fabric to design abstract sewn constructions. Her work is influenced by both the rural setting she currently resides in, her exposure to urban structures from working in Boston for thirty years, and her attraction to ethnic design. Maser-Flanagan has exhibited throughout the United States and received numerous awards for her work. Her Work has been purchased by the Chandler Arts Council in Arizona, Visions Art Museum, and by private collectors. Examples of her designs are published in *Quilting with a Modern Slant* by Rachel May, *Dyeing Alchemy* by Diane Franklin, and *Art Quilts International Abstract and Geometric* by Martha Sielman.

Maser-Flanagan began as a traditional quilter but transitioned to contemporary design through studies with Nancy Crow, David Hornung and Carol Soderlund.



Exhibit Sponsor:

Quilters Connection

www.quiltersconnection.org

ABOUT BRUSH ART GALLERY AND STUDIOS

The Brush Art Gallery and Studios is located in the Lowell National Historical Park across the courtyard from the Visitor Center. This dynamic and captivating place was originally founded by the Lowell Historic Preservation Commission, U.S. Department of the Interior in 1982. The Brush presents museum quality exhibitions, educational programs, and has collaborated with many other nonprofit groups. Artists occupy studio spaces to interact with and educate the public on a weekly basis. Studio artists produce paintings, illustration, photography, jewelry, sculpture, ceramics, quilts, and handwoven items. Associate artists display work in the common area. The Brush Art Gallery and Studios is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization. The Brush is supported by Lowell National Historical Park. For more information, please visit: <http://thebrush.org>.

QUESTIONS

For more information or inquiries, please contact Jim Dymont, Executive Director, Brush Art Gallery and Studios, at (978) 459-7819 or via email at brushdirector@gmail.com.