



Regional Exhibition Prospectus

Title of Exhibition: Sew to Speak

Eligibility: Open to SAQA DC/DE/MD/WV, NC/VA, and PA Region members only.

Exhibition Concept:

“Sew to Speak”, a SAQA Tri-Regional Exhibition, will take place at BlackRock Center for the Arts during National Women’s History Month. It will explore ideas of meaning in textile art by exploring how contemporary art quilters express themselves in their work. In addition to juried work by SAQA members from the mid-Atlantic area, the exhibition will include several works by the Pixeladies that express political and social justice messages.

Meaning in art quilts can take many forms. How do you express yourself in quilting? And what do you express? Do you express emotions, such as joy, love, pride, or grief? Do you express identities that are important to you, such as heritage, nationality, family, or gender? Do you use quilting to express opinions or support causes?

“Sew to Speak” welcomes your voice.

Exhibition run dates: March 9-April 21, 2024

Call for entry issued: June 2023

Entry opens: December 4, 2023

Call for Entry Closes: January 3, 2024

Notification of acceptance: February 1, 2024

Exhibition opens: March 9, 2024

Exhibition closes: April 22, 2024

Projected number of pieces: 30 juried pieces, plus up to 5 invited pieces by Pixeladies. Both 2D and 3D artwork are welcome. Three-dimensional work must be able to hang on a wall or from the ceiling. No pedestal-mounted or freestanding three-dimensional work will be accepted.

Venue: BlackRock Center for the Arts, 12901 Town Commons Drive, Germantown, MD 20874.

Eligibility and Requirements:

Submissions that deviate from these submission requirements will not be considered.

- Collaborative work (two or more artists) may be entered.
- Each submission must include an Artist Statement of 1000 characters maximum, addressing the artist's interpretation of the show's concept, as well as a description of Materials (200 characters maximum) and Techniques (200 characters maximum).
- Two-dimensional artwork must not exceed 60" in width and height, and the depth must be less than 2 inches. Three-dimensional work must not exceed 60" in width and height and must be able to fit through a standard 34" doorway. Three-dimensional work must be able to hang on a wall or from the ceiling. No pedestal-mounted or freestanding three-dimensional work will be accepted. When measuring your work, include any extensions, fringes, or additions to the body of work.
- Artwork must meet the SAQA definition of an art quilt: "the art quilt is a creative visual work that is layered and stitched or that references this form of stitched layered structure."
- Artwork must be original (not executed in the classroom, under educational guidance or supervision, or created from a kit).
- Artwork that has been previously exhibited in a juried show at the BlackRock Center for the Arts is not eligible.
- The submitted work **must** meet these requirements: work that does not do so will not be exhibited, and the entry fee will not be refunded.
- Artist(s) must be a member of SAQA and have chosen DC/DE/MD/WV or VA/NC or PA as their primary or secondary region. Membership must be current at the time of entry submission. See www.saqa.com for membership information and to join.

Jury Process and Acceptance:

- Entries will be evaluated on overall artistic impact, design, and interpretation of the show's concept.
- Up to two entries may be submitted, but only one entry will be accepted per artist.

Juror: Deb Cashatt

Deb is a full-time studio artist focusing on the art quilt. For the past twenty years, as one half of the Pixeladies, she has created art quilts with political and social justice messages. Deb considers herself part of the long line of women who have created textiles to express political views and promote change.

Pixeladies' quilt, *Mrs. Hamer*, premiered at the William J. Clinton Presidential Library in the *Women's Voices, Women's Votes, Women's Rights* exhibition. *The Language of Color 10: Drawing Humanity* was created for the 2016 South African exhibition *The Ubuntu Legacy of Love and Action*, which honored Desmond and Leah Tutu. It is now in the collection of the Michigan State University Museum. Pixeladies also recently created three quilts commenting on the US Supreme Court's Dobbs decision that rolled back women's reproductive rights.

Both Pixeladies', and now Deb's solo artwork, has been published and juried into national and international exhibitions.

Deb is a Juried Artist Member of SAQA and a member of Braver Angels, an organization seeking an America with respectful embrace of political disagreement.

Entry Fee: \$35 entry fee for up to two entries. Members must pay their fees using a credit card (MC, Visa, or Amex) or PayPal through the [SAQA Store](#). Fee must be paid before the entry deadline listed above and fee is not refundable. For issues with payment, please contact: calls@saqa.art.

Commission: Artists are strongly encouraged to offer their work for sale. The gallery commission will be 30%.

Submission requirements:

- For each wall-hung 2D entry (depth is less than 2 inches), submit one full view front digital image and one detail digital image.
- For each 3D artwork, submit one overall front image and two detail images (one should showcase the depth)
- Full-view images MUST show all the edges along with a small amount of background.
- Digital images must be saved as a high-quality JPEG or JPG file (No TIFF files). Do not use your name or initials in the filename (title is fine).
- Finished images should be at least 2100 pixels on the longest side and not more than 4200 pixels.
- Files should NOT exceed more than 12 MB per file for 2D submissions (form max is 25 MB)
- Files should NOT exceed more than 8 MB per file for 3D submissions (form max is 25MB)

Contact information: Contact Helen Blumen (helen.blumen@gmail.com) with questions about this exhibition.