



Garden of Quilts

ASHTON GARDENS
by THANKSGIVING POINT & RILEY BLAKE DESIGNS

2026 Presenters



Meet your Presenters



Amanda Neiderhauser

You may know Amanda Niederhauser as Jedi Craft Girl - the girl who loves cats and quilting! Amanda has been quilting for 27 years, she is a fabric designer for Riley Blake Designs and designs and writes quilt patterns for her Etsy shop, JediCraftGirl. Amanda has authored two books: Playful Precut Quilts and More Playful Precut Quilts by C&T publishing. She lives in Southern California where the weather is always perfect. Find her on Instagram @jedicraftgirl. which are reflected in her fabric designs - most of which include cats.



Amber Johnson

Amber Johnson is married and has two young-adult children. She has been quilting for about 25 years now. Her grandmother, Delma (whose great-grandchildren called Gigi), taught her how to quilt and is the namesake of her company, Gigi's Thimble. Amber is a blogger, two-time author, teacher, quilt pattern designer, and fabric designer with Riley Blake Designs. She gathers much of her inspiration while walking and hiking in her beautiful hometown of Alpine, Utah - a quaint town nestled in the mountains. You can follow her on Instagram @gigis_thimble.



Amy Chappell

Amy Chappell has been designing sewing and quilting patterns for over ten years. As a mom of six she knows how busy life can be and so she loves focusing on small scale projects that give you a chance to play with gorgeous fabric without breaking the bank or taking every second for weeks on end. She loves celebrating the seasons with her designs and believes that everyone can be a quilter!



Bev McCullough

Beverly McCullough designs quilts, embroidery, and cross stitch patterns, as well as a huge collection of fun and functional needle minders. She is also the author of quilt and embroidery books inspired by her love of making and storytelling through stitching. Beverly has been sewing since she was a child, and her work reflects an updated vintage style with a fresh, modern touch. She is a fabric designer for Riley Blake Designs and shares her work at flamingotoes.com and on Instagram and Facebook at [@flamingotoes](https://www.instagram.com/flamingotoes).



Carmen Geddes

Carmen Geddes brings her love of quilting and people together for a fun day of learning.

Enjoy her friendly, low-key approach and her great quilting techniques. She has revolutionized quilt making with EasyPiecing Grid.

She has taught at many quilt shows around the country including Houston Quilt Festival and Road to California.

Carmen has developed Tensisters Easy Piecing Grid and the Tensisters Piping Tool. She is author and publisher of five companion books, Ten Quilts for Ten Sisters, Quilts for Kids, Seven Brothers Block Party, Around the Block Quilts, and Heirloom Quilts.

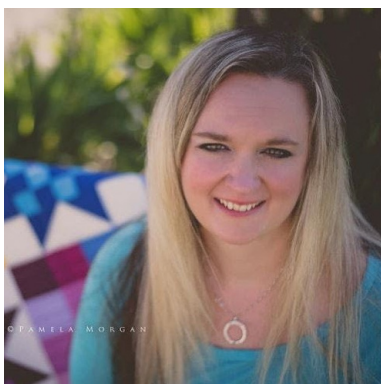
She has five children and 14 grandchildren and resides in Spanish Fork, Utah with her husband Patrick.



Chantelle Bailey

Chantelle Bailey is an avid quilter, pattern designer, and teacher living in Utah. She discovered quilting more than a decade ago and quickly fell in love with the mix of creativity, problem-solving, and structure that quilting offers. Today, she designs under Chantelle Bailey Design, creating modern, approachable patterns inspired by color, geometry, and classic quilt elements.

Chantelle has taught quilting and sewing classes for several years and has been an AccuQuilt designer for over a year. She has collaborated with fabric designers and taught classes at local quilt shops. She especially loves helping quilters gain confidence as they learn new techniques and create quilts they're proud of. Quilts", and Heirloom Quilts. She has five children, 13 grandchildren and resides in Spanish Fork, Utah with her husband Patrick.



Charisma Horton

Charisma Horton is a highly acclaimed and award-winning professional in the world of longarm quilting. With her exceptional skills as a longarm quilter, she has earned a well-deserved reputation as a master of her craft. Not only is Charisma a renowned quilter, but she is also a prolific pattern designer and valued contributor to various magazines within the quilting community. In the realm of design, Charisma's artistic repertoire knows no bounds. From charming and folksy hand embroidery designs to bold and vibrant modern creations, her portfolio encompasses a diverse range of styles. One of Charisma's unique talents lies in her ability to infuse traditional quilt blocks with a fresh and contemporary appeal, using the power of color to breath new life into traditional designs.

To experience the magic of her designs and immerse yourself in her world of quilting, visit her website at www.charismascorner.com and follow her on social media!



Deonn Stott

Deonn's love for quilting began at age eight as she helped tie her very first quilt. She spent many hours in the sewing room with the women in her family, and eventually her own triplet daughters, who have become accomplished quilt makers themselves. As a pattern designer, author, quilt maker and instructor, it is Deonn's personal quest to discover and share time- and budget-saving tips, tricks, and tools that simplify the process of quilt-making. Look for her new book, *Ultimate Binding & Edge-Finishing Guide for Quilting & Sewing*, online or at your local quilt shop. Find Deonn @quiltschapades and www.QuiltscapesQS.com.



Fran Gulick

Fran Gulick is a quilt pattern designer, fabric designer, and the creative force behind *Cotton and Joy*. Known for clean lines, modern designs, and approachable patterns, Fran creates quilts that feel both fresh and timeless.

Through *Cotton and Joy*, she's passionate about helping quilters of all skill levels make something beautiful while enjoying the process along the way.



Heather Kidd

I am very passionate about quilting and love being able to design quilt patterns. I live in a small town in Southeast Idaho where both mine and my husband's family are close by. I'm a proud mom of four energetic boys. They are turning 16, 14, 12, and 8 this year. I juggle family life and quilting, pouring love into both! I also enjoy baking, crochet, and being outside (especially warm weather activities). I am one of AccuQuilt's pattern designers. I believe quilting should be a joyful journey. There is inspiration everywhere and it's fun to embrace the creative process.



Jaimie Davis

Formally a scientist, Jaimie Davis is an award-winning quilter who began quilting in 1993. In addition to making quilts, she designs patterns, kits and technique-based workshops and travels widely to teach for quilt guilds, retreats and quilting festivals. Jaimie has taught and lectured for the International Quilt Festival in Houston, Texas, The American Quilters Society, Mancuso Quiltfest Virtual Schoolhouse and Road to California as well as guilds throughout the United States and England. Her work has been shown in national and international exhibits including the International Quilt Show in Houston, Texas, and the Pacific International Quilt Festival in Santa Clara, California. Jaimie draws inspiration from color and curvy lines and loves to add a touch of whimsy to every project. She and her husband live in Portland, Oregon with a whole bunch of quilts, a lot of great books, a turtle their kids left behind and a never-ending supply of Diet Coke.



Jane Haworth

Jane Haworth is self-taught quilter who draws inspiration from a love of color and pattern, and photographs of the natural world. Her vibrant quilts are approachable for beginners, with techniques that are both relaxing and addictive. These quilts have been exhibited in shows across the U.S., reflecting on her storytelling through fabric. Jane teaches nationally and internationally. She has appeared on Quilting Arts TV and The Quilt Show (May 2025). Her book, *Capture Your Own Life with Collage Quilting* (Landauer Publishing), was released in Fall 2023.



Jen Belnap

I live in Texas with my husband and our six kids. With a big family and a busy household, quilting became my creative outlet--and truly, my sanity! I'm a quilt and pattern designer who loves the creative process and the joy of bringing new ideas to life through fabric and design.

I've had the opportunity to collaborate with incredible industry leaders, including Riley Blake Designs. These experiences have deepened my love for the quilting community and the creativity that connects us all. Quilters really are the best people!

When I'm not at my sewing machine, you'll find me planning our next family trip or adventure. Our family motto is "make beautiful memories," and we try to do just that every day.

My website <https://jenbelnapdesignhouse.com>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/jenbelnapdesignhouse/>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/jenbelnapdesignhouse>

Pinterest <https://www.pinterest.com/JenBelnapDesignHouse/>

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/@jenbelnapdesignhouse>



Jennifer Bosworth

Jennifer Bosworth is an experienced educator and creative behind Shabby Fabrics, where she has spent years teaching a wide range of needlework and quilting techniques, including patchwork, appliqué, hand embroidery, cross stitch, and approachable DIY projects. Her teaching style is clear, encouraging, and thoughtfully structured, with an emphasis on step-by-step instruction that helps makers feel confident and excited as they learn. Jennifer is known for breaking projects down into manageable, easy-to-understand steps while sharing practical tips, techniques, and strategies that empower students to approach any project with enthusiasm.

Through Shabby Fabrics and its YouTube channel—now reaching nearly half a million subscribers worldwide—Jennifer has had the privilege of teaching and inspiring a large community of makers. She enjoys guiding students not only through the "how," but also the "why," offering insight into color selection, fabric choices, and creative decision-making whether working from a kit or designing independently. Jennifer's goal is always the same: to help students feel capable, confident, and joyful as they create.



Jennifer Long

Jennifer Long is an author, pattern writer and fabric designer for Riley Blake Designs and the founder of Sew A Story Ltd. Throughout her creative career she has managed both the quilt pattern and machine embroidery departments at Riley Blake Designs, overseeing the development of accurate and cohesive instructional patterns that support fabric releases for shops and makers around the world.

Jennifer began her career designing and ghost-writing quilt and craft patterns for major fabric companies while her children were young. Over the last decade, Jennifer has combined her background as a former professional ballet dancer, an early years educator, and her lifelong love of doll making to design fabrics, felt panels, dolls, and quilt projects under the Sew A Story company brand.

She is known for her innovative, copyrighted in-the-hoop (ITH) doll-making technique, which allows a fully stitched doll to be created with ease on a home embroidery machine, as well as years of designing and managing doll production overseas. In her own business, Jennifer runs block-of-the-month programs and memberships that are intentionally built to support quilt shops through coordinated projects, patterns, and storytelling-based samples.

Jennifer lives with her husband and their four teen and adult children on a rural acreage in Canada, where much of her creative work begins at the sewing machine and embroidery hoop in her home studio. Her first multi-project Quilting & Sewing book with David & Charles will launch in 2026.



Joanna Figueroa

Joanna Figueroa, founder of Fig Tree & Co., grew up in a family shaped by entrepreneurship, creativity, and a classic immigrant story that began in Poland and continued in America. From sewing buttons on a trans-Atlantic flight to building a quilting and fabric company with more than 150 patterns, her path shows how art, business, and inspiration from everyday life came together. Joanna is presenting at this Year's evening event: Evening with Joanna. Additionally she is teaching two garden of quilts classes.



Josephine Keasler

When Josephine and her husband Charlie moved to Utah in 2007 she was excited to join the quilting community. She has served as an officer of the Utah Quilt Guild in many positions, and in 2021 was honored to receive the Silver Thimble award "for outstanding efforts to encourage, promote, and preserve the art of quilt making in Utah." Having made more than 200 quilts in the past seventeen years, she has developed exceptional skills in all areas of quilting, including design, color theory including value, paper piecing, and border options. Josephine has earned and maintains instructor certification in both Judy Niemeyer designs and Laura Heine collage designs. She is one of four authorized teachers in the United States for Jacqueline de Jonge designs. As a result of her talent, expertise, and joy of teaching, she has won numerous quilt awards. She teaches at various venues and is a regular instructor for Empty Spools Seminars at Asilomar. Josephine is consistently praised for her expertise as an instructor. She loves to help quilters at all levels to experience the joy of quilt making.



Karen Walker

Meet Karen Walker of Laugh Yourself into Stitches.

Growing up on a family farm, Karen's Grandma Cora lived only a strawberry field away. At an early age, Karen made her first quilt alongside her grandma using scissors, templates and yarn to tie her pieced pride and joy together.

In the early 2000's Karen got serious with her quilt passion. She started a quilting group at her church in Oregon and worked at the local quilt shop called Main Street Cloth and Mercantile. The shop was featured in the 2002 Quilt Sampler Magazine. Karen quickly began teaching and loved every minute sharing her passion with others.

Longarming came next, then pattern design and to her surprise, fabric designing for Riley Blake Designs!

Karen has been published in Simply Vintage Magazine, Simply Moderne as well as Quiltmania. In the Fall of 2018, one of her quilts was featured on the cover for Keepsake Quilting catalog. Recently, Quiltfolk Magazine highlighted Karen in an email exposé.

You'll also find Karen on the road with the Magic Quilting and Crafting Spray team (a Faultless product) promoting one of her most favorite quilting essentials!

Follow Karen on

Instagram [@laughyourselfintostitches](https://www.instagram.com/laughyourselfintostitches)

facebook.com/laughyourselfintostitches/

YouTube/[@laughyourselfintostitches](https://www.youtube.com/@laughyourselfintostitches)

And visit her website laughyourselfintostitches.com



Laura Duran & Lina Owen

Lina Owen and Laura Raquel Duran are passionate quilters committed to making quilting accessible, inclusive, and vibrant for the Hispanic/Latino community and beyond. As co-authors of the bilingual book *Learn-to-Quilt Bilingual Guide* (Fox Chapel Publishing, now available), they offer step-by-step patchwork instructions in both English and Spanish, side-by-side, empowering beginners to create with confidence and joy.

Lina, originally from Colombia and now based in Wisconsin, discovered quilting during the pandemic and has since become a passionate advocate for growing the Latino quilting community. Through her business BlueBelle Designs, and platform Quilting with Latinas, she bridges language barriers and celebrates cultural heritage in every stitch.

Laura, from San Diego with Mexican parents, brings warmth, creativity, and a deep connection to Latina traditions to their collaborations. Together, they infuse their work with bold colors, indigenous-inspired patterns, and a profound love for community--drawing from their shared roots to create quilts that carry messages of resilience, joy, and connection.

Their mission is to unite quilters across cultures, preserving traditions while inspiring new generations to quilt boldly and proudly.



Laura Lindsay Strickland

Laura Strickland is an art quilter and pattern designer, living on the banks of the Mississippi River in East Moline, Illinois. Her quilt patterns have a Mid-century Modern/Pop Culture aesthetic. She has come to quilting from a formal art background. Her fiber arts instructor at Virginia's Governor's School for the Arts, Lynn Sword, inspired her to pursue a love of where needle and thread meet color and design. Drawing on her education in art history, design principles, and color theory she has chosen cloth as her main medium for expression. She is a teacher by nature. Sewing and fiber arts have been her passion since she was a little girl. She makes portrait art quilts, unique "quilty" objects, and has developed a signature trademarked technique, "Effervescent Applique". She has been featured in multiple national publications/periodicals over the last four years and she's been juried into the Cherrywood Challenge for 4 of the last 5 challenges. Her quilting journey began almost 30 years ago, and she is enjoying the adventure still. She is an active member in two local quilt guilds. She vends at national shows throughout the US. She opened a brick-and-mortar business in the summer of 2023 in LeClaire, Iowa. She is a highly sought after speaker and teacher for guilds throughout the United States. She is currently an Accuquilt Pattern Designer, a Shop Hop Inc. Designer for Regional and State Shop Hop Magazines, partners with Jillian Leitman as the primary brand ambassador for Applipop's, is a certified Annie McHug's dealer and teacher, has partnered with the Mullins at Hotfix to promote their product and create unique specialized laser-cut fusible applique, and is exploring a partnership with Riley Blake to blend her patterns with Riley Blake fabric for lines premiering in 2024. She has formerly served as Bernartex Brand Ambassador, an AdornIt! It Girl, a Fabric Designer for Honest Fabrics, one of Mister Domestic's Master Makers, and an Accuquilt GO! Getter. In May 2023 she was featured on Monday's with Misty at Missouri Star. Her motto is preserve the past and push the boundaries.

If you would like to keep in touch you can subscribe to her blog OrangeBlossomQuilt.com/blog or her website OrangeBlossomQuilt.com. She'd love for you to follow her on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/OrangeBlossomQuilt or on Instagram at www.Instagram.com/OrangeBlossomQuilt



LaVonne Jackson

I'm LaVonne Jackson, mother of 5 and grandmother of 16. I am the owner of Sew-N-Quilt, my quilt pattern, quilt stamp and template design company. Through the years I have quilted and sewn clothes for my family. When my children were older, I got a degree in architectural drafting, with an emphasis in interior design. I have designed and built many homes. I always got a thrill when the home I designed on paper started to take shape as the walls were framed and lifted. As I started designing more quilts, I used the same drafting program to design quilt stamps and templates. I get the same thrill watching as the quilts I designed on the computer become a real quilt. I have been teaching sewing and quilting for years. I have taught a variety of techniques and have taken some of the techniques and tried to simplify them or find ways to make it easier by designing templates or stamps to assist in the process. Quilting is my obsession.



Liza Taylor

I am a foundation paper piecing pattern designer and teacher with a passion for making FPP approachable and enjoyable for quilters of all skill levels. I share clear, confidence-building techniques for making small and satisfying projects that fit easily into everyday life. I love sharing the joy of foundation paper piecing and helping students discover just how achievable and fun foundation paper piecing can be.



Melissa Corry

Melissa started quilting as a hobby in 2005 but since starting her blog, Happy Quilting, in 2010 her hobby has turned into a passion. Her passion for quilting has led to creating her own designs that she shares as tutorials, published works, a pattern line, and even her own books. Melissa loves designing and finds inspiration in just about everything and anything. Melissa, her husband and their five children live in Cedar City, Utah. To see more of her daily quilting adventures check out her blog Happy Quilting (www.happyquiltingmelissa.com)



Minki Kim

Minki Kim is a fabric and pattern designer with her own whimsical style. As a formally trained sculptor and self-taught sewist, she found that designing fabrics and creating art with fabric and thread were natural steps in her evolution as an artist. Minki discovered sewing as a creative outlet when her children were small. She wanted to capture the beauty of ordinary moments, first with hand embroidery and later recreating them with her sewing machine and fabric—literally drawing with thread. Capturing ordinary moments in beautiful sewing illustrations to make keepsake snapshots of daily life has become her signature style.

The author of Sew Illustrated, Diary in Stitches, Zakka from the Heart and Zakka Wool Applique (all by C&T Publishing), Minki has also designed several fabric collections for Riley Blake Designs.



Paula McKinlay

A little about me...I was raised by a 4-H leader which means I started sewing and knitting at the age of 4...of course it was Betsey Wetsey clothes, diapers, and blankets...I then moved onto clothe my Troll doll, Barbie, Ken, Midge, and Skipper... oh they wore outlandish outfits...back in the last century I soon discovered how I could design and make my own outfits for a lot less money...I really fell in love with sewing...my major at USU was pattern drafting...when I got married I quilted a whole cloth quilt...my first... then after my 3rd and 4th children I discovered and became obsessed with quilting...I have never looked back....I love it all...hand quilting, applique, hand piecing, machine piecing, gathering fabric, not so much binding... and I never have enough time in the day for all I want to do...cross-stitching, knitting...all my addictions, involve needles...In my real house wife to 1 husband, mother to 4 daughters and 1 favorite son, (who is a twin to number 3 daughter) mother-in-law to 4 sons-in-law and 1 favorite daughter-in-law, and granny to 16 grandbabies....which I dearly love, but still want more babies of my own....Everyday I still wish for: World peace....more snow...and 12 hours more each day....there is never enough hours in a day to do all the things I LOVE to do...



Raija Salomaa

Raija Salomaa is a nationally recognized quilter, designer, and instructor. Just like any Finn, Rija was introduced to sewing during her early years in elementary school. But it took until she moved to the States that she saw her first quilt. It was love at first sight! She soon started to share her newfound passion, first with her friends at her dining room table and soon after at various public venues, including quilting cruises and quilt retreats. Raija's goal for her students is to have fun, learn a lot, and create memorable keepsakes. Raija has been quilting for over thirty years and designs quilts under the business name Quilters' Treasure Chest and more recently under Finntastik, LLC. Her designs have appeared in several well-known quilting magazines. Raija is passionate about creating her best, so she loves to use techniques and tools that assist in achieving the best possible accuracy. Raija enjoys sharing her tips and tricks with her students. Her work can be viewed at www.quilterstreasurechest.com



Sarah Cain

Sarah is a modern quilt pattern designed based out of San Francisco, CA and creates bold designs that are inspired by the city. She mixes in bright colors, bold shapes, high contrast elements, and incorporate a variety of skills into her creations.



Veruschka Zarate

Veruschka Zarate, the artist and designer behind Pride & Joy Quilting, is an award-winning quilt artist, pattern designer, international educator, and judge known for her bold and highly detailed work in Foundation Paper Piecing. Through vibrant color, precision piecing, and a distinctive approach to design, Veruschka has developed a body of work that explores just how far the traditional language of quilting can be pushed.

As an internationally recognized educator, Veruschka has served as faculty, presenter, and judge at some of the quilting world's most respected events and institutions, including The Modern Quilt Guild's QuiltCon, Road to California, Empty Spools Seminars, BERNINA Academy Australia, New Zealand Quilt Symposium, and international quilting and textile events throughout Europe. Yet for all the quilts, awards, teaching, travel, and creative milestones, Veruschka considers her greatest achievement to be the life she has built with her family. She and her husband of more than 20 years are raising their two boys together, and motherhood remains the role she treasures above all others.

To follow Veruschka's newest quilts, works in progress, travels, classes, and creative adventures, find Pride & Joy Quilting on Instagram and Facebook.