HQG Annual Quilt Show 2026 Planning & Challenge Category

July 28, 2025

Irene Sasaki and Planning/Advisory Team

Planning / Advisory Team

- Planning/Advisory Team Members:
 - Carla Simao, Arlene Adams, Sally Little, Ruth Davis, Donna Kanealii, and Tracy Montgomery
- Reviewed May meeting feedback and documented own feedback
- Overall vision and direction of the show
- Agreed upon Challenge category and specifications
- Started to work on the following, to be announced in August:
 - Categories and rules
 - Theme and logo
 - Featured Artist

Overall Goals for 2026 Quilt Show

- Increase visitors
- Continue to attract new members
- Expenses are covered through the income raised by the gift shop, donations, and program advertisements

Therefore, plans will be developed to ensure goals are achieved.

For example, to attract new members, more HQG activities will be displayed, such as Block of the Month quilts and student works from our classes.

The Half Square Triangle Challenge

- The half-square triangle (HST) is one of the most versatile and widely used building blocks in quilting, but have you ever made an entire quilt using only HSTs?
- What is an HST?



A half-square triangle is a square made by joining two right-angle triangles along the diagonal. Each triangle forms half of the square, creating endless possibilities when arranged in different layouts

The Half Square Triangle Challenge

Why an HST Challenge?

- This challenge is designed to be **accessible** to quilters of all experience levels, just like our popular "40 Shades of Red" challenge.
- It's a great opportunity to practice a fundamental quilting technique while exploring your creativity.
- You'll improve at precision sewing, avoid cutting off points, and gain confidence working with bias edges.
- It's easy to create designs by arranging HSTs without a pattern.
- Best of all, HSTs prove that with just one basic skill, you can create visually striking designs simply through color, fabric, and layout choices.

How to Make Them

There are many ways to construct HSTs! A quick Google or YouTube search will reveal numerous techniques and helpful formulas for creating HSTs of different sizes. Select the method that best suits your needs and style. If you need a square, use the same fabric for both sides of the HST!

HST Challenge Rules

- Your project must be started after the July meeting and completed by the March 23, 2026 meeting.
- Maximum dimensions: 36" x 36"
- Your design must be made entirely of HSTs. Squares may be created by sewing two HSTs together. No other pieced blocks or shapes are allowed.
- The quilt must include either hanging corners or a sleeve for display purposes.
- It must be a true quilt sandwich consisting of a top, middle, and back held together by quilting stitches or ties.
- You may use published patterns, but we also welcome original designs or unique interpretations for a more personal touch.
- You may add embellishment (e.g., thread, paint, ink, beads) to enhance, but they must not detract from the HST challenge.
- Members will vote at the March 23, 2026 meeting.

2026 Important Dates

- Entries accepted February 1March 16
- Challenge quilts due & voting March 23 meeting
- Installation Monday, April 27
 27 thru Wednesday, April 29
 (quilts deadline TBD)
- Opening Reception Tentatively Wednesday, April 29
- Show Thursday, April 30 through Sunday, May 10
- Teardown Monday, May 11

