

Q.U.I.L.T., Inc. Program survey results

Executive Summary:

On May 14, 2010, a survey of the membership of Q.U.I.L.T., Inc. was conducted to provide feedback that would assist in future program planning. Seventy surveys were completed. The information provided below is a summary of the primary points identified in the responses from the membership. Following this summary, the complete survey and all responses are presented.

It is clear that we have strong interest and attendance in Q.U.I.L.T., Inc. sponsored workshops over the last three years. Although 18 respondents indicated no participation, many (51%) attended two to four sponsored workshops over the past three years.

Individuals who participated in workshops clearly identified the learning of new techniques (52%) and the presenter (49%) as being the primary factors influencing enrollment. Seventy-three percent, reported that the role of the presenter (instructor explanation and help) was the most important variable contributing to satisfaction with a workshop. Members were varied in their response to what they disliked about workshops but lack of time and confusion over what needed to be done predominated.

For those who have not attended workshops, the largest number of responses was from individuals who noted that they did not like to bring their machine with them. There were also time constraints (work and family responsibilities) and a dissatisfaction with additional costs associated with workshops (patterns, tools). New members indicated a willingness to attend in the future. Individual likes and dislikes were also mentioned.

As to the question requesting preferences for programs, our membership is quite diverse in their interests. The top three recommendations were machine quilting (39%), stash busters (36%), and thread painting (29%). However, it is important to note that all categories were chosen and additional categories were mentioned in the comments.

Our workshops as currently scheduled have support. The interest in auditing may provide those who don't like to bring their machines a good alternative.

Overall, our membership has given us substantial information to aid our planning. It is clear that our membership has diverse interests and enthusiasm for workshops. We appreciate their comments and will work to provide programs that support their interests.

We encourage all members to read through the compiled information that follows.

Sincerely,
Sally Bauer and Susan Rivers

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The responses to the survey items are noted in red next to each question. When a respondent added information, the narrative responses are bulleted in the space below the question. The responses were not edited although some punctuation was added and were not grouped unless the writing was identical. Any underlined emphasis was contained in the writing from the participant.

1. How often have you participated in a Q.U.I.L.T. Inc. sponsored workshops in the past 3 years?

none (18, 3 new) 1 (10) 2 (17) 3-4 (19) 5 or more (7)

2. If you have participated in guild, show or shop workshops, what factor(s) most influenced your decision to enroll? (you may choose more than one answer)

presenter (34)	location (7)	time/day offered (10)
friends enrolled (7)	cost (19)	new technique (37)
amount of preparation (6)	project (bag, wall-hanging, quilt) (18)	new method for an old technique (15)
length (full day, half-day, one and one-half day)(19)	design focus (color, value, etc) (15)	other (5)

Narrative responses:

- Teacher was well known
- I like 'artsy'
- My main hesitation in signing up for workshops is my crazy schedule. I hesitate to commit to something I might not be able to follow through on
- Retired
- No required book or pattern
- Prefer half day (x2)

3. When you have taken a workshop, what did you like the most about participating in the workshop? (Use the back of the survey if you need more room).

instructor explanation and help (51) seeing what others have done (22) other (6)

Narrative responses:

- Something that I could not envision using elsewhere
- Sharing ideas, supplies, fabric
- Learning something new
- Learning something new is very important for me but seeing what others do with the same pattern/idea is also inspiring
- Working with friends
- New ideas; a chance to share creative energy
- Instructor explanation and help – especially for tricky techniques

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block patterns (15)	crazy quilts (13)	collage (11)	skinny quilts and table runners (16)
piecing (13)	pictorial (13)	medallion (11)	art techniques (13)
appliqué, needle turn (10)	landscape (12)	speed piecing (10)	photo inspired and incorporated quilts (13)
appliqué, fusible (14)	machine quilting (27)	trapunto (10)	using precut packets (bali pops, layer cakes, etc) (13)
appliqué, raw edge (8)	stash busters (25)	dyeing (6)	other(s) (14)
appliqué, machine (13)	use of color (19)	non-traditional approaches (9)	
organizing your space (17)	using computers in quilting (10)	tessellations (15)	
ergonomics (6)	thread painting (20)	graphing designs (10)	
	new tools for quilting (16)	bags (13)	
	antique quilts (11)	garments (10)	
		embellishing (14)	

Narrative responses:

- Primitive techniques and quilts
- Reproduction quilts
- Sue Pritt
- No using precuts
- Non-traditional approaches – no
- Sashiko
- Complex or precision technique
- Precision piecing and more traditional patterns that are more complex – like feathered star, etc
- How to stencil a quilt for quilting
- Exploring the creative process
- I much prefer workshops that emphasize technique – I loved the color/value workshop where we didn't even use fabric and only glued it. It was great to hear the workshop leader and see what everyone did within the guidelines. I also liked the workshop last year or the year before which also emphasized techniques for using photos, making books, using ephemera, candy wrappers etc. that can be incorporated into small pieces. I just love the opportunity to play!
- Fun, new patterns and easy techniques but not fusible
- I am a beginner so I don't know what a lot of these are
- Want more traditional instructors. We are not an 'art' group; they have their own group

7. As to our current workshops, would you be interested in auditing workshops (no machine, no fabric, same cost) (13)
 one and one half day workshops (12)
 evening workshops (12)
 workshops as currently scheduled (36)

Narrative responses:

- Re: auditing. Did I read this correctly? Think auditing should be available only if workshop is full
- I work on Thursdays so I can't generally do a Thursday workshop. What about Saturdays?
- I think 1 and ½ day workshops are too long
- I have good intentions about attending workshops – however, life is just busy right now
- Hope to attend more workshops in the future; cost has always been reasonable.
- Only auditing at a reduced cost

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Additional responses that are not directed to any questions:

- I need to use up current supplies, possibly for finished charity quilts
- Thank you for your open mind. It is obvious you are sincerely trying to accommodate the interest of everyone. Balance is tough.