

NACQJ

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION *of*
**CERTIFIED
QUILT JUDGES**

CIRCLES

The certification of quilt judges began as a program of the National Quilting Association in the late 1970s. When the NQA ceased to exist in 2015, the quilt judges who had been certified by the NQA formed their own organization - the National Association of Certified Quilt Judges (NACQJ) to ensure the continuation of professional quilt judging.

Certified judges believe in fairness, objectivity, a positive approach, and a broad and very deep knowledge of quilting techniques, color, design, and history. These qualities allow all quiltmakers to receive a consistent, meaningful critique as well as recognition of skill and achievement for the ribbon winners. Likewise, currently certified judges wish to continue to offer the opportunity for certification to anyone who satisfies the same requirements they themselves met.

In 2015, as they were forming the NACQJ and establishing bylaws, policies, and procedures, the certified judges chose blue and yellow for the colors of the association's logos. This is the fifth quilt challenge for this group, and the second challenge featuring those colors. Any construction technique was allowed, as long as these rules were followed:

- The quilt must reflect the "Circles" theme.
- The quilt must be 20 inches square.
- There must be at least one blue circle and one yellow circle visible on the front of the quilt.

For more information about the NACQJ or about this challenge, please go to www.nacqj.com.