

Ann Shaw Quilting

402/502

www.AnnShawQuilting.com

DRAGONFLY (2 day class)

Dragonflies (*Anisoptera*) are wonders of nature. Strong, agile fliers, dragonflies dart effortlessly among stems and flowers. They move easily forward and backward, suddenly change direction and even remain stationary in flight. Their two pairs of wings shimmer with iridescent, metallic-like colors that have long made them a favorite of quilters.

Dragonflies are found throughout the world, and in some cultures symbolize power and poise. This Artisan dragonfly pattern features this insect's beautiful iridescent wing colors.

An Ann Shaw Quilting Artisan design, this pattern features detailed piecing for experienced quilters.

A brief discussion introduces the methods and techniques of freezer paper templates. You will then prepare a freezer paper template for your pattern and begin the process of selecting fabrics for your design. We will also discuss sewing methods and sewing order to complete your wallhanging.

Level of Skill: Confident Beginner to Advanced

Supply List

Pattern: Prior to class, purchase the Dragonfly pattern.

(Note: We will not be working with patterns from other designers in this class.)

Fabrics

You will see that my patterns combine a wide selection of fabrics that enhance the look of the quilt. The image (such as a chicken, flower or bird) will use anywhere from 8-15 different fabrics, mostly in small pieces. Some fabrics will be repeated in the quilt, others may appear only once. The backgrounds will also typically feature 3-6 different fabrics that have a similar look. In some instances we will be looking for specific features in a patterned fabric — for example something that suggests the shape of an eye, or feathers, or fur or a stem. Patterned fabrics with multiple colors add texture and dimension to the quilt. We will be playing with different combinations to see how these fabrics look next to each other. Having lots of patterned fabric choices from which to choose is part of the creative process for these quilts and helps bring these designs to

life. It's the seemingly odd combinations of fabrics that bring texture and depth to your quilts, and will work well.

BRING LOTS!! Lots and lots of patterned fabric. A fat quarter or less is probably as much as you will need of any one fabric. Bring you largish patterned fabric scraps (though the strips found in jelly rolls are often too narrow). I routinely pull 50 or more fabric choices from my stash for the main subject of my quilts and additional fabric choices for the background. Having a wide variety of fabric choices to key to this style. When choosing colors, keep in mind that a red poppy will also have bits of orange and yellow, and perhaps hints of purple and gold and green in it, so look for fabrics that have hints of other colors. **BRING YOUR STASH!!** However, note that we will **NOT BE USING** solid or tone-on-tone fabrics that “read” as solids.

Large prints, medium prints, small prints, batiks, plaids, stripes, prints with many colors, bold fabrics as well as pastels — I pull them all. Each different kind of print will add something different to the overall look of the quilt. **Look for printed fabrics where the print clearly contrasts with the background.**

Before class, visit my website and spend some time looking at the range of patterned fabrics used in my quilts to get an idea of what to bring.

www.AnnShawQuilting.com

Also look at Ruth McDowell's website to look at the fabrics she uses in her gorgeous quilts. www.RuthBMcDowell.com

Note: items marked with * will not be carried at either The Stitchin' Post or the school store at the high school.

For Freezer Paper Template:

Freezer paper

*Pencils/Eraser/Pencil Sharpener

Ruler (18" plastic is ideal)

*Paper Scissors

*Blue Masking Tape

*Sharpie brand Ultra Fine-line permanent marker (Black only!)

*Highlighters (several colors)

*Color pencils (7 distinct colors for making tick marks)

(NOTE: Ink pens, Gel pens, Sharpie Markers or Crayons will not work for tic marks)

***Design Wall:** Bring to class **three 30" x 40"** foam design boards and 6 binder clips. They are inexpensive and can be found at your local office supply store. You will be pinning the pattern and template pieces to this as you

audition individual fabric selections. It's then easy to carry your project home.

Note: Using a piece of batting or flannel alone will not work – you will need a foam board

Sewing Supplies:

Paper and Pencil to take notes

Paper Scissors (to cut apart freezer paper templates)

Rotary Cutter, 12" (or longer) quilt ruler, and cutting mat

Fabric Scissors

Pins (Lots and lots of pins!! 1.5" ball head pins or longer are ideal)

Basic Sewing kit

*Several Ziploc bags (quart and gallon size)

Sewing machine and Supplies: (bobbins thread, needles etc).

You may or may not reach the point of beginning to sew your design together. Most students will be complete the fabric selections and begin sewing by the end of the workshop during the second day. If you bring along your sewing machine, leave it in your car initially. You should be comfortable using your machine. **Before coming, check to be sure that it is in good working order**

Optional: Digital Camera If you have a small digital pocket camera, bring it! Using the camera on your phone or tablet will work as well to audition fabric selections.