

SAQA REGIONAL GRANTS

A Committee working to support
YOUR Region – it's our focus

Bethany Garner, Ontario, Canada, Committee Chair

Committee Members: Margaret Blank, Alberta, Canada and Karen Hansen, Kansas, US

SAQA Staff: Jennifer Solon, Asst. Exec. Director and Desiree Vaughn, Reps Coordinator

Greetings to all of our Regional Reps and to the staff who support us all
along the way! Our SAQA Regions stretch all around the globe...
and Your Region is so very important to each of us!

Welcome to our **REGIONAL REPS** from all around the country, and indeed the world... we are so very proud to have YOU be a part of this great SAQA journey with each of us! Here we are in the fall of 2021, and as we start another adventure with the planning for the next years of our REGIONAL GRANTS support programming, your ideas and support play a huge role in our SAQA planning and growth.

What a past two years we have been through together! You, as our [SAQA Regional Representatives](#), are truly the living, breathing foundation of our organization, as you interact and work in real time, and share live interactions with each of our members.

Our Virtual Conference in the summer of 2021 was AMAZING... and imagine that we had MANY hundreds of members able to connect with each other in countries around the world – so very different from our regular 250 participants. All of you were there with us and we [thank you for planning, saving and indeed making your way to the annual SAQA Conference!](#)

Planning for the next year in your own Regions around the world is crucial to how SAQA moves forward and continues to GROW and build on our mission:

To promote the art quilt through education, exhibitions, professional development, documentation, and publications.

Remember:

When SAQA was founded in 1989, it had 34 members and a budget of \$700. Now SAQA has over 4,000 members around the world and a budget of \$1 million plus, with each SAQA member in mind.

Let me introduce our RG Committee team...



Bethany Garner,
Committee Chair
Kingston ON Canada

grants@saqa.com

Working from behind the scenes, our Regional Grants Committee receives the applications submitted by our Regional Reps and their working Committees looking to add some terrific educational, exhibition and networking opportunities to their Region's SAQA members!

- Your Regional Grants Committee is currently represented by three SAQA members who have served as Regional Representatives and are invited to participate as volunteers, and usually for a two year appointment:

Margaret Blank, Mirror, Alberta, Canada (Served as Regional Rep, Western Canada)

Bethany Garner, Elginburg, Ontario, Canada (Served 4 years as Central Canada Regional Rep)

Karen Hansen, Overland Park, Kansas, USA (Served as Regional Rep, Kansas, Missouri/Oklahoma)

And our wonderful SAQA Staff :

Desiree Vaughn, Reps Coordinator and Jennifer Solon, Assistant Executive Director

- Please know that **EVERY** SAQA Region is eligible to participate each year and we encourage Regions to grow together! Some Regions are made up of several states or countries!
- ***Your*** Region's plans and exciting ideas provide the impetus for growth and sharing in your individual Regions. That is so important to SAQA's future.
- There is **no limit** on the number of applications that can be submitted during a Regional Grants cycle – however, not every Grant will be approved. Decisions are based on available dollars and the information received IN the application that most closely fits the goal of supporting the Region-wide membership.
- Our RG Committee is focused on bringing the best of opportunities to our Regions to learn, grow and share Region Wide opportunities with their members... **We are here to HELP, ENCOURAGE and SUPPORT you.**

Plans, dreams and yes, a lot of planning at YOUR level resonate around the world as our SAQA Regions plan for the future...

**Guidelines: The current guidelines are online for you!
They can be found in your REPS Information pages!**

We have an annual \$7000 to work with to support your Regions plans and needs as approved.

Applications are due in February, July and October each year.

The Grant Review Committee wants to give away money, and we are here to help you understand the program and take advantage of it.

Please don't hesitate to ask us any questions.
If we cannot answer them, we will find out who can!

SAQA Regional Grants Committee Schedule for 2021 is winding down with our October 22, 2021 Grants deadline – so we hope to hear from you!

We meet three times/year to welcome and consider YOUR Regional Grants applications. Dates are set in advance so Committee members can mark the calendar and Regional Reps have the information to formulate their grants and make plans..

Dates and details of the Application process are posted in your **Regional Reps Info** section of the SAQA website, and here! Each due date is followed approximately two weeks later by committee meetings in March, July and November.

Please know the dates are not written in stone. They allow for review time with the submitting regions along with the Committee.

We have set the Regional Grants Applications to be due on Fridays, and have held our Committee meeting on Mondays. Desi schedules our Zoom Conference meetings and sends out the invitations to the Committee members.

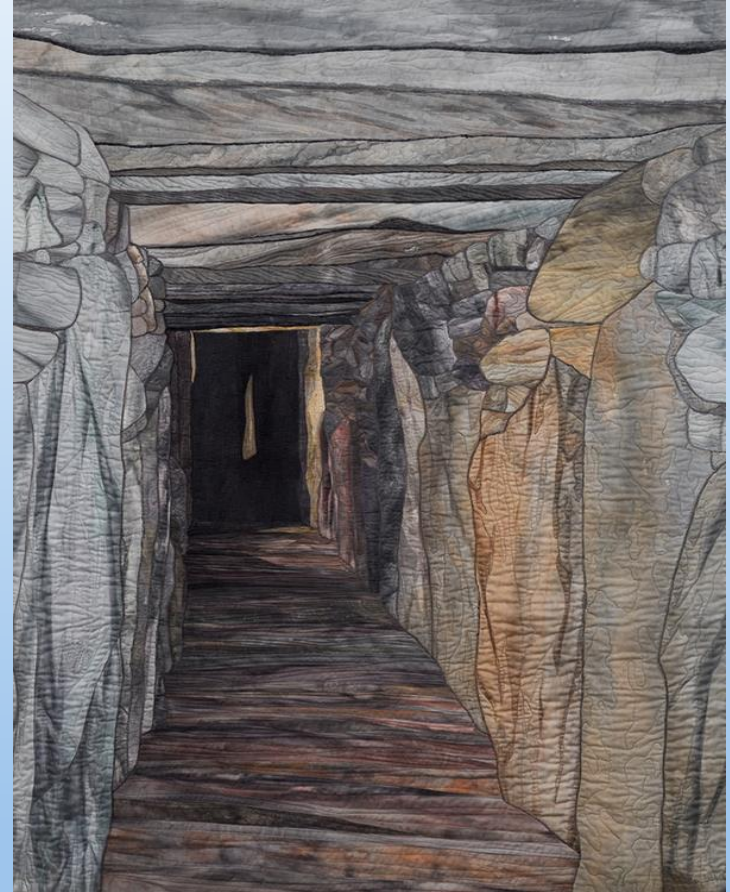
Each of our SAQA Regions are encouraged to come on board and participate in the SAQA Regional Grants Process

When Regions come together to make things happen, we all benefit!

- ▶ Our application submission process is not onerous, but does take some time for planning and submission.
- ▶ STARTING NOW, your regions members are encouraged to share ideas as you share a Regional Newsletter or your Region's Zoom Call gatherings as we go forward together... Encourage SAQA friends to have a serious brainstorming session and get some ideas on paper!
- ▶ Complete information including a description that makes your request clear and shares the goals and outcomes anticipated is all important.
- ▶ We do require a set of planning documents for the proposed costs of your project, including supporting financial planning for the covering of your costs and all of the details that support your request for funding support.
- ▶ Information and the actual Regional Grants Application forms are posted to your Regional Reps INFO at:

<https://www.saqa.com/search?keys=Regional%20Reps%20Information>

- ▶ Georgia French wrote a wonderful "What do you want to do?" document that is also online for you at the SAQA website in your Resources pages.



Denise Labadie - Passage at Knowth

**Kentucky/Tennessee Region,
June – Sept 2021**

Planning is all about fun and the needs in your Region... And no two Regions are alike!



Here is hoping we will all be together next summer in ST. PETERSBURG – and if all goes well, you will be able to meet live together to talk about your Regional Grants needs and how we can help!

Work together - And DREAM BIG!

Some things you might consider that could be very helpful to your Region's growth and supporting the whole membership:

- ▶ A Regional Exhibition – might it travel or be a one-time event?
- ▶ Planning and sharing a Regional Trunk Show that would deliver beautiful artwork as an educational support to schools, Guilds and Groups and communities across your Region(s).
- ▶ Developing a Regional Retreat Plan – how much fun can you have bringing regional members together next year?
- ▶ A special workshop or visiting speaker for a Region-wide Event.
- ▶ Developing a Regional Art catalogue or book to share/sell, or a set of Regional Art Postcards for sale at events or in an online offer to members and the public around the world to introduce YOUR Region! The dollars we have set aside for Grants are committed to support your Region-wide activities and your regional SAQA member's growth.

HONESTLY – we are so happy to receive your plans!

This has been a tough 18 plus months for each of our SAQA Region's and all of our thousands of members around the world. We know you are all facing our next years together , and just brimming full of enthusiasm and all new ideas of how you can pull together with Regional SAQA friends (in person or online) to develop a timeline of the important arts focused and historical events of your area, province, or country. There is FUN to be had, and it's all about YOU!

- It's time to open our window of opportunity to brain storming ... and we welcome ideas from everyone!
- Consider an online "Let's Get Together" with members to learn what YOU want and need from SAQA membership. Or develop a survey of your regional membership. We might help!
- Ask for great ideas about POD meetings and Region-wide events that will bring your Region together! Education/Workshops? Conference? Retreat?
- Encourage great ideas about supporting growth and development in your local and region-wide COMMUNITY. Consider the future for the arts though the sharing of your member's artwork!
- Ask your members what OUR Committee might be tuned into as you share your ideas and ask us to support your plans for an Exhibition or Regional event.
- **IMPORTANT:** Let us know how your plans - further the goals of SAQA!

The SAQA Regional Special Projects Grant Program

Purpose : This program has been developed to offer support and funding for special projects to benefit SAQA Regions.

Regional teams are encouraged to create projects that raise the profile of our art, bring public attention and support, and benefit members of their region(s). In the Info for Regional Reps page there is the Grant Guidelines and a Grant proposal blank. If you have any questions about the Grant program, please contact the Regional Grant Coordinator, grants@saqa.com.

Note: If you or another member is planning a regional exhibit, [an exhibit proposal still needs to be submitted to Regional Exhibit coordinator, \[regionalexhibit@saqa.com\]\(mailto:regionalexhibit@saqa.com\)](#) . See the section on Regional Exhibits for more information.

Eligibility: Any member of SAQA with a great idea is encouraged to approach her or his regional representative with projects and grant proposals and then select a team of regional members to complete the project. Regional representatives are free to partner with representatives of adjacent regions to plan an event or other project.

Description of Award: A total amount of \$7,000 is available for regional grants in a calendar year, shared by our regions.

There is no minimum grant amount so there could be several small grants awarded to different regions.

Examples of projects include but are not limited to:

- Catalog or other major expense such as a guest speaker for a SAQA regional exhibition.
- Regional retreat/symposium.
- Invitational speaker or workshop presenter.

Selection Criteria: Grants will be assessed based on:

- Viability – is the project likely to succeed within the constraints of the grant? Does the intended scope fit within the budget?
- Impact – how many SAQA members are likely to benefit from the project? Does this project expose SAQA to the general public?
- Quality of the project and how well it is presented to the Regional Grants Committee panel.
- Time frame.
- Local support for the project (e.g., volunteers may be needed, and matching fund might be available).

Selection Process : Assessment and selection are to be considered by a four or five-member panel using the criteria above. The selection panel will consist of the Executive Director, the Regional Representatives' Coordinator, and two to three former SAQA Regional Representatives.

Preference is given to projects that benefit SAQA members and expose SAQA and art quilts to the public.

In the case of exhibitions, preference will be given to SAQA regional exhibitions that have been formally approved by the Exhibition Committee.

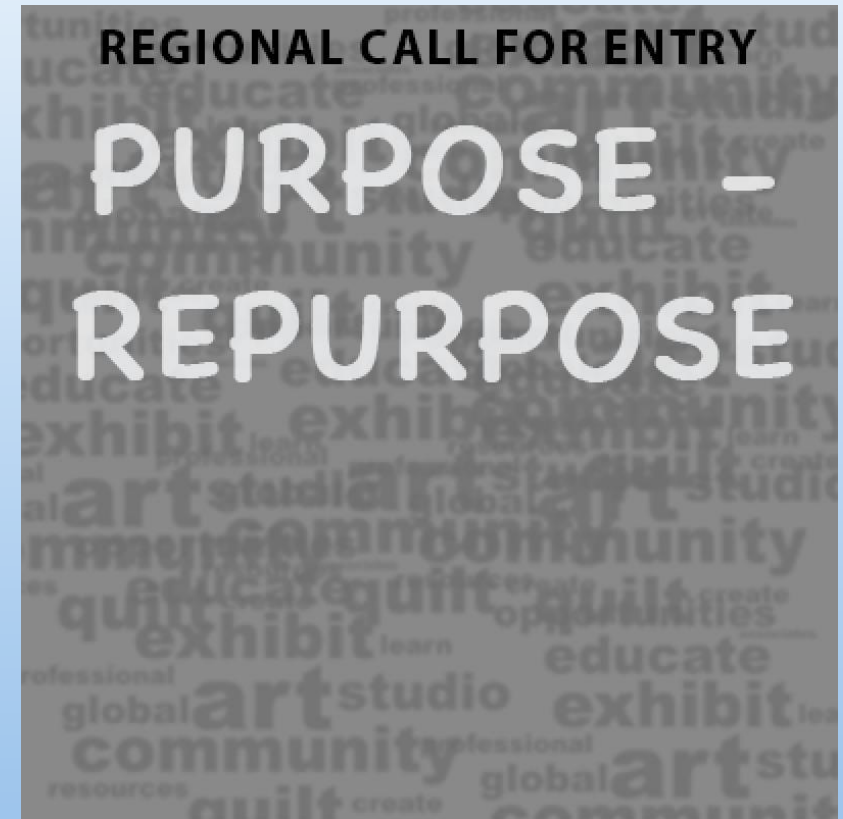
Funding: Project managers will submit invoices and receipts for expenses to the Executive Director for reimbursement of funds up to the amount awarded for their project.

Reporting: Project managers will be required to submit regular status reports to the Regional Representatives' Coordinator. These status updates will be reported to the Board.

Governing considerations of the Regional Grants Committee

We have been allocated a \$7000 budget annually to oversee for the benefit of Regional Special Projects and

- The *ideas come from you*, and we are here to support and encourage those ideas and see them come to fruition.
- Some Regions have “grown into” the planning for special events, venue rentals, catalogue production, fund raising and more... they have learned what it takes to get a catalogue produced and what to plan for in their budgets. We can offer support in dollars and advice.
- Learn from the Reps you meet in your Reps Gatherings – Desi does such an awesome job bringing you all together! Talk about your ideas with others who have experience and the success stories to share.
- Some SAQA Regions are just starting to grow their numbers of new members. These Regions need the support and encouragement of our Committee to **MAKE THINGS HAPPEN** and get their ideas working for all of their regional membership... we are here for you!
- **AND We are EXCITED** to see hear what you are talking about and planning for the growth of your Region. Our job is to be available to help you understand the program and take advantage of it. **JUST ASK!**
- We are guided by the SAQA Board in exactly where the annual Regional Grants dollars are to be shared – there are rules, but know we are open to being supportive very step of the way.



[Purpose-Repurpose \(SAQA Regional\)](#)

Jun 01, 2022 - Jun 30, 2022

Call for Entry Deadline: Jun 30, 2022

Open to members in the DC/MD/WV, VA/NC, and PA Regions

MAKE IT FUN!!

(Georgia French, a previous Chair of our Committee and still very active in our SAQA world, shared these Questions/tips at a n earlier the 2017 REPS Meeting and they are still valid today!)

IDEAS:

- Ask for one of our amazing TRUNK SHOWS for your region and build an event around it!
- A SAQA Regional Retreat event open to all of your Regional members
- A Community ‘arts education’ session or sessions that could bring in new members
- Bring a special Speaker for a Region-wide conference or Symposium and seek some help if you need it with the venue rental or Speakers Fee. This would need to be an event that is SAQA focused.
- Need shipping support for a Regional Exhibition? You should plan all of the funding through entry fees for the exhibition, but if things change and you comes up short, ASK FOR one-time help!

QUESTIONS:

WHO in your Region can help make your plans happen! Look to the awesome resources that your members can bring to the planning and funding process!

Remember: Don’t overload yourselves!

There are people who like to organize events. Find them. Tell them to think about the details.

Provide Support! Be willing to trust and hand off responsibility and authority.

Stay in the loop, **but don’t micromanage**. When ideas start pouring in:

Talk about **WHERE** should /would this event happen?

Decide **WHEN** could/would this event happen?

Then: **Develop the budget.** First, the costs. Be realistic. Do the research.

Do you have Regional Funds that could be used?? We will ask you that...

What would it cost per expected participant to fund your event?

Is this cost reasonable? Would another entity charge this amount and get it? Will entry fees or “door fees” for a talk cover the plan.

SAQA expects reasonable fees. Try to cover off everything, and if you can’t/need help/want some advice! **WE ARE HERE TO HELP!**

What does a Special Grant Budget look like?

It's not scary...

A sample from the actual Grants application form..... And YES, a little homework is required!

Section 3: SPECIAL PROJECT BUDGET:

Please itemize how grant funds will be used (add more lines if necessary):

1.	_____	\$ _____
2.	_____	\$ _____
3.	_____	\$ _____
	TOTAL GRANT FUNDS REQUESTED	\$ _____

Projected Expenses:

- Venue _____
- Speaker/Instructor _____
 - Base fee _____
 - Travel _____
 - Accommodations/meals _____
- Advertising _____
- Other _____ (please explain specifically what this will cover)

TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES \$ _____

Projected Income:

- Entry or workshop fees you are charging
 - Fee per person _____ x Number of attendees = _____
- Grant requested from SAQA (same as Total Grant Funds Requested) _____
- Grants/Funding from sources outside of SAQA _____
- Other _____ (please explain specifically what this will cover)

TOTAL PROJECTED INCOME \$ _____

Look at this GREAT list of Calls to Entry for Regional Exhibitions coming up this year...

So many great plans in the works...and perhaps some Terrific ideas here for your Region!



- ▶ [Simple Lines \(SAQA Regional\)](#) , *Sep 01, 2021 - Oct 01, 2021*
- ▶ **Call for Entry Deadline: Oct 01, 2021**
- ▶ DC/MD/WV first and second Regions within an acceptable distance to deliver art to and retrieve art from venue in person.



- [The Artist's Question ... Answered in Fiber \(SAQA Regional\)](#)
- *Sep 01, 2021 - Oct 31, 2021*
- **Call for Entry Deadline: Oct 31, 2021**
- Open to members in Florida, Mississippi/Alabama, Louisiana/Arkansas, and Texas Regions



- [In All Their Glory \(Regional Exhibition\)](#)
Oct 01, 2021 - Oct 31, 2021
- **Call for Entry Deadline: Oct 31, 2021**
- Southern CA/Southern NV Region

In Summary... THINK BIG!!!

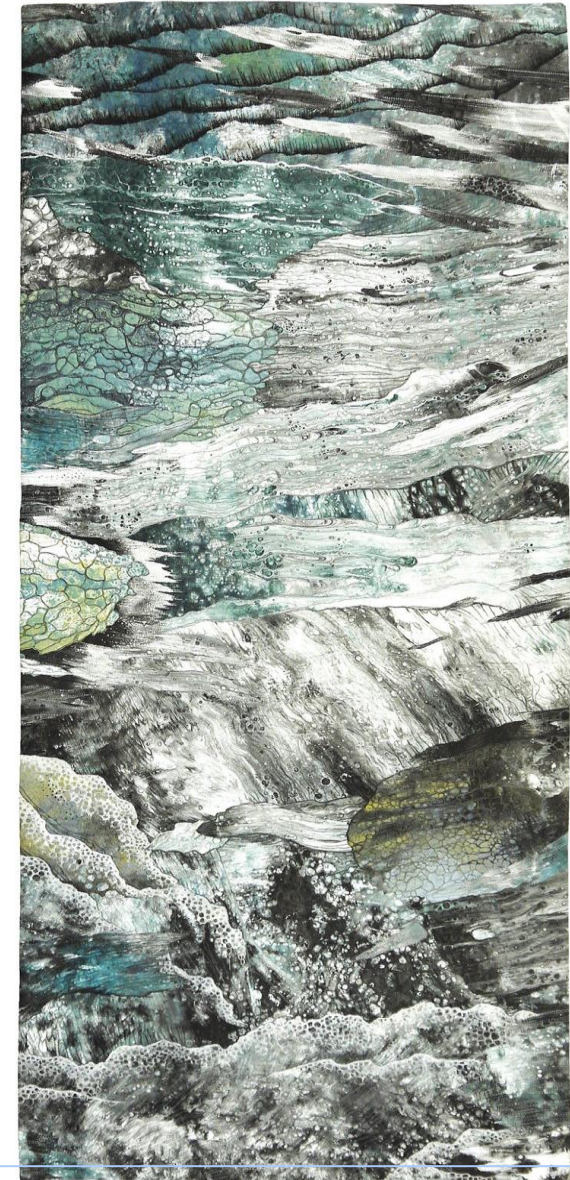
Thanks to Mel Beach and Delores Miller for asking for the update for our Committee this Fall of 2021 as they plan into the next years.

And always, thanks to Desi for her support and inclusion of our Committee members in assisting our Regions to make their way to the Grants Assistance for planned Special Projects.

Remember that the Regional Grants Committee is designed to be your support and encouraging body when ideas flourish and there is a bit of help needed along the way!

Deadlines for submission of Special Project Grants are NOT carved in stone – please contact Desi or myself and we will work with you all along the way!

Have fun this next year and we will be watching and listening for your contacts and are excited to hear your ideas!!!



Betty Busby, Season After Season

Special thanks to each of our Regional Reps all around the world!

On behalf of our Regional Grants Committee, please accept a heartfelt *THANK YOU* for all of the many volunteer hours you put into supporting the best of the best Arts Associations – our SAQA!!

Your knowledge, commitment and the fun you bring to your regions through *participACTION* and leadership is truly appreciated.

Learn together, grow together with your Regional members and make sure that all along the way you are having FUN!!

ASK for what you need – there is just no better inspiration you can get and support you will be given than that of DESIREE VAUGHN!

Hope to see you next year in 2022 – live in St. Petersburg, or virtually if that can happen for many of our members around the world. We had an awesome time together with the 2021 Conference experience – so enjoy the special events and speakers and HAVE FUN!

SEE YOU NEXT SPRING!!! Get those plans underway!
Bethany Gerner , Marg Blank and Karen Hansen

