

A Day in the Studio with Connie Bloom,
a one-on-one program for quilters, hand stitchers and other artists
To make arrangements, call: 330-472-0161
rev. 4-16-14

In great grandma's time, quilt makers gathered around the quilting frame, sharing news of the day and gossiping. Their masterpieces were collective and everybody admired them.

But times have changed and art-making has become more insular. Fiber artists like myself spend long hours in the studio, alone. Hobbying quiltmakers also spend hours *alone* at their sewing machines. Many make quilts few people ever see. Those who see them may not be quilt makers themselves, so certain questions are never answered, such as:

Are my quilts "good"? Do they qualify as art? What are their strong and weak points? Was my use of color effective? How could I have made them even better? What techniques should I employ to push my quilting to the next level? Am I using the right tools? Can I paint on my quilts? Do I have to stitch by hand? Do I have to use a machine? What if I hate the quilting? What if I hate piecing? What if I hate (fill in the blank).

I designed ***A Day in the Studio*** to help quilters and other artists find answers to those questions and move on to the next level. I ask them to bring their sewing machine and a sampling of their work -- whether it be baby blankets, bed quilts, art quilts, liturgical vestments or hats -- so we can take a look and discuss them -- in the safety of the studio.

When I say safety, I mean safety. There are no quilt police in my studio. In fact, I am a classic renegade stitcher, so you will get no attitude from me. This is a nurturing, fertile environment where a person can grow. I answer questions, explain techniques, set you on a new path, if you want one. I have taught legions of quilters and other artists how to quit using patterns and start designing their own quilts and tread with confidence into the great unknown.

The daylong program is \$225 (return students and workshops students get a \$25 discount) and lasts eight hours, including a one hour break for lunch at my favorite downtown restaurant, Crave. The beginning and end time for the day is negotiable and can be either a weekday or a weekend day.

My studio -- Connie Bloom's Quilting Arts Studio -- is located on the third floor of Summit Artspace, 140 E. Market St., Akron OH. Parking is free in the ungated lot behind the building, entrance off Summit Street. Call my cell 330-472-0161 when you park so I know you have arrived and I will come downstairs and let you in on days the building is closed to the public.