

2024 Sedona Quilters Hall of Fame Award Winner “Chaos in Circles”

The Red Rock Quilters Guild and Sedona Arts Center partnered to create the Sedona Quilters Hall of Fame Award which was first awarded in 2022. This prestigious award is presented annually during the Library Quilt Show that is held early January through early March at the Sedona Public Library on White Bear Road.

Tracey Thie is the recipient of the 2024 Sedona Quilters Hall of Fame award for her quilt “Chaos in Circles.” Her quilt will hang at the Sedona Arts Center’s Gallery in Uptown beginning March 5 for approximately one month. This year’s winning quilt is a beautiful example of intricate paper piecing, one of many techniques employed for making pieced quilts.

Tracey’s quilting journey started in 2018 when her sister-in-law took her to a local quilt shop. Tracey’s sister helped her pick out a pattern and fabric and they made her first quilt. She was hooked! She was recently retired and always looking for something to do, happily churning out quilts by the dozens, expanding her skills with progressively more difficult quilts. When visiting her local quilt store, she had always noticed the huge frames/machines off to the side of the store but paid no notice. Then one day someone was actually using one and Tracey wandered over to watch. Oh wow! So cool! Rooted in fascination and asking questions she stayed there for over an hour watching. Tracey bought a long-arm machine and proceeded to teach herself how to use it. Now she provides long-arm quilting services for other people.

Tracey states “Chaos in Circles is one of the most difficult quilts I have made. I had the fabric and the pattern, but the pattern was not much more than the paper piecing template. No cutting instructions or fabric guide. Luckily, I had done a lot of paper piecing (and loved it). Nonetheless it was a real challenge. Eventually I got extremely frustrated and bagged everything up and put it away in the closet, prepared to chalk it up to failure.

One day I was looking for a new project and remembered this one. I pulled it out and committed myself to finishing it. It was still frustrating, but I bulldogged through. I entered it into the quilt show because with all the work and aggravation I put into it, why not?”

Dr. Bruce and Ann Peak, two of the judges for the 2024 award said, “This quilt’s title is a misnomer. I urge you to view it from a distance and chaos seems to become order, then of course, it reverts to chaos. There is harmony in the color selection, with circular elements coming out as highlights and it should be noted each circle is different yet adds enhancement to the entire piece. It creates depth and motion using overlapping elements then stops, frozen in time. An exceptional work.”

The Red Rock Quilters Guild has existed for over 37 years. Their motto is “Sharing and Caring. We come together to share our love of quilting, learn new skills/ideas, and care for our community through various service projects.”

Sedona Arts Center’s mission is to connect, enrich, educate, and lead through the inspiring power of the arts and creative discovery.