

Susan K Kirk

I was born and raised in Davenport and have lived most of my life in the Quad Cities

At a very young age my Grandmother taught me to Knit, Crochet, Tatt and sew. In school I learned more about sewing and basic art skills. At that time, I learned about paint, lettering, sculpting and really grew interested in all arts. I love to fantasy paint and have painted many different items over the years.

I had a Ceramic Shop in Davenport for thirteen years, and taught, pouring, clay lifting, carving of the wet greenware, and use of the different paints to on average 150 people a week. I have won several awards in carving and airbrushing of ceramics. After closing the shop, I took stain glass classes and did several projects, also learned how to make plates and sagged glass.

Over 30 years ago I got back into sewing and then quilting and about 20 years ago bought a longarm quilting machine that I use for free-handing customers quilts, and to quilt and thread paint fabric. I love to ice dye fabric and use it for the background that I will enhance with fused fabric, fiber pieces or yarn, jewels and heavily freehand quilt.

Then I started to sculpt faces and use the fiber and fabric to dress and enhance the art figures. I am secretary to the Art Figures of the Quad Cities and have displayed the art figures at Mississippi Valley Quilt Show, Bucktown, Clinton Art, Maquoketa Art Experience. I won 2nd place in an internet competition for a Mermaid art figure that I made. I belong to a Fiber Arts group and learn new uses for fiber that will work for me.

After I retired from a full-time job, as a Claims Adjuster for Auto and Motorcycle and started working part time at JoAnn's Fabric and have now been the sewing and quilting teacher for several years. I also teach at home and at Farm Fiber Fun ice dyeing, manipulation, fusible landscapes, embroidery, armatures for building an art figure, sculpting of faces, and zentangles.

I have been working a lot lately with the ice dyed fabric, and fusing, decorating, enhancing the project with fibers and jewels. I have been a member of the Mississippi Valley Quilt Guild since '92 and have been bulletin board person, Treasurer, quilt show assistant, demonstrator, and Quilt Show Chairman. I have won several ribbons on my Art Quilts.