

Getting the Best Teacher *Experience* for Your Guild



The screenshot shows a Facebook group page for "Quilt Guild Connection". The page header includes "Groups", "Your Groups", a search bar "Find or Create a Group", and a user profile "Marguerita McManus". A left sidebar contains navigation options: Home (selected), Subscription, Admin, Messages, Hashtags, New Topic, New Post, Chats, Directory, Calendar, Photos, Files, Databases, and Wiki.

The main content area features a blue banner for "Quilt Guild Connection Newsletter The Quilters Calendar" with the tagline "Connecting Quilt Guilds with Each Other & with Teachers". Below the banner is a collage of photos: a grid of 12 small portraits of women and a larger photo of a group of people in a room with sewing machines.

The group name "Quilt Guild Connection" is followed by the email "QuiltGuildConnection@groups.io". The description reads: "The Quilt Guild Connection is for guild members who are interested in improving their quilt guilds. Members span the United States and Canada. Discussion is on ways to improve our guilds and solve problems we're facing as guilds during 2020 and beyond. Our mission is to help quilt guilds to continue their missions."

Group Information:

- Website: <https://www.quilters-calendar.com/>
- 1 Member
- 9 Topics, Last Post: 2:36pm
- Started on 10:38am
- Feed

Group Email Addresses

Group Settings:

- All members can post to the group.
- Posts to this group do not require approval from the moderators.
- Posts from new users require approval from the moderators.
- Messages are set to reply to group.
- Subscriptions to this group require approval from the moderators.
- Archive is visible to anyone.
- Wiki is visible to members only.

5 Steps

Interview the Teacher

Research References

Very Specific Terms in the Contract

Schedule a Rehearsal

Review for other guilds

Interview the Teacher

Ask for references from other guilds with the specific presentation, date, guild Program Chair Name and Contact phone number and email address

Watch teacher's YouTube or Vimeo videos. If the teacher doesn't have any that's a strong indication that they are not prepared to present virtually.

Ask how familiar the teacher is with the use of Zoom/GoToMeeting. How many cameras does she use; whose account the presentation will be made under; does she have a VA to help; can the guild have access to the recording for a week?

Is the teacher willing to appear in a "Social Hour" before or after the presentation?

Exactly how is the presentation made? Live, pre-recorded video, narrated slides?

Is Q&A allowed during the presentation? Is there an intermission?

Research the Teacher

Watch the teacher's videos, look at her website to fully understand the presentation being discussed. If the teacher doesn't have videos on YouTube or Vimeo, she may not be ready to present virtually.

Contact the Program Chair references from previous virtual presentations - get more than one - ask how the guild members felt about the teacher as well as the Program Chair

Be sure that the reference is not coming from the Teacher's own guild but an unrelated guild.

The Contract

Specific Presentation Name, length of time, starting at what time/timezone, for your guild members only or are guests allowed? Are guests allowed for a fee?

Social Appearances included? Time, timezone, # of participants?

Price and payment terms. Are digitally signed contracts acceptable?

Schedule of pre-events, sales of kits, patterns, books.

Exact description of the presentation and manner it is delivered. Whose account, who is assisting and, if guild assists, exactly what they are expected to do.

Date, length, time/timezone for rehearsal.

Other Options for Teachers & Speakers

Local Teachers and Guild Member Teachers

Local Quilt Shop Owners

Local 'national' teachers who are testing their Virtual Presentations

Shorter presentations - perhaps 30 minutes or 15 minutes of a quick technique demo by the 'national' teacher, instead of a full hour presentation.

Contact people now. Many bookings have been cancelled and teachers have openings right now.

Review

Share a tactful review in a confidential group.

<https://groups.io/g/QuiltGuildConnection>

Example:

#Teacher (5*) Sarah Bond. Loved her trunk show (name of TS) and she is very comfortable in her online/virtual presentations. Guild Name/date of presentation.

#Teacher (5*) Beth Helfter (Eva Paige Designs) Funny and experienced. Learned a new handy technique.