

Meander Publishing LLC Scholarship Fund for Professional Machine Quilters

We at Meander Publishing believe that continuing education for professional machine quilters is the key to a successful business plan. To that end we have created a Scholarship Fund, designed to assist a professional machine quilter with their expenses related to classes, major show attendance, or the purchase of educational books or DVDs. These scholarships are not based on financial need alone, but also on a commitment from the recipient to pass on the knowledge gained to further the education of others in their field. There are four different levels of funding:

Level One: a sum up to **\$50** for educational materials (books, DVDs) to be used in the workroom. Funds may also be used to help defray costs of a class in your local area. Be specific in your request, mentioning the requested materials and/or class by name.

Level Two: The Josh Hager Memorial Scholarship offers a sum up to **\$200** for classes in your local area. Be specific in your request, mentioning the materials and/or class by name. Class prospectus and/or a statement from the educator or hostess may be required.

Level Three: a sum up to **\$300** to be used toward expenses to attend a major machine quilting show or convention, with the purpose of taking classes to further your education in the field of machine quilting. These funds are proposed to defray costs such as transportation, hotels and/or classes and are not intended as a source for buying product, tools or materials for the recipient's quilting business. A cursory accounting of the use of funds may be requested.

Level Four: One recipient each calendar year will receive a sum up to **\$1,000** to attend classes at a major machine quilting show or convention, with the purpose of taking classes to further your education in the field of machine quilting. These funds may be used for transportation, hotels, meals and incidentals, as well as class fees. The funds are not intended to be used as a source for buying product, tools or materials for the recipient's quilting business. A cursory accounting of the use of funds may be requested.

The number of recipients at each level (with the exception of Level Four where there is only one award each calendar year) will be determined by the funds available at the time of the request. Level Four requests will be considered for the **2008** calendar year.

The requirements to apply for a scholarship are as follows:

1. A written essay of no less than 500 words explaining how the scholarship will benefit you and your business and, more importantly, how you will use the knowledge learned to further the education of others in the professional machine quilting community. Be as creative and specific as you can.
2. A financial need statement. This should be a simple statement explaining your current financial situation as it pertains to your machine quilting business. We have no desire or need to understand your personal finances or family situation, and such information will not be considered in the final decision. Examples would be variations of "I am starting a new business and have limited funds to pursue educational materials at this time" or "My business is at a point where I need

- further education to expand and grow my customer base.” Explain specifically how the requested funds would be used in your business.
3. Recipients at **Levels Three & Four** will agree to write a second essay after receiving the grant and attending the classes, explaining their choices and how it benefited them. Additionally, these recipients will explain how they plan to pass the knowledge on to the machine quilting community. This second essay will be published in a future issue of ***Unlimited Possibilities Magazine***, and may be shared with potential co-sponsors of the scholarship fund for their use for promotional purposes.
 4. Requests for information should be emailed to Scholarships@upquiltmag.com, or mailed to Meander Publishing LLC, PO Box 918, Fort Lupton, Colorado 80621.

This fund is not intended to be a source for financing an occasional class or product (with the exception of Level One as defined above), financing your business, or buying tools and equipment for your business, but as an educational resource for the Professional Machine Quilter. We define that quilter as one who has established themselves as a serious business entity for the purpose of quilting-for-hire, teaching machine quilting or one who dedicates their quilting efforts to creating show-quality works to be entered into competition. Recipients chosen and amounts awarded will be solely at the discretion of Meander Publishing LLC.