

Diana Whitmer-Francko

I grew up in northwest Ohio, surrounded by the beauty of cornfields and farms. Years later, as a mother and wife returning to the state, Ohio history and ancient cultures became the inspiration and basis for my quilt art.



My college career was spent at Kent State University, in Kent, Ohio during the crazy days of the early 70's. I received a B.S. in Education with a major in art and a minor in education. After getting married, my husband and I were both accepted into graduate programs at Michigan State University. Three years later I had my MFA in Jewelry and Metalsmithing.



Shortly after graduation, I taught myself how to quilt. I had just attended a friend's wedding and seen a gorgeous new handmade quilt made for her sister. I thought I must have a quilt like that and the only way I will ever have a quilt that nice was to learn how to create it myself. I enjoyed quilting so much that in the early 1990's I decided to pursue the field of art quilting and temporarily stopped working in metals for health reasons.

My hard work paid off. By 1995, I was judged into *Quilt National* and in 1997 I was in *Visions: Quilt Art*, both prestigious national shows. Photos of my work have been included in various national publications including: *Quilting Arts*, *Quilting Newsletter Magazine* and *Piecework*.



