

15 DAY QUILT N' CRUISE to HAWAII

Round Trip San Francisco
Onboard Princess Cruises "Grand Princess®"
February 26 – March 13, 2018



Laura Nownes passion for making quilts is an extension of her love of sewing. After taking her first sampler quilt class in Berkeley in 1979 she knew she had found a lifelong interest. Shortly after the class ended, she learned of a new quilt shop opening closer to her home. Her connection with the co-owner Diana McClun of Empty Spools quilt shop in Alamo, CA would open many doors in her quilting career. Laura soon became one of the shop's leading beginning quilting teachers. Laura co-authored a beginning how-to book with Diana titled, "Quilts! Quilts!! Quilts!!!" along with six additional best selling books. The pair has worked together on television programs, with study groups and in seminars touching thousands of students, giving them a start in the basics of quilting. Laura is the co-author of the best-selling pattern company, *From Me to You*, with over 60 original designs. Laura continues to teach both locally and at Guilds as well as design patterns. She currently has three classes with Craftsy, an online educational site offering classes in everything from quilting to painting to baking.



Session 1: Tropical Blooms

The sample quilt represents just one of the many design possibilities made available using my 20-degree wedge ruler. I enjoy playing with the 20-degree wedge ruler as the joined fabric shapes can easily be trimmed to make hexagons. You may already be familiar with wedge designs such as Dresden Plate and hexagon patterns such as Grandmother's Flower Garden. I find excitement in creating many beautiful secondary designs when using these wedges. The construction for this quilt is not nearly as difficult as many traditional hexagons designs, as shapes are sewn together in rows, rather than using y-seam construction.

Day one will be spent cutting fabric wedges and then placing them into a pleasing arrangement. This will be a day of playing and experimenting with fabric combinations and color placement. After an arrangement is determined, the fabric wedges will be sewn together to make larger units.

On day two you will join the wedge units together in rows, and then sew the rows together. The finishing touch is adding the flower centers; motifs that can be appliquéd to the centers of the "blooms" using either hand or machine techniques.



Session 2: Go Fish

Let the ocean be your playground as you create a unique underwater scene. Tropical fish, coral, octopus, and jellies offer an abundance of design possibilities.

Spend day one creating a background for your underwater scene, using all the beautiful colors and textures of the ocean as inspiration for your palette. The piecing is fun and easy, using 3" wide strips of fabrics, ranging in color value from the very lightest to very darkest. As a group, you will be encouraged to bring extra strips to place into a "sharing box", allowing for everyone to have a wide range of fabrics from which to choose. Batiks are good fabric choice for this project.

Day two will take you back to many fond childhood experiences of coloring, cutting and pasting; however, in this case, using fusible web rather than glue. It's a perfect, relaxing and creative way to sail the hours away. Learn how to easily make sea creatures, including a variety of fish, jellies and octopus to complete your design. I will bring lots of patterns and templates for your use in cutting shapes. Also provided will be inspirational photos to help with making color decisions. Your uniquely designed sea creatures will be stitched onto the background piece using raw edge fusible appliqué techniques.