# Bobbie Pilling Award Application

The Embroiderers' Guild of America

The Bobbie Pilling Memorial Award was established to honor a treasure of EGA, a longtime supporter and former national president, Barbara (Bobbie) Pilling. Throughout her many years in EGA, Bobbie encouraged stitchers to stretch themselves...to be creative, to experiment, to go beyond their comfort zone by thinking "outside the box." She wanted embroiderers to take the traditional and turn it inside out using stitches and materials in an unusual and modern way. This award honors Bobbie by stressing both personal growth and artistic merit. Her daughter, Helen Pilling, said "Mother would be very proud to be honored in this way. She always said it's not about the money; she would rather ribbons be awarded."

**Requirements:** An original piece of needlework done in any technique which can be realistic, abstract, or non-representational, that meets the criteria of a well-designed piece. EGA’s Definition of original is “An original work is one which, from the beginning, is solely the creative product of the stitcher.” The accompanying statement, limited to 300 words or less, should address both personal growth and artistic merit and explain how the stitcher thought "outside the box." Any current EGA member may submit one work. Ribbons will be awarded and all entries will be displayed in the Education Department Exhibit at National Seminar. An article featuring the winning entries will be published in *Needle Arts* magazine. The artist agrees that photographs may be used in *Needle Arts* and other publicity as needed.

To enter, submit the following **October 1, 2025** to [judgecertification@egausa.org](mailto:Education@egausa.org), subject line: Pilling Award

1. The completed application form.

2. A statement explaining both personal growth and artistic merit as well as explaining how the stitcher stretched themselves or as Bobbie put it thought “outside the box”.

3.   A photograph, digital or print, of the work. This can be an "in progress" image – for use by the exhibit committee in planning the display.

**Upon receipt of the application,** instructions will be sent identifying when the piece or CD with images of the piece is to be shipped to the seminar Education Department Exhibit local chairman. It is hoped that the entrants will send the actual piece but if they cannot, then a CD with images of the piece may be sent. Digital images should be .jpg files, at least 5" x 7" and 300dpi.  See EGA Photography Guidelines for more information.

**Judging** will take place just prior to the opening of national seminar at the seminar site. Entries will be based on artistic merit (40%) and how the stitcher "went outside the box." (60%)

Address all inquiries and application to: [judgecertification@egausa.org](mailto:judgescertification@egausa.org), subject line: Pilling Award  
  
**Do not send application or the piece to headquarters in Louisville.**

Application Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Chapter\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Region \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ EGA Member Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Title of Piece \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Size (h, w, d)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_