



Ceramic tiles commemorate Iowa quilters

by [Matt Buhrman](#)

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As the Iowa State Fair approaches, a statewide effort has been underway to unite in an artistic way.

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FAIRFIELD, IOWA -- A colorful pattern can be seen at the Iowa State Fair this year, thanks to quilters and ceramic tiles.

At Creative Edge, a global ceramic manufacturing company based in Fairfield, workers are assembling artistic ceramic tiles...each tile represents a quilter's block that was created by a group of quilters in an Iowa county.

Jim Belilove, the President and Owner of [Creative Edge](#), said that the tiles are 16 square inches, and will encircle a new building.

"This was an idea to decorate their newest and largest building, the Jacobson Pavilion, with indigenous, original quilt work. So each county in Iowa has submitted a quilt design," Belilove said.

He discussed the process of how these tiles are made and assembled.

"These are ceramic tiles. They've been cut up just the way you would cut up pieces for a fabric quilt. And then they are glued together on the back, it's got grout. These are going to be permanent. They will stay on the building forever," Belilove said.

Creative Edge specializes in waterjet technology for fabricating ceramic tiles.

Belilove said that this project is a way to commemorate the rich heritage of Iowa quilters.

"They've had quilt contests every year, I'm sure, for over 100 years at the fair. And they get a big turnout of quilt entries every year and I've actually seen them. They are spectacular. It's a big part of Iowa," Belilove said.

The project will be completed and ready for the [Iowa State Fair](#) in August.

