

ANNUAL REPORT COMBINED 2006-2008

By any measure, July 2006 to July 2008 was an extraordinary period for the International Quilt Study Center & Museum. Through the generosity of hundreds of donors, the capital campaign was a success and our bold vision for a striking new facility dedicated to collection, exhibition, preservation and discovery was realized.

In 2006–2008 we featured 4 major exhibitions, organized by our staff and graduate students. Several of our exhibitions traveled to other locations, including the Pasadena Museum of History, the James A. Michener Art Museum in New Hope, Pennsylvania and the University of Rochester's Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester. These traveling exhibitions richly demonstrated to others that the International Quilt Study Center & Museum has a truly exceptional collection in terms of its scope and quality. Together these shows attracted more than 40,000 visitors to the various venues.

The strength of our collection and all it enables us to do is something we do not take for granted. It represents the cumulative efforts of a dedicated acquisitions committee, coupled with the sustained commitment of our benefactors and a group of donors who understood the importance of sharing their cherished family quilts and collections with the public. We continue to honor that commitment today through the focused development of a collection that remains our single most important resource.

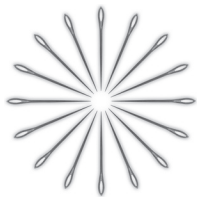


Peter Aaron/Esto

The Quilt Center's volunteers again proved to be among the most hard-working and loyal volunteers of any institution in the state and region. More than 100 volunteers provided more than 3000 volunteer hours just between January and the end of June, 2008! At the national value of a volunteer hour (\$17.50/hour), the total of 3180 hours represented more than \$55,650 of donated efforts.

In the coming year we plan to offer more exciting exhibitions, host Quilt ID Days, organize our 4th biennial symposium "The Global Quilt: Cultural Contexts," and offer a number of engaging public programs including several family days. I look forward to sharing news of these activities in the months ahead.

Patricia Crews
Willa Cather Professor of Textiles & Director



TO COLLECT AND PRESERVE...

In 2006, the International Quilt Study Center collections were greatly enhanced with a second gift of more than 225 quilts by Robert and Ardis James of Chappaqua, New York. This large donation included fifteen studio quilts from America and around the world, including German artists Ruth Eissfeldt and Ursula Rauch, and American artists Michael James, Ellen Oppenheimer and Mary Catherine Lamb. A second important collection, acquired in 2006 from Washington D.C. collectors Clyde and Joan Shorey, features outstanding American whitework quilts, ranging in date from the 1780s to the 1880s. In addition, local collector and quiltmaker Mary Campbell Ghormley donated quilts from her antique collection as well as traditional style quilts made by her own hand.

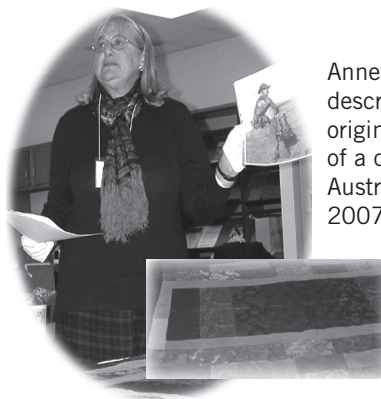
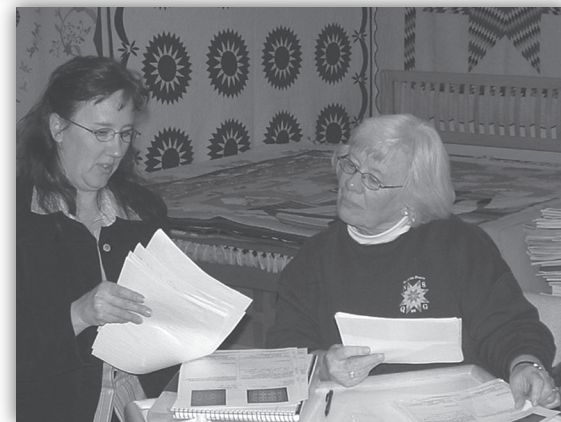
In both 2006 and 2007 substantial numbers of international quilts were added to the collections. The Center is now home to one of the most comprehensive collections of 20th century quilts from northern India and southern Pakistan, including pieced rallis, embroidered kanthas, bags, belts and wrappings acquired with the assistance of collector and author Tricia Stoddard. Two of the earliest quilts in the collection: a whole cloth quilt likely made in France, ca.1680-1700, and an exquisitely embroidered English quilt dating from 1710-1730 were also added, as well as a donation of what is now the earliest *dated* quilt in the collection: a paper-pieced English medallion, with the date 1808 and the maker's initials appliquéd in the design. These quilts were among those identified by the late Sara Dillow, Acquisitions Coordinator 2005-2007 and longtime Center supporter. Sara's efforts in building the Center's collections were of immeasurable value.

Two quilts from the African country of Zimbabwe also add breadth to the international collection, as does the addition of two Log Cabin quilts from Norway, an outstanding late 18th century medallion quilt from the Netherlands, an Australian wagga, or working man's quilt, and a silk ikat quilt from Tajikistan. The addition of studio quilts from United Kingdom artists Diana Harrison, Jo Budd, Lynn Settrington and Pauline Burbidge, Terisina Gai from Italy and Yoshiko Jinzenji from Japan demonstrate the continuing commitment to acquire examples of works of contemporary artists.

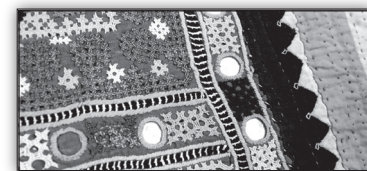


Dr. James Gunnerson describes quilts made by his mother, Muriel Brickner Gunnerson, in Aurora, Nebraska, circa 1930-1940. The quilt shown at left (IQSC 2006.023.0002, one of two donated by the Gunnerson family) is a LaMoyne Star pattern made from a kit. It was included in "Perfecting the Past: Colonial Revival Quilts", curated by Melissa Slaton for her graduate exhibition project.

In her role as Acquisitions Coordinator, Sara Dillow worked closely with Curator of Collections Carolyn Ducey. They are shown here in 2006 at the home of Robert and Ardis James as they collect data needed for the acquisition of the second gift of 225 quilts from the James.

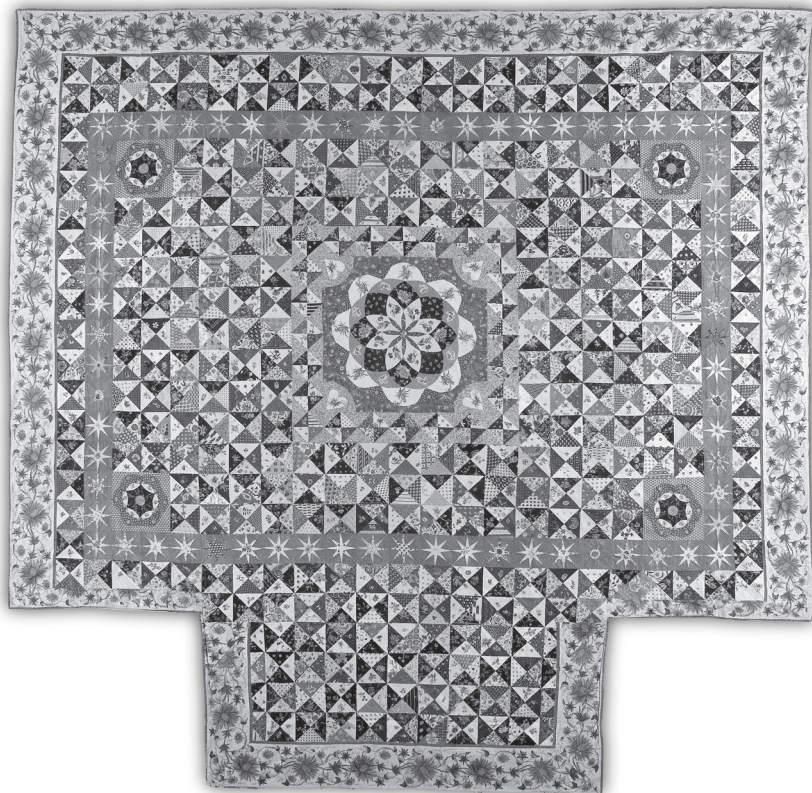


Annette Gero describes the origins and uses of a donated Australian wagga, 2007.010.0001.



Detail image of Indian or Pakistani ralli, ca 1950-1960
2006.001.0016

2006-2008 Quilt Donors



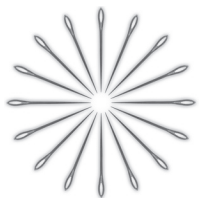
2007.005.0001, Netherlands, ca1795-1800

Moving Mountains...of QUILTS

- 2 staff members and 5 volunteers worked for 10 days to pack quilts at the original storage facility.
- A total of 320 shipping boxes were packed.
- When 32 shipping boxes were packed each day, 2 movers from UNL Moving Services transported the boxes to the new museum where they were unloaded.
- 2 staff members and 5 volunteers daily opened shipping boxes, removed quilt boxes, and re-shelved quilts in their new home.



Harold Andersen	Cynthia Larkin & Olive G. Conrad family
Kathryn Berenson	Carlene Litz & Donna Soflin
Sherry Boram	Karen Lyons
Virginia Buckley & Hal Myers	William J. McLaughlin
Carol Dunklau	Lindsey Miller-Lerman
Charles Duponte	Andrew Morrow
Gail Gerig	Needle and Thread Arts Society
Annette Gero	Max Neiden
Mary & Roger Ghormley	Jerome Obrist
Gerald Gordon	Omaha Quilters Guild
Jack Green	Joan Phillips
Nancy Harris	Margaret Pierson
Sheila Holland	Julie Sefton
Jonathan Holstein	Joan & Clyde Shorey, Jr.
Sylvia Jacobs	Sandra Sider
Yoshiko Jinzenji	Lila Springer
Paul Johnson	Odette Teel
Marilyn & Ivan Karp	Judith Trager
Helen Kelley	Charles Wyly
Soon Hee Kim	



TO STUDY...

Interest in the master's program in textile history with an emphasis in quilt studies continues to grow. Students have unique access to the quilts and museum staff members have a constantly expanding list of research ideas to engage students in in-depth projects. In addition to the core curriculum, special topics are explored each year, as shown by these recent examples:

Summer Seminars

- "Depression Era Quilts", July 16-20, 2007, with Merikay Waldvogel, Author and Independent Scholar, Knoxville, Tennessee.
- "Printing and Dyeing Techniques of the 18th and 19th Centuries," June 2-6, 2008, with Dr. Margaret Ordonez, Professor, *(pictured at right)* University of Rhode Island.
- "History of Quilts," June 9 to August 14, 2008, with Dr. Virginia Gunn, Professor, University of Akron.



INTERNATIONAL QUILT STUDY CENTER & MUSEUM

Symposium

The third biennial symposium, "Traditions and Trajectories: Education and the Quiltmaker" held March 1-3, 2007, was truly international in scope, and exactly the sort of activity envisioned when the IQSC was formed – a conference that brings together a diverse group of individuals for dialogue and discovery. Participants included educators, artists, museum curators, students, quiltmakers, and enthusiasts fascinated by the ways quiltmakers learn and transmit the tradition globally.



More than 200 persons registered from 30 states and 8 foreign countries including Australia, Canada, England, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and the Netherlands.

Stuart Kestenbaum (Haystack Mountain School) and Simon Prins, International Advisory Board, Netherlands.

Sessions covered the gamut of interests from the many ways quilting is learned and passed on to how changing technology influences quilt and textile craft education to traditions and trajectories in African American quilting and changing traditions in quilting globally.

Symposium keynote speakers included:

- Jean Ray Laury, well-known California designer, quilter and author;
- Stuart Kestenbaum, poet and director of the Haystack Mountain School of Crafts in Maine;
- Paulette Peters, renowned Nebraska quilter and teacher.

The co-chairs of the symposium were Michael James and Wendy Weiss.

IQSC's fourth biennial symposium, "The Global Quilt: Cultural Contexts" is scheduled for April 2-4, 2009.

Textile History/Quilt Studies Graduates

July 2006-June 2008

Kim Baird-MA, August 2006

Melissa Slaton-MA, August 2006

Anita Loscalzo-MA, December 2006

Christina Brooks-MA, August 2007

Jonathan Gregory-MA, August 2007

Tina Koeppe-MA, August 2007

LynDee Lombardo-MA, August 2007

Judy Newland-MA, August 2007

Kimberly Madsen-MA, December 2007

Gwendolyn Holley-MS, May 2008

AND PROMOTE DISCOVERY...

Publications

Nao Nomura and Janneken Smucker. "From Fibers to Fieldwork: A Multifaceted Approach to Re-examining Amish Quilts." Ed. Joanna Evans, 123-156. *Uncoverings 2006*. Lincoln, NE: American Quilt Study Group, 2006.

Beverly Gordon. "Crazy Quilts as an Expression of Fairyland." Ed. Joanna Evans, 29-58. *Uncoverings 2006*. Lincoln, NE: American Quilt Study Group, 2006. (Research completed at the Center during her 2004 Visiting Scholar Fellowship.)

Jonathan Gregory. "The Joy of Beauty: The Creative Life and Quilts of Rose Kretsinger." Ed. Joanna Evans, 53-96. *Uncoverings 2007*. Lincoln, NE: American Quilt Study Group, 2007.

Marin Hanson and Carolyn Ducey. *Quilts in Common / Nancy Crow: Cloth, Culture & Context*. Lincoln, NE: International Quilt Study Center & Museum, 2008.



"*The Studio Quilt Movement: Genesis and Development.*" Michael James. College Art Association Annual Conference, Dallas, Texas, February 23, 2008.

"*Communities of Comfort: Quilts to Comfort the Families of America's Fallen in the Afghanistan and Iraq Wars.*" Jonathan Gregory. Presented at "Imagining Communities: People, Places, Meanings," James A. Rawley Graduate Conference in the Humanities, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, April 12, 2008.

"*Quilts: Reflections of Trade, Technology and Tradition.*" Patricia Crews. Invited lecture for the Chancellor's Distinguished Lecture Series, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, April 17, 2008.

"*Teaching from the International Quilt Study Center.*" Michael James. Invited lecture for the President's Club mini-university, University of Nebraska, May 8, 2008.

"*America's Quilt Heritage: A Melting Pot.*" Patricia Crews. Invited lecture. Saint Louis Art Museum in conjunction with "Quilts in a Material World" exhibition, May 16, 2008.

Carolyn Ducey and Pat Crews gave a total of 40 presentations through the UNL Speakers Bureau between August 2006 and May 2008.

Center staff presented lectures as a part of the Nebraska Historical Society's Brown Bag programs, which were recorded and aired daily on the Nebraska Educational Television Public Access Channel 5 for one to three months following each presentation:

Carolyn Ducey- "*Nebraska Quilts*"

Janet Price – "*Grace Snyder*"

Pat Crews – "*Nebraska Quilts and Quiltmakers*"

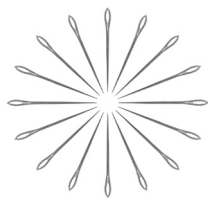
Jonathan Gregory – "*Memory in Cloth*"

Presentations

"*The Joy of Beauty: The Creative Life and Quilts of Rose Kretsinger.*" Jonathan Gregory. Presented at the American Quilt Study Group Seminar, Lowell, MA, October 13, 2007.

"*Nebraska Quilts and Quiltmakers.*" Patricia Crews. Invited lecture. Smithsonian American Art Museum, Renwick Gallery, Washington, DC, November 11, 2007.

"*Reinventing Quilts in a Digital Age.*" Michael James. Invited lecture. Memorial Art Gallery, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, January 20, 2008.



TO EXHIBIT ...

Quilt House becomes a reality

The new home of the International Quilt Study Center & Museum at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln opened on March 30, 2008. That day over 1,500 visitors celebrated the new Quilt House dreamed of for nearly ten years. Crowds lined up more than an hour before the doors opened and lines surrounded the building for three hours as people waited to enter. Quilt-lovers, UNL students, faculty and staff, media, and building construction workers admired the fruits of a twenty-four month effort and the hundreds of supporters whose contributions made it all possible. Visitors patiently worked their ways across the plaza, past Linda Fleming's ethereal white steel sculpture, and into the stunning new museum.

Exhibitions in the new galleries

The inaugural exhibitions in the galleries of the new museum were curated by Carolyn Ducey, Curator of Collections, and Marin Hanson, Curator of Exhibitions. "Quilts in Common" explored relationships between quilts that are not typically associated with one another, but which have strong visual or conceptual relationships. Small sets of quilts were combined to create surprising groupings based on different sources of inspiration—including a wide variety of designs, techniques, motifs and concepts. The exhibition featured works from nine different countries and from four centuries and included some of the masterpieces from the Center's collections. As a complement, the exhibition "Nancy Crow: Cloth, Culture, and Context" presented the work of the widely-acclaimed artist Nancy Crow, a member of the American studio quilt vanguard.

The new virtual gallery demonstrated leading-edge technology sharing hundreds of quilts in full-size projection, interactive quilt design, a historical timeline and an opportunity to record and archive individual quilt stories. Hands-on artmaking activities attracted scores of young visitors making their own museum souvenirs. And, of course the new museum shop was a popular stop.

INTERNATIONAL QUILT STUDY CENTER & MUSEUM

A vividly illustrated lecture by Nancy Crow crowned the day's events (posted as a podcast on www.quiltstudy.org). The audience also gave an enthusiastic standing ovation to Ardis and Robert James, whose vision, personal collection, and financial support led to the Center's beginnings in 1997. A plaque at the entrance expresses the James' intentions:



*Dedicated to the people of
Nebraska and to quilters and quilt
lovers everywhere who have made
the dream of an international
quilt house a reality.*

Ardis and Robert James



Museum Visitors

During the International Quilt Study Center & Museum's Opening Weekend in late March 2008, a total of 2,564 people visited, including 1,538 who came on Sunday, March 30 for the public Grand Opening. Regular museum hours began on April 1. The Quilt Center welcomed more than 10,000 visitors representing at least 48 states and eight foreign countries during its first three months of operation.



PUBLIC PROGRAMS

2008 Lecture Series includes talks from an impressive array of speakers: Nancy Crow, Janet Berlo, Jonathan Holstein, Michael James, Janneken Smucker, and David Hornung.

Tuesday Talks, an informal lunchtime series, offers Museum visitors a chance to engage with curatorial staff and guest experts during their visit.

Guided tours are available to the public on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Docents led 102 tours for pre-arranged groups, accounting for 2309 visitors between April 1 and June 30.

Family Day programs feature gallery and artmaking activities, performances, and demonstrations, and are held in conjunction with exhibitions and on special topics.

Quilt Identification Days, a very popular program, are offered four times per year.

Volunteers: More than 100 volunteers work in support of the Center. Some work in Collections and in the Reading Room, some as docents guiding tours to further the public's understanding of the museum's collections and exhibitions, and others work as visitor services volunteers engaging visitors and providing a friendly public face for the museum. Museum volunteers donate, on average, 600 hours per month.



Jonathan Holstein lecture, June 2008



Left: Volunteer Jean Davie assists at Quilts in Common Family Day, June 2008. Above: Visitors explore the Quilt History Timeline in the museum's Virtual Gallery.

Other Exhibitions

In addition to the museum's inaugural exhibitions, two other exhibitions were organized since July 2006:

"Recycling & Resourcefulness: Quilts of the 1930s,"
curated by graduate student Christina Brooks.

"Quilts of the Homesteading Era," co-curated by graduate students Mary Fitzgerald and Jan Rodgers.

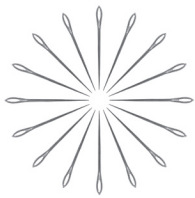
Existing exhibitions traveled nationally:

"Wild by Design" hosted by the James A. Michener Art Museum in New Hope, Pennsylvania and the University of Rochester's Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester, New York.

"African American Quilts from the Robert and Helen Cargo Collection" traveled to the Pasadena Museum of History in Pasadena, California and Loves Jazz & Arts Center in Omaha.

"Indigo Gives America the Blues," hosted by the Falconer Gallery of Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa.

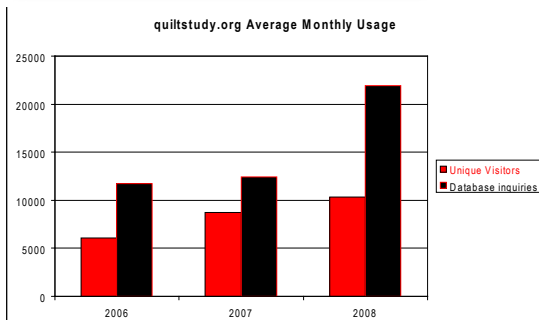
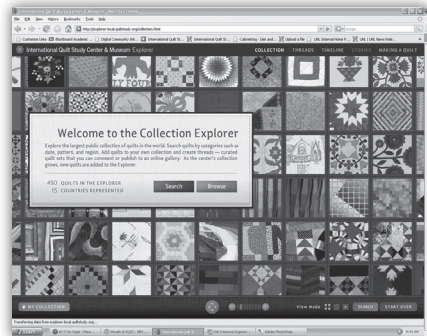
"Quilting A to Z" continues its two year, multi-rotation exhibition at the Museum of Nebraska History in Lincoln. It was jointly produced with the Center staff and includes Center quilts.



Website quiltstudy.org

The website redesign of quiltstudy.org was implemented in June 2007. The new logo and visual identity were incorporated as were new features providing national and international guild links, enhanced availability of lecture podcasts and other downloads, and easier media access.

The Quilt Explorer functions available in the museum's Virtual Gallery were recently incorporated into the website, adding exceptional interactive capabilities predicted to bring new and returning users in increasing numbers. Website visitors now may explore the quilt collection in new ways, learn from the Quilt History Timeline, design a quilt and view and listen to stories recorded by visitors to the museum.



The website extends the resources of the center throughout the world, serving users in an average of 54 different countries each month.

Usage of the website continues to steadily increase with overall two-year figures showing:

- 71% increase in unique visitors
- 88% increase in quilt database usage.



Communications

Coordinated public relations efforts combining Center, UNL and NU Foundation resources resulted in extensive media coverage of the museum opening in more than 200 newspapers, magazines, broadcast outlets, and internet news sources within and outside the Midwest region. Coverage was noted in numerous major national media channels as well as around the world, notably in Australia, the United Kingdom, France and Japan.

The number of Quilt of the Month e-mail subscribers provides one benchmark of increasing public awareness of the Center's presence and resources. Subscriptions have grown from 2,540 to 5,240 since 2006, a 106% increase.

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Honors

International Quilt Study Center & Museum. Awarded an Honorable Mention in the 2008 **American Association of Museum Publications Design Competition** for the *Quilts in Common / Nancy Crow: Cloth Culture, and Context* exhibition catalogue designed by free lance designer Amy Schell in collaboration with Marin Hanson.

The 'Needleburst' logo designed for the new International Quilt Study Center & Museum by Bailey Lauerman of Lincoln, Nebraska in collaboration with Maureen Ose, garnered one of the New York-based 2009 **PRINT Magazine Regional Design Awards**.

Michael James. Received the 2008 **Governor's Arts Award in Visual Arts** conferred by the Nebraska Arts Council.

Michael James. Selected artist for the 2008 Visual Artwork for the **Meadowlark Music Festival and the Museum of Nebraska Art**, Kearney, NE.

Patricia Crews. Selected to present the 2008 Nebraska Lecture, part of the **Chancellor's Distinguished Lecture Series**.

Marin Hanson. Received the 2008 **College of Education and Human Sciences Staff Award** for exceptional contributions to the International Quilt Study Center & Museum.

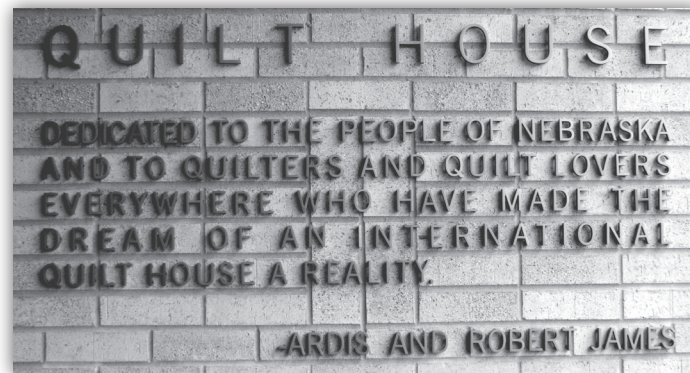
Michael James. Selected artist for the 2007 **Nebraska Arts Council's** statewide billboard and arts curriculum project called 'Nebraska Masterpieces;' represented by "Momentum."

Michael James. **International Quilt Festival Silver Star Salute** awardee, November 2007.

Jonathan Gregory. **University of Nebraska-Lincoln Master's Thesis Award**, Honorable Mention, 2007.

Jonathan Gregory. Recipient of the 2007-2008 **Laughlin Fellowship for Doctoral Studies**, UNL Department of Textiles, Clothing and Design.

Patricia Crews. Inducted into the **Nebraska State Quilt Guild Hall of Fame**.



Grants

Nebraska Humanities Council. \$2,350. "Recycling and Resourcefulness: Quilts of the 1930s." 9/30/2006 - 10/30/2007.

James Foundation. \$406,625. "Digital Initiative." 11/01/2006 - 6/30/2008.

James Foundation. \$226,993 "Quilting Across the Globe." 11/01/2006 - 12/31/2011.

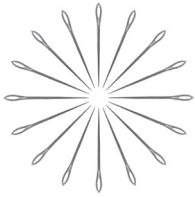
Cooper Foundation. \$21,274. "Drawing Connections: The Art and Design of Quilts." Support for the catalogue for the inaugural exhibition catalogue. 4/15/2007 - 6/30/2008.

Woods Charitable Fund. \$93,600. "Education and Outreach Coordinator." 07/2007 - 08/2009.

Lincoln Arts Council. \$1,000. "Nancy Crow Lecture and Exhibition." 3/2008- 8/2008.

Nebraska Humanities Council. \$4,950. "Quilts in Common Lecture Series." 9/2007-10/2008.

Getty Foundation. \$175,000. "Catalog Research and Preparation Project." 7/1/2004-7/1/2007.



Annual Supporters

For many years, gifts to the Annual Support Fund provided funds for the operational collections care activities of the International Quilt Study Center. Between March 2006 and February 2008 a total of 191 donations were made to the Annual Support Fund, including 74 at the Associate level or higher. When the new Museum opened in Spring 2008, the Annual Support program was transformed into a Membership program. ***In addition to those who participated in the Annual Support Fund, many others made contributions to the International Quilt Study Center & Museum Building Fund.***

Benefactor Level [\$1,000 and above]

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Membership

The International Quilt Study Center & Museum enrolled a total of 277 members between March and June 2008. The Quilt Museum's 164 Individual members and 1 Student member receive unlimited free admission for one to the Museum for one full year, as well as invitations to exhibition openings, 10% discount on selected workshops, and a complimentary subscription to a quarterly e-newsletter and program calendar.

70 Family members receive all of the benefits of Individual membership for two adults and their children or grandchildren under age 18, as well as advance notice and free admission to family days and other family programs. Members are recognized for their support at the Sustaining and Contributing levels.

Sustaining Level [\$250 and above]

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ANNUAL REPORT COMBINED 2006 - 2008

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The International Quilt Study Center & Museum makes its academic home in the Department of Textiles, Clothing and Design in the College of Education and Human Sciences. Marjorie Kostelnik, Dean
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