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Oberlin Heritage Center Hosts Several Quilt-Related Activities this Summer

The Oberlin Heritage Center is pleased to take part in the community of Oberlin's "Quilt Connection 2012" with several quilt-related activities offered in June and July. The events are part of a summer celebration of quilts and creativity happening throughout Oberlin in conjunction with *The Artist as Quiltmaker XV*, the 15th biennial exhibition of contemporary quilts at the Firelands Association of Visual Arts (FAVA) from May 13 - July 29, 2012.

On Tuesday June 5 at 7:15 p.m., the Heritage Center offers a community program on "**The Quilt as Storyteller**," taking place at Kendal at Oberlin's Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive). In this illustrated presentation, OHC Collections Assistant Prue Richards shares images of rarely seen quilts in the museum's collection and becomes a voice for the family and regional histories they hold within them. Learn more about how quilts tell their fascinating stories through fabrics, stitches, patterns and insights into the quiltmaker and her family. The program is free and open to the public.

Special "**Quilt as Storyteller**" tours will be offered at the Oberlin Heritage Center for three weeks in June. The 60-to-90-minute guided tour features 19th and early 20th century quilts ranging from small doll quilts to impressively large full-size bed quilts displayed throughout the historic Monroe and Jewett Houses this month only. Led by Prue Richards, the tour focuses on textiles and techniques of construction, and the makers, owners, and occasions associated with the viewed quilts, which include pieced, appliquéd, whole cloth and several variations of crazy quilts. Information about how to care for quilts will be available at the end of the tour. Space is limited to ten adults per tour, and pre-paid registration is required. Tours are offered June 8-23 at 10:30 a.m. on Fridays and 3 p.m. on Saturdays. The fee is \$10 per person; \$6 per OHC member. Please note that flash photography will not be permitted. To make a reservation, visit www.oberlinheritage.org or contact Prue Richards at (440) 774-1700 or history@oberlinheritage.org.

Rounding out the Heritage Center's quilt-themed activities is "**Textile Care and Preservation in Your Own Home**," an all-day workshop at the Oberlin Depot (240 South Main Street) on Saturday, July 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Prue Richards addresses the materials, techniques, conditions, practices and spaces available to us in our own homes that can help improve and extend the lives of our own textile treasures. A folder of handouts and resources will be provided

for each attendee and participants are invited to bring one or two textile pieces of their own for evaluation during the afternoon session. The fee is \$50 (\$45 for OHC members) which includes a box lunch. Pre-registration is required. Contact the Oberlin Heritage Center at (440) 774-1700 or at members@oberlinheritage.org to receive a registration flyer.

The Artist as Quiltmaker is the second-longest-running art-quilt exhibition in the world. The exhibition was founded in 1984 by quilt historian Ricky Clark. This year's event features the artistry of 39 exhibitors from 21 states and one Canadian province. Visit the FAVA gallery at 39 South Main Street in Oberlin, Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1-5 p.m. (closed Monday and July 4). Tours are available by appointment. For more information about the juried quilt show and many other quilt-related events taking place in Oberlin all summer long, visit www.favagallery.org or call (440) 774-7158.

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