



International Quilt Museum

Annual Report 2024-25

Enduring **support.** Incredible **futures.**

A note from the Ardis and
Robert James Executive
Director Leslie Levy

The International Quilt Museum is the place where quilting, textiles and history come to life. Your presence and unwavering support since our opening in 2008 means the world to this museum and are crucial to our mission. With your help, this year we've added hundreds of stunning new acquisitions to our collection. These quilts bolster our collection and add to the extraordinary creativity quilting represents. These pieces not only enrich our exhibits but also provide new opportunities for research and education.

We've installed 12 incredible exhibitions during this fiscal year, bringing fascinating history and artistry to our community. The scope of these exhibitions span the globe representing different cultures and perspectives in the world of quilting. These achievements are a direct result of the generosity of our donors. Their support — financial or otherwise — is crucial to the function and growth of the International Quilt Museum.

None of our successes would be possible without the dedicated team of individuals who drive this museum forward each and every day. From our passionate curators to our diligent visitor services team to our award winning education and outreach, every person plays a vital role in bringing success to this organization. Their hard work ensures our collection is protected for future generations and that new and returning visitors have meaningful experiences every time they enter our doors.



Right:
**Leslie Levy speaks with donors at
a Red & White Dinner held at the
International Quilt Museum**



The collection at the International Quilt Museum is comprised of more than 11,000 quilts, textiles and related objects.

As part of our mission, we strive to build a comprehensive collection of these quilts and quilt-related objects to celebrate their cultural and artistic significance. These objects range from historical and traditional quilts and artifacts, to modern studio quilts on the cutting edge of the art form.

In the past year, the acquisitions committee strengthened our collection of quilts in modern, international and traditional categories. Around half of our acquisitions this year were international and European pieces, while the other half were pieces originated in the United States. These pieces are surveyed, vacuumed and isolated before being stored with other quilts in our collection. The quilts' physical characteristics and unique object numbers are entered into our database along with any other historical records or genealogical information.

The success of our collections management is made possible by our dedicated collections team and curators, as well as our indispensable volunteers and interns, who work diligently to conserve and care for our unrivaled collection. This involves processing quilts entering our collection and consistently reassessing our collection's needs.

Collections Management

An overview of our
ever-growing collection.

Left:
Collections Manager Jamie Swartz (left) and Collection Assistant Savanna Crowther (right) refold quilts with the help of a IQM volunteer in the Dillow Conservation Room.

By the Numbers

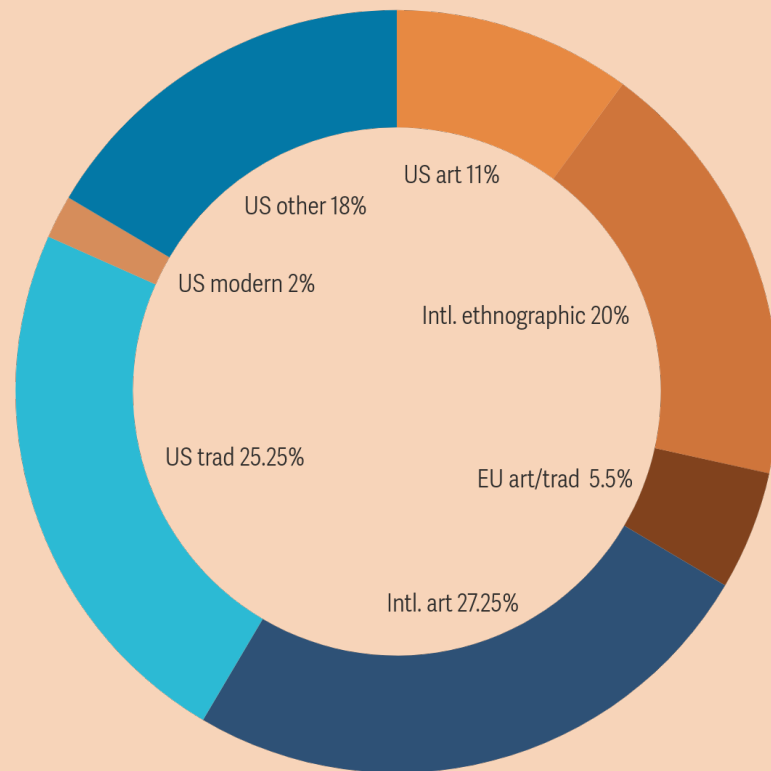
A graphic representation of our museum's growth in 2025.

Exhibitions:

- 12 Exhibitions
- 10 new virtual galleries
- 40,000+ total virtual gallery tours

Collections:

- 111 objects acquired
- 11,000+ quilts and objects
- 65+ countries represented



19.5k
In-person
Attendance

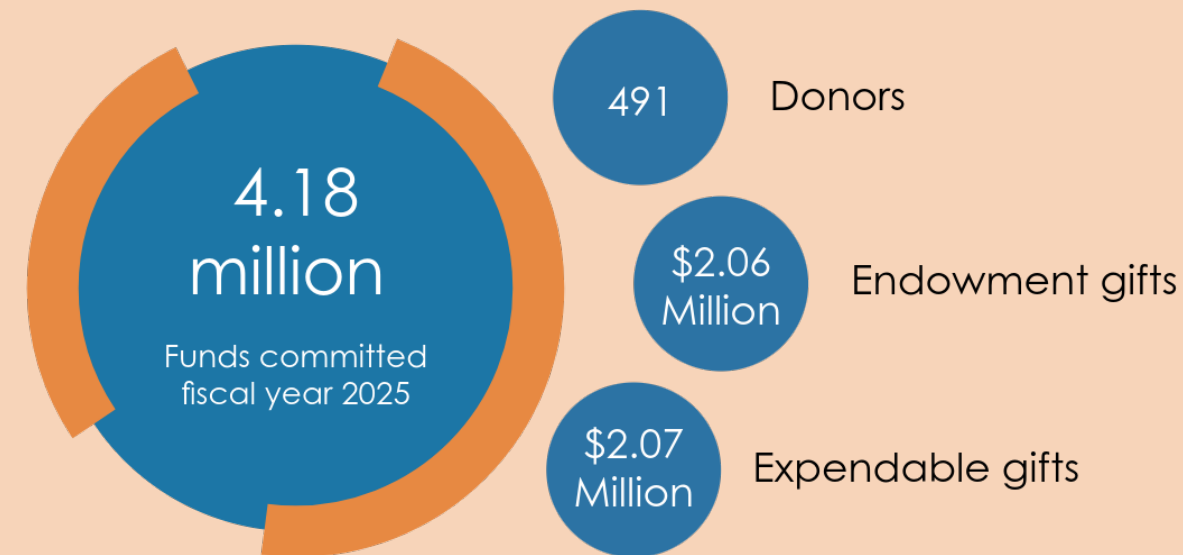
54.5k
Social Media
Followers

448,000
Web Visitors

Gifts in
Kind

72
Objects

\$81k
Value



The International Quilt Museum reached an incredible milestone by nearly doubling our committed funds from the previous fiscal year. This growth is more than a number on a spreadsheet; it's a direct reflection of the extraordinary value and trust our donors place in our mission to create a collection and audience that celebrates the cultural and artistic significance of quilts. The generosity of our donors fuel every program, outreach effort and innovation we pursue.

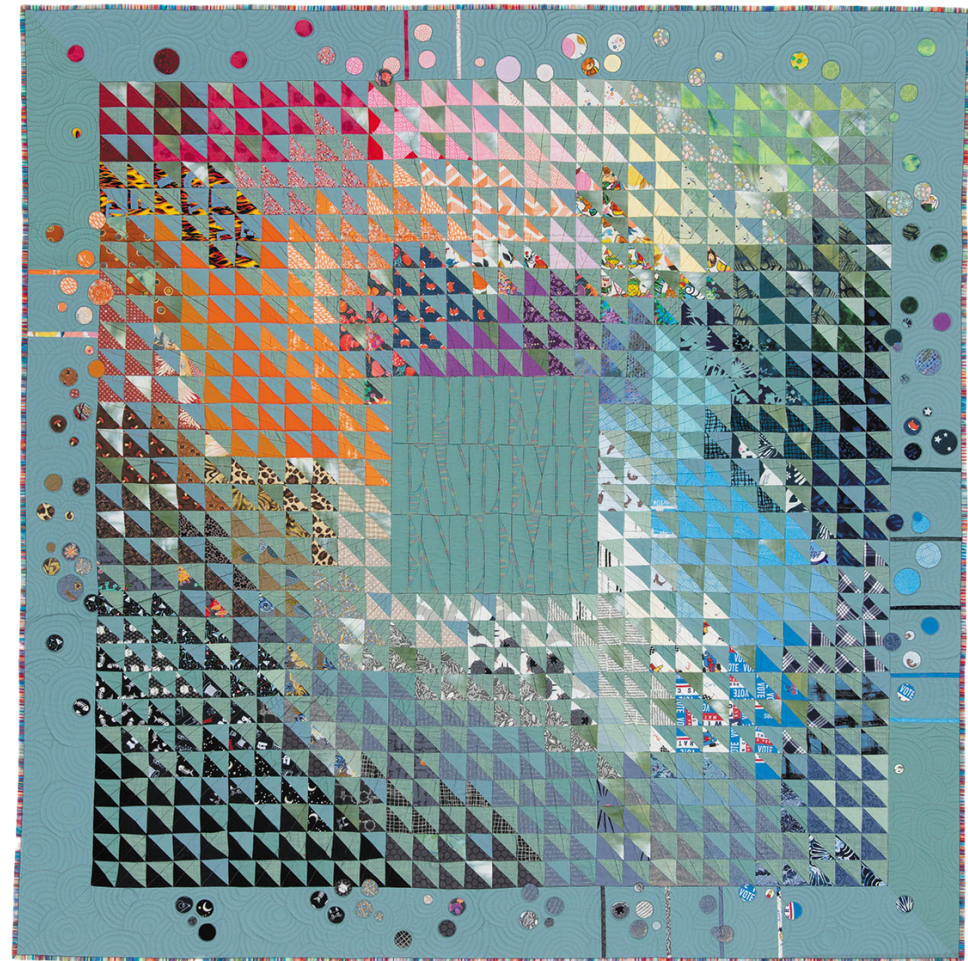
New Acquisitions

A sneak peak at some of
our latest favorites.

Album
Possibly made by Mary Simon
Made in Baltimore, Maryland, United States
Dated 1848
Cotton
IQM 2024.004.0001



Masks 3/2020 - 6/2022
Kristin La Flamme
Made in Portland, Oregon, United States
Dated 2020-2022
Cotton
IQM 2025.006.0001



New Acquisitions

Ila'yya'sha, Katihma (We Are Still Here)
Emmy Alcazar
Made in Powhatan, Virginia, United States
Dated 2024
Cotton
IQM 2025.004.0001



Color Block 29
Nancy Crow
Made in Ohio, United States
Dated 1992
Cotton
IQM 2025.002.0001



Latest Exhibitions

A review of our best year yet.

In the past fiscal year, we had 12 stunning exhibitions that explored the wide world of quilting and the current status of the art form. From traditional quilts, international textiles and modern pieces, our powerful exhibitions highlight communities throughout the world.

Due to the nature of textiles, and our commitment to preserve the IQM's collection for future generations, the pieces in our collection are only on display for a short time to mitigate damage. This means better protected textiles, and a revolving door of beautiful exhibitions for our visitors.

This year's exhibitions:

- Option Expedition by Victoria Findlay Wolfe
- Rebound, Renew, Reimagine: The Manhattan Quilters Guild
- Best of Show: Nebraska State Fair Quilts
- Second Chances: Upcycled Modern Quilts
- Yorgan: The Art of the Turkish Quilt
- A Golden Age of Quilts, 1870-1940
- Without a Net: Quilted Sculptures by Susan Else
- Studio Showcase: Judy Kirpich and Karen Schulz
- Whimsy II: Quilts of a Feather
- Color Improvisations 3
- Paula Kovarik: Herd
- Sara Schellenberg: Within Me there is a Pinwheel

Opposite:
Two visitors explore "Best of Show: Nebraska State Fair Quilts" in the Von Seggern Gallery.





Opposite:
“Studio Showcase: Judy Kirpich and Karen Schulz” on display in the IQM’s Coryell Gallery.

Top:
“Color Improvisations 3” was a bold assortment of 42 quilts curated by artist Nancy Crow. This exhibition made its North American debut at the IQM after showing in Germany. This show will tour through 2029.

Bottom:
“Whimsy II: Quilts of a Feather” was a beautiful showcase of quilts related to birds. Various depictions of birds — and even a quilt made of feathers — were on display in two of our main galleries. This exhibition was curated by former Curator of Collections Carolyn Ducey just prior to her retirement in 2025.

Education & Outreach

A look at how we connect
with our community.

Opposite:
Operations Manager Ruth Loberg
leads a tour of students through **"Color
Improvisations 3"** in the West Gallery.

At the heart of our mission is a deep commitment to education and community outreach. We believe that meaningful community engagement is fundamental to developing an audience that understands and values the significance of quilts.

Our educational programs are designed to inspire, inform, and equip all-ages with knowledge of textile art. Our First Friday programming regularly sees an average of 200 guests who peruse our galleries, listen to a lecture, or take in a musical performance. We also offer all-ages art projects during First Fridays and Sewing Saturdays that are popular with local families.

Beyond the walls of our museum, our outreach initiatives are active in local schools where we organize quilting clubs and sewing projects for school-aged children. Our Textile Talks programs have reached over 30,000 viewers in nearly 70 countries. And we also partner with members or our International Advisory Board to support and provide programming for quilt guilds around the world.

We look forward to another successful year promoting quilting, the art and the history.



First Fridays

First Fridays are held each month with free access to our galleries, art projects and special programming.

Top:
Education Coordinator Lindy Clausen (right) and education intern Nani Anjolak (left) assist a visitor with an art project during First Friday.



Bottom:
Curator of Collections Sarah Walcott (left), textile artist Susan Else, and former Curator of Collections Carolyn Ducey pose for photo in the exhibition **"Without a Net: Quilted Sculpture by Susan Else."**



Opposite:
The Lincoln Boys Choir performs in the IQM Reception Hall.



Welcoming Week

Welcoming Week is a collaborative community event held in Lincoln and around the United States.

Right:
Visitors take part in a selection of international snacks and refreshments during the IQM's **"Textile Show-and-Tell"** held as part of Lincoln's Welcoming Week.

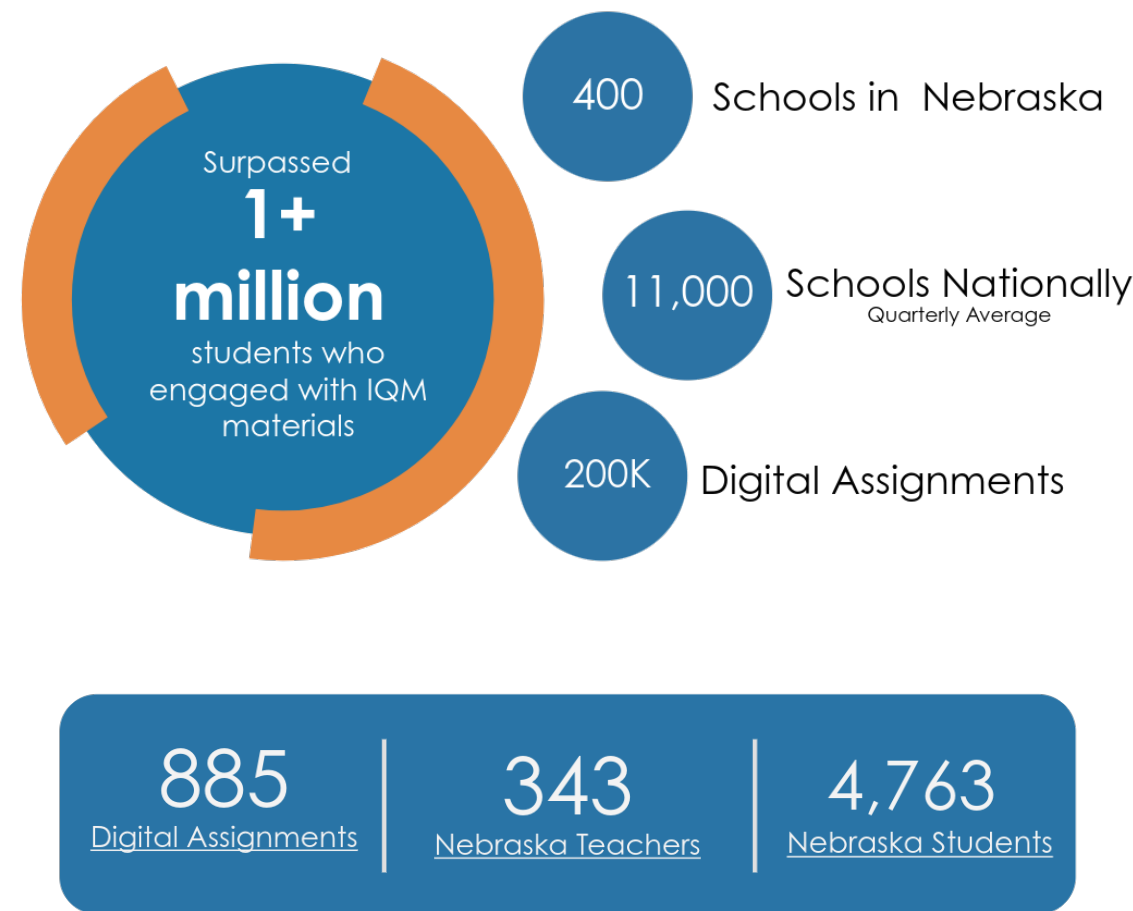
Opposite:
Visitors who shared some of their favorite cultural textiles during the event gather for a photo with students from Saitama University in Japan. Alongside students from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, these students took part in a museum exhibition course at the IQM.



Sewing Saturdays

Sewing Saturdays are monthly events teaching the basics of sewing to visitors of all-ages.

Right: Visitors participate in an all-ages art project during Sewing Saturdays at the International Quilt Museum.



ReadWorks

A visual representation of student and teacher engagement with the IQM's education materials via ReadWorks.

ReadWorks is a nonprofit organization that provides free education materials to under-resourced communities to advance reading comprehension.

IQM

Leadership

Quilt Team

Leslie C. Levy, Ardis & Robert James Executive Director
Sarah Walcott, Ardis B. James Curator of Collections
Marin Hanson, Curator of International Collections
Camilo Sanchez, Curator of Exhibitions
Melissa Slaton, Assistant Curator of Exhibitions
Jamie Swartz, Collections Manager
Savannah Crowther, Collections Assistant
Rachel Sullivan, Office Assistant
Jackson Wilde, Communications Coordinator
Lindy Clausen, Education Coordinator
Ruth Loberg, Operations Manager
Jeanie Krejci, Operations Assistant
Maddie Graham, Visitor Services Coordinator
Amy Groathouse, Visitor Services Assistant



International Advisory Board

Emira Ibrahimasic, Nebraska
Ralph James, Massachusetts
Gul Laporte, Portugal
Deborah Bingham, New York
Teresa Duryea Wong, Texas
Amit Kumar Jain, India
Bradley Mitchell, Illinois
Chawne Kimber, California
Carlene Hall, Kansas
Roderick Kiracofe, California
Leslie C. Levy, Nebraska
Nancy Bavor, California
Lisa Ellis, California
Ryoko Kobayashi, Japan

Honorary Board Members

Greg James, Connecticut
Geeta Khandelwal, India
Terry Fairfield, Nebraska
Annette Gero, Australia
Meg Cox, New Jersey

Friends Board Members

June Pederson, Past President
Connie Soucie, President
Janet Phillips, Secretary
Wendy Hart
Susan Bentley
Nancy Arnoldy
Marilyn Johnson
Sheila Green
Carolyn Kitterer
Jan Rice
Denise Stahl
Stephanie Vendetti
Tim Keelan
Dean Settle
Wilma Von Seggern

Fellows

Mary Ellen Ducey, associate professor and special collections/archives librarian
Marin Hanson, curator of international collections, IQM
Margaret Jacobs, professor of History
Jeannette Jones, associate professor of History
Wendy Katz, professor, School of Art, Art History & Design
Matthew Sontheimer, associate professor, School of Art, Art History & Design
Sandra Williams, associate professor, School of Art, Art History and Design
Kenneth Winkle, professor, History

Associate Fellows

Katherine J. Adams, retired curator Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, University of Texas-Austin

Jacqueline Atkins, author, retired chief curator, Allentown Art Museum, Pennsylvania

Lynne Z. Bassett, independent curator and author, Massachusetts

Linda Baumgarten, Millia Davenport Publications Award recipient, retired curator of costume and textiles, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Virginia

Nancy Bavor, author, retired director San José Museum of Quilts & Textiles, California

Kathryn Berenson, author, guest curator, retired print and broadcast journalist, Washington D.C.

Janet Berlo, American art historian, author, professor emerita of art history, University of Rochester, New York

Barbara Brackman, 2001 Quilters Hall of Fame inductee, independent curator, author and scholar, Kansas

Linda Arthur Bradley, professor emerita, Washington State University, Washington

Glen Brown, elected member of the International Academy of Ceramics, Geneva, Switzerland, professor of art history, Kansas State University, Kansas

Pauline Burbidge, artist, author, Allanbank Mill Steading, United Kingdom

Dorothy Caldwell, artist, Governor Generals Award nominee, Hastings, Ontario

Xenia Cord, 2018 Quilters Hall of Fame honoree, retired IQM board member, Indiana

Geraldine Craig, artist, writer, Associate Dean/Professor of Art emerita, Kansas State University,

Patricia Crews, professor emerita Textiles, Merchandising & Fashion Design, founding director, International Quilt Museum, University of NE-Lincoln, Nebraska

Carolyn Ducey, curator of collections, International Quilt Museum, University of NE-Lincoln, Nebraska

Judy Eisley, professor emerita English, Weber State University, Utah

Sandi Fox, author, former Collection Curator of Quilts, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, independent curator/author/scholar, California

Annette Gero, professor emerita University of New South Wales, Australia

Laurann Gilbertson, Chief Curator, Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum, Iowa

Jennifer Goldsborough, museum curator and adjunct professor, Sotheby's Institute of Art and The New School for Design, New York

Beverly Gordon, author, professor emerita, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Wisconsin

Colleen Hall-Pattin, instructor, University of Nevada-Las Vegas, Nevada

Marilyn Henrior, 2005 New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship recipient, artist, New York

Mark Hinchman, emeritus professor of Interior Design, University of NE-Lincoln, Thailand

Jonathan Holstein, 1979 Quilters Hall of Fame inductee, author and curator, California

Laurel Horton, folklorist, independent curator, author, and consultant, South Carolina

Michael James, artist, professor emeritus, Textiles, Merchandising & Fashion Design, University of NE – Lincoln, Nebraska

Mary Anne Jordan, author, professor, University of KS – Lawrence, Kansas

Lisa Kriner, author, associate professor of art, Berea College, Kentucky

Bridget Long, author, visiting research fellow, history, the University of Hertfordshire, United Kingdom

Marsha MacDowell, author, curator and professor, Michigan State University Museum, Michigan

Terrie Hancock Mangat, Studio Art Quilt Associates Juried Artist Member, artist, New Mexico

Susan Marks, independent scholar, United Kingdom

Carolyn Mazloomi, 2016 Quilters Hall of Fame honoree, Distinguished Scholar & Celebrated Artist Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, artist, author, collector, Ohio

Ronald Naugle, Nebraska State Hall of Fame Commission member, professor emeritus of history, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Nebraska

Aimee Newell, past director of collections, Scottish Rite Masonic Museum, Director of Collections and Exhibitions, Museum of the American Revolution, Pennsylvania

Alden O'Brien, Curator of Costume & Textiles - DAR Museum, Washington, D.C.

Thereza Oleinick, associate professor of Theatre and Dance, Auburn University, Alabama

Ellen Oppenheimer, artist, San Francisco, California

Margaret Ordonez, professor emerita of textiles, University of Rhode Island

Dorothy Osler, author, independent scholar and author, Northumberland, United Kingdom

Rachel Pannabecker, former director, Kauffman Museum, Bethel College, Kansas

Cynthia Prescott, assistant professor of history, University of North Dakota

Sue Prichard, head curator, Leeds Castle, Maidstone, England

Jane Przybysz, executive director, McKissick Museum of Art, University of South Carolina

Kari Ronning, emeritus research associate professor, English, University of NE-Lincoln, Nebraska

Clare Rose, senior lecturer in Contextual Studies, Royal School of Needlework, United Kingdom

Judy Schwender, retired curator of collections, National Quilt Museum, Kentucky

Lynn Selteringer, artist, senior lecturer, Manchester Metropolitan University, United Kingdom, Venture Arts Board of Trustees, Manchester, United Kingdom

Sandra Sider, author, professor, consulting curator, Texas Quilt Museum, New York

Janneken Smucker, author, professor of History, West Chester University, Pennsylvania

Marybeth Stalp, professor of Sociology, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa

Alison Stewart, author, professor emerita Art and Art History, University of NE-Lincoln, Nebraska

Patricia Stoddard, former assistant professor, Brigham Young University, scholar, author, Utah

Diane Vigna, professor emerita, Textiles, Merchandising & Fashion Design, University of NE-Lincoln, Nebraska

Maude Wahlman, author, professor, University of Missouri-Kansas City, Missouri

Merikay Waldvogel, 2009 Quilters Hall of Fame Inductee, independent curator, author, lecturer, Tennessee

Janice Wass, retired curator, Illinois State Museum, Illinois, quilt consultant, the University of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana and the University of Texas at Austin

Linda Welters, professor of Textile and Costume History, University of Rhode Island, Kingston,

Jenny Yearous, curator of collections, North Dakota State Historical Society, North Dakota