

# THE QUILT INDEX



June 3, 2009

Call for Participation:

Quilt Index Signature Quilt Pilot Project

Do you have a quilt with signatures and perhaps other writing on it that you've been researching or that you would like to share with other researchers?

The Quilt Index is conducting a pilot project for "signature" quilts that will test a new system that will eventually allow public submissions of quilts.

We have been working with a group of researchers all spring. See our earlier email titled "Quilt Index Signature Quilt Project Update" for more information. We are now looking for contributors/researchers to participate in this free pilot.

Quilts from any time period with more than one name on them that are not simply the artist's "signed" mark qualify. We are purposefully defining the scope of this pilot to include the broad traditions of writing names on quilts, from fundraising-type "signature quilts", to "friendship", "album", and "presentation" quilts.

We don't know what kind of response we'll get, but we've set a minimum goal of 50 quilts for the pilot. These will include "tester" quilts owned by the SQP team members, quilts documented by the SQP already in an earlier phase, direct invitations to contributors and researchers who have been working with us, and an open call for participation to members of AQSG, QHL, BQHL and H-Quilts online networks.

Here is the overall timeline for this pilot:

1. Sign up to participate <  
<http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07e2iyamawfvgsn3kj/start>> by Friday, June 12.
2. Participate in one training session, either on Thursday, June 18 at 1pm (Eastern Daylight Time) OR Saturday, June 20 at 1pm EDT (Note: You will need simultaneous access to a phone line and a computer that is connected to the Internet.)
3. Enter your quilt this summer, by Wednesday, August 12. (We will acknowledge your submission and communicate with you for further clarification, if necessary.)
4. Signature Quilts section of Quilt Index website will launch by October 15.

For this pilot, the QI staff first and SQP team as a whole will review actual submissions for completeness and either approve them or communicate with the owners to clarify or enrich the submission. We will be evaluating this process for development of a future vetting process for public individual submissions.

Even if you do NOT have a signature quilt to enter, you can still help the Quilt Index plan for other types of public quilt submissions. Please fill out this Quilt Index sustainability survey <  
<http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07e2iy2v55fvfkfm5i/start>> and let us know what you think.

Thanks very much to the Institute of Museum and Library Services, which is supporting the development of public object submissions to the Quilt Index, and to the Salser Foundation, for supporting a specific focus on Signature Quilts.

Sincerely,

Quilt Index staff team and Signature Quilt Project

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