



MEDIA RELEASE
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QUILTS EXHIBITION GOES ON VIEW AT BRICK STORE MUSEUM

KENNEBUNK, MAINE – Fifteen colorful, intricate fabric masterpieces make up the Brick Store Museum’s newest exhibition, *Quilts from the Collections of the Brick Store Museum*. Opening on June 20 and on view throughout 2009, this exhibition will delight and intrigue quilters, historians, children, and anyone with a family heirloom quilt on their bed or in their attic.

The quilts displayed represent a carefully chosen sampling from the Museum’s extensive quilt collection. Selected for their workmanship, beauty, functionality, and diversity, the quilts offer a stunning overview of historical quilting. Four “crazy quilts” showcase fine fabrics and embroidery work of the Victorian era, while an impressive “Log Cabin” quilt illustrates the quilter’s artistic use of a light/dark color palette. An unfinished “Grandmother’s Flower Garden” quilt top offers contemporary eyes a peek at paper patterns and temporary stitches put in place nearly 150 years ago. Two rousingly patriotic Civil War quilts bear special historical significance, illustrating the involvement of Maine Ladies Aid Societies in the war effort.

As a whole, *Quilts from the Collections of the Brick Store Museum* offers a unique glimpse of the nearly endless artistic and functional possibilities of quilting. These textile works of art were intended for practical use, and many show signs of years of loving wear. This wear-and-tear only adds to their beauty, showing how women for centuries have used the functionality of quilting as an outlet for artistic design. Visitors to the exhibition will undoubtedly come away with an appreciation for the practicality and artistry of quilting, as shown in these warming works of art from the past two centuries.

In addition to admiring the quilts, visitors can also learn about a variety of quilt designs and stitches. Fun for adults and children alike, exhibition-goers can piece together a magnetic “Star of Bethlehem” quilt and learn four decorative stitches used in crazy quilts. Additionally, quilt collectors and family historians can learn the proper techniques in caring for antique quilts, preserving them for generations to come.

This exhibition is made possible by the Brick Store Museum’s proud business partner, Ocean Bank.

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The Brick Store Museum is located at 117 Main Street in Kennebunk’s historic district. For more than 70 years, the Museum has been dedicated to preserving and exhibiting the region’s rich cultural and artistic heritage. Its galleries and research archives are open to the public year-round: Tuesdays – Fridays, 10 – 4:30 and Saturdays, 10 – 1 (closed holidays). Admission is by donation, suggested \$5 per person. Visit www.brickstoremuseum.org or call 207-985-4802 for further information.

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