



MISSISSIPPI MUSEUM *of* ART  
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## MISSISSIPPI MUSEUM OF ART ANNOUNCES

### 22<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL PIECES AND STRINGS QUILT CONTEST AND EXHIBITION

**(Jackson, Miss.)** . . . The Mississippi Museum of Art is partnering again with Mississippi Cultural Crossroads (MCC), Port Gibson, Miss., to display *Pieces and Strings: Mississippi Cultural Crossroads 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Quilt Contest and Exhibition*. The exhibition is on view for the twelfth year at the Mississippi Museum of Art through August 1, 2010.

The exhibition was first on view in Port Gibson at MCC from March 26 through April 30, 2010. An awards ceremony was held in Port Gibson on Friday, March 26.

*Pieces and Strings* features African American, European American, and heirloom quilts, and is the only contest designed for quilt making in Mississippi.

“It has always been a multiracial competition that is very sensitive to people of all levels of expertise,” said Roland Freeman, author of the quilt book *A Communion of the Spirits* and a perennial *Pieces and Strings* judge. “Someone who is doing a scrap quilt, a something to keep you warm quilt, can get a fair judging just like someone who is doing tight geometrical symmetry.”

Quilt entries are eligible to win one of four special award categories – Best of Show (Port Gibson Main Street, Inc. Award), Best Traditional String Quilt (Sallie M. Ross Prize), Traditional Pattern (Mary Ann Norton/Ruth Newlin Prize), and Best Quality by Young Beginner (under age 18). Quilts are also judged in six categories - Traditional (Beginner and Experienced Awards), Small Quilts (Beginner and Experienced Awards), Machine Quilted (Beginner and Experienced Awards), Appliqué (Beginner and Experienced Awards), Strings (Beginner and Experienced Awards), and Collaboration with Children. Quilters who have been quilting for less than three years are judged as beginners.

This year's judges were, Mary Lohrenz, curator of the Mississippi Governor's Mansion, and Rhonda Blasingame, a Mississippi art quilter and artist at the Mississippi Crafts Center in Ridgeland, Miss.

*The Mississippi Museum of Art and its programs are sponsored in part by the city of Jackson and the Jackson Convention & Visitors Bureau. Support is also provided in part by funding from the Mississippi Arts Commission, a state agency, and in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.*

Exhibition hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.; closed Mondays. This exhibition is free to the public. Hours and admission may vary during major exhibitions.

For more information about this exhibition and other programs offered by the Mississippi Museum of Art, visit the web at [www.msmuseumart.org](http://www.msmuseumart.org) or call 601-960-1515 or toll free 1-866-VIEW-ART.

For more information on *Pieces and Strings* please contact Tara Wren from Mississippi Cultural Crossroads, 601-437-8905 or visit the web at [mcc@msculturalcrossroads.org](mailto:mcc@msculturalcrossroads.org).

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