

museum musings

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Happy New Year!

Join us for a Tie Quilt Workshop

If you are an aspiring quilter, please join us on Saturday, February 10, 2007, for a fun and informative morning. A tie quilt workshop will be held from 9:00 a.m. until noon, and will be conducted by quilt historian and conservator Joan Northen. She said, "Tie quilting is easy to learn and is a great introduction to the fun and popular hobby of quilting." At the workshop, participants will complete a miniature tie quilt using 6-9 blocks. The patterns Joan will demonstrate are "bow tie" and "July 4th".

Cost for the workshop is \$10, and pre-registration is required. A list of materials to bring will be provided at that time. The workshop is limited to 14 participants, so register early. Joan encourages everyone to work in pairs, so register a friend, too!

The workshop is held in conjunction with our *Bell County Quilt Treasury* exhibit, on view through May 5, 2007.

TRUSTEES UPDATE

The end of 2006 marked the end of term for Board member Roscoe Harrison. Roscoe has been a tremendous asset to the museum, and will continue to work with us on many new and exciting projects. We are happy to welcome Madelon Carroll as our newest intrepid Board member!

Rhythm & Rhyme: Music in Central Texas

Rhythm and Rhyme: Music in Central Texas opens on Saturday, January 27, 2007. You won't want to miss this one! Area historian Patricia K. Benoit is guest curator for the exhibit. Ms. Benoit will present a gallery talk at 1:00 p.m. at the January 27th event. Afterward, refreshments will be served and families can enjoy a craft activity as well.

This highly interactive exhibit focuses on the musical diversity of Central Texas. Ms. Benoit stated, "Bell County is a crossroads county in a crossroads state – a stewpot of cultures. From Native Peoples to those whose original tongues were English, Spanish, Czech, German and hosts of other languages, each has left indelible imprints on Central Texas music. As musical styles merged, the area became a harmonic convergence. Central Texas spawned great artists ranging from classical, jazz, rock, sacred harp, folk, country, Western swing, gospel, funk, and rap. Each artist shaped and reformed music to fit the times and tradition."

Museum curator Amanda Dyer notes, "Some fascinating individuals have influenced our musical traditions, such as Grammy winner Little Joe Hernandez. Woody Guthrie, Joe Tex, Jules Bledsoe, and Blind Willie Johnson are among many individuals featured in the exhibit who have helped shape the area's musical identity."

Fun and informative hands-on areas include a stage with various instruments to explore; a touch-screen computer featuring area musicians and their work; an area dedicated to exploring sacred harp music, gospel and spirituals; and much more.

Partial funding for *Rhythm and Rhyme* has been provided by a generous contribution from Holze Music Co. – Kim Herrington, and from the Friends of the Museum membership group. *Rhythm & Rhyme* will remain on view through June 16, 2007.