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Leah Sorensen-Hayes, Interim Gallery Director

Save these Dates…
August 14-16 “Biggest Ever” Textiles Sale
September 15 Doors Across Time – Weifang Gong exhibit opens
October 20 Elegant Solutions – Celebration of Youth XXI exhibit opens
November 8 Celebration of Youth XXI presentations by 4-H Youth and reception
November 15 Acquired Taste V – An Early Holiday Celebration Friends Fundraiser
November 17 Unraveling – Camille Hawbaker exhibit opens

Friends of the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery are hosting
ACQUIRED TASTE V – AN EARLY HOLIDAY CELEBRATION
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2014 ~ 6:30 TO 9:00PM

START YOUR HOLIDAY SEASON WITH FRIENDS!
This evening will include wine and heavy hors d’oeuvres, a live auction, and historic costumes on display. Held in a prominent Lincoln home decorated for the holidays, our fundraiser will benefit the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery and the Historic Textile and Costume Collection at UNL. Only $50 per person.

MAIL YOUR CHECK TO:
FRHTG
PO Box 5832
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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL JACK 402-475-0768 OR E-MAIL MARY AT: MMEISEN@EISENHARTCONSULTING.COM
From the Director ~

This spring, Wendy Weiss, the director of the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery for 18 years, announced her retirement from the university. She had been a member of the faculty since 1986, when she joined what was then the department of Textiles, Clothing, and Design after completing her MFA in textile and fiber arts at the University of Kansas at Lawrence. In 1996, she became the gallery director and oversaw all gallery activities up until her retirement in May. Her leadership and vision shaped the Hillestad Gallery into the valuable resource that we enjoy today.

Five years ago, Wendy received her first Fulbright-Nehru Senior Research Scholarship and spent the spring of 2009 studying ikat dyeing and weaving practices in Vadodara, Gujarat, India. I was asked to stand in as interim gallery director for the year that she was on sabbatical. Upon her retirement, I returned to the interim position, while Wendy, upon the receipt of a second Fulbright, will be returning to India to continue her studies. Before she departs, however, she will be heading to Lodz, Poland, to teach a course in ikat weaving using natural dyes. We wish her all the best!

Wendy’s shoes will be difficult to fill, but it has been a privilege and a pleasure to resume my duties as interim director. Wendy has been very kind and given generously of her time to help me resettle. Her support and assistance has made the transition a smooth one. I’ve been on staff in the Textiles, Merchandising and Fashion Design department since 2005, having received my MA in textile design from the department in 2002. (Wendy was my weaving and surface design instructor.) I currently serve as studio assistant to the department chair, Michael James, and will continue to do so while I look after the gallery.

I’ve had several opportunities to get acquainted with the Friends of the Gallery board, and I’ve been impressed by their diligence, dedication and enthusiasm. I greatly appreciate the time and energy that they devote to the Hillestad Gallery, as well as the support that we receive from all of the Friends members. Thank you all so much. We couldn’t do all that we do without you!

Preparations for our fall exhibition line-up are in full swing. Sarah Wagner’s show will be wrapping up in September, and she will be returning to Lincoln to spend time with students both in the department and in the art department. Following her show, we have three more exhibits that will take us into the new year. Weifang Gong’s thesis exhibition, the Celebration of Youth, and the work of textile artist and printer Alice Haybarker. It’s going to be a wonderful semester, and I look forward to seeing you in the gallery!

Leah Slonecker-Hayes
Intern Gallery Director

Message from the President ~

It is my privilege to accept the gavel from Past President Lisa Wagner, as the Friends of the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery work in earnest to support both the Gallery and Historic Costume Collection. Lisa has made an incredible contribution to these two years, guiding our fundraising efforts to new heights, in particular, helping us realize our dream of creating an endowed fund at the University of Nebraska Foundation. My heartfelt thank you to Lisa and our hardworking Board for building such a firm foundation — it makes my job and that of future Presidents a bit easier, in achieving the Friends’ educational and fundraising goals.

The Historic Costume Collection continues to grow, and with it, the need to preserve and manage these exquisite garments. I am thrilled that the Friends Board voted this month to provide a gift of $6,000 specifically earmarked for this work. This would not be possible without you, our members, providing the needed support for this important work. Thank you!

The Friends have been hard at work these past months, reaching a wider scope of members, and increasing awareness of our unique Gallery and Historic Costume Collection. A brief recap:

- Support of the UNL Textiles, Merchandising and Fashion Design (TMFD) student runway show
- Creation of the Friends of the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery Endowment Fund
- Reception hosted by the Friends for the opening of Sarah Wagner’s show, currently in the Gallery. Note: Sarah returns in August to kick off the fall semester by working with TMFD students!
- Hosting “Threads of Inspiration and Celebration” presentation by Dr. Robert Hillestad in Kearney

You will not want to miss our upcoming events — more opportunities to have fun while giving to a great cause — we hope to see you there!

I’ve had biennial Textiles Sale August 14-16. We have so many donations, that our sale has had to be expanded to 3 days — truly amazing merchandise! Net proceeds will support our newly endowed fund!

- Celebration of Youth Reception November 8 — the top 4-5 State Fair winners’ creations displayed in the Gallery, hear the young artists speak, and join in the celebration of this new talent!
- Taste fundraising event – we are planning a special “Holiday Celebration” party you won’t want to miss – Live Auction, great food and Christmas cheer in an historic Lincoln home!

The foundation for our support of the Gallery and the Historic Costume Collection continues to be YOU — our members. Your membership dollars and support of our events makes the support of this unique Gallery and Collection possible. We thank you for your generous support! I hope to see you at our upcoming events!

Mary Ethington
President
Friends of the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery

Hillestad Honored

 Fellow status was recently bestowed upon Robert Hillestad by the Costume Society of America during its May annual meeting in Baltimore, Maryland. The award is the highest honor given by the organization and was presented to Dr. Hillestad for advancing the study of dress as a designer, scholar, and educator throughout his long and distinguished career. Posing with him after receiving the award is Dr. Vicki Berger, a former student of his at UNL and earlier award recipient.

Introducing Jan Poley

Jan joins the Board with more than 20 years of leadership in non-profit organizations and a 47 year career in academia, government service. She recently retired as President/CEO of the American Distance Education Consortium (ADEC), currently UNL Professor Emeritus. She is Treasurer of the International Online Learning Consortium and serves on several other boards. Jan was Deputy Administrator for Communication for USDA’s Extension Service. She began her USDA career in international development working in 40 plus countries and serving six years as project manager in Tanzania. She received the Excalibur Award from the U.S. Congress for Exceptional Government Service for that effort. All of her degrees are from UNL - B.S. Home economics and journalism, M.S. nutrition and PhD in education. She was a member of Phi U, Omicron NU, a UNL Master, Board Chair of the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame, Outstanding Alumna and Natalie Hahn International Service Award recipient.

Introducing Gale Warren

TMFD alum Gale Warren joined the Board in June 2014 and serves as Secretary. Since second grade, Gale has always had a fascination with textiles, which led her to NYC after graduation where she worked on 7th Avenue designing clothes. Her dream of having her own line came to fruition when starting Gale Warren Ltd and Little Black Dress, both high end lines. She also created “Cattiva,” a successful dress company. A few career highlights include the cover of Women’s Wear Daily, windows at Sales Fifth Avenue and doing a fashion show on “Oprah.” After moving to Los Angeles, she started a new venture Gale Warren Interior Arts, specializing in all things “interior” — design, faux finishing, staging and real estate enhancement. Rarely without a pencil in her hand, she still loves to draw, paint and spend time with her children. Gale moved back to Lincoln in the fall of 2013 and travels frequently to LA for work.

Introducing Jeff Poley

Jeff brings to the Friends a rich background in architecture, art and theatre. He is a UNL graduate in architecture and engineering and worked at Clark and Enerson Partners and the State of Nebraska. He met his wife Jan on the ETV Program “House and Home” and became a friend/admirer of Rob Hillestad, a frequent guest.

When the family moved to DC Jeff worked as a city planner. When they re-located to Tanzania he worked for an Israeli architectural firm, the World Bank and the U.S. Government. When back in DC he started his own business, JFA Inc., specializing in design and restoration of historic properties.

The Poley’s came home to Lincoln to work for the UNL based American Distance Education Consortium (ADEC). He received their top leadership award - The Irving.

Jeff loves theatre and appeared recently on the Lincoln Community Playhouse stage in 12 Angry Men. Pro-Rail Nebraska, travel and “Grandpaing” round out his life.
Sarah Wagner, of Banglatown, Detroit, finds inspiration in her constantly changing neighborhood. Detroit has become home to a dynamic fusion of naturally occurring flora, domestic gardens amidst re-greening spaces, and increasing pheasant and fox populations. Paper and tape, fabric and thread reflect Wagner’s philosophical imperatives fusing impermanence, degradability and adaptivity.

Yard Zone 3.

Photo courtesy of Sarah Wagner.

Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery Calendar 2014

May 19-September 5, 2014
Yard / Zone / Field
Sarah Wagner
Sarah Wagner, of Banglatown, Detroit, finds inspiration in her constantly changing neighborhood. Detroit has become home to a dynamic fusion of naturally occurring flora, domestic gardens amidst re-greening spaces, and increasing pheasant and fox populations. Paper and tape, fabric and thread reflect Wagner’s philosophical imperatives fusing impermanence, degradability and adaptivity.

September 15 - October 10, 2014
Weifang Gong – Doors Across Time
Candidate for the Master of Arts degree in Textile Design
Option II project exhibition

Inspired by door patterns from China and America, Weifang Gong examines the symbolism of doors in human life. Integrating traditional printmaking methods with textile dye and discharge processes on cotton and silk organza, she has created a series of panels that depict her story of study and growth using imagery based on door patterns, self-portraiture, and emblems of Chinese and American culture.

October 20 - November 8, 2014
Celebration of Youth XXI
Elegant Solutions: Work by 4-H Youth Selections from the 2014 Nebraska State Fair
Reception: Saturday, November 8, 2014

A selection of items from top winners at the 2014 Nebraska State Fair 4-H in the areas of Clothing, Home Environment, and Quilt Quest. Artists are between the ages of 10 and 19 and demonstrate the creative promise of Nebraska youth today.

November 17, 2014 - January 30, 2015
Unraveling
Camille Hawbaker, M.F.A.
Visiting faculty member solo exhibition

Lines drawn in thread and ink; printed, stitched, starched and burned. Stemming from one line and evolving into organic forms, Hawbaker considers the drawing process an emotive stream of consciousness. The resulting image-objects reflect inherent principles of design governed by natural growth. She explores the tension between order and disorder in how the material shifts from woven to unraveling matter.

Notable Friends Moments

Friends went to Kearney May 3 to host the “traveling textiles talk” by Robert Hillestad. His salon presentation “Threads of Inspiration and Celebration” was held at the historic Frank House at UNK.

Friends supported the TMFD student biennial Runway Show April 25 which featured undergraduate and graduate designers. Four lucky Friends members who renewed their membership by March 31, 2014 were randomly selected to join us: Lisa DeRuse, Mona Jenkins, Grace Bauer, and Micheline Neville.

Our huge inventory of yarn & knitting needles may give you just the incentive to knit a sweater like Friend Kandra Hahn, for under $10. She purchased the yarn at our last Textiles Sale.

Don’t miss our BIGGEST EVER TEXTILES SALE !!!

Tuesday, August 14
10am to 4pm
Friday, August 15
10am to 7pm
Saturday, August 16
8am to 7pm
The Textiles Sale will be held at 1339 N 37th St. Lincoln, NE 68503 – near East Campus

The “tons of textiles” that have been donated to us include: yarn, fabric, upholstery fabric, designer flatfolds, designer sample books, sewing & knitting & quilting books and magazines, craft kits, needlepoint kits, latch hook kits, sewing notions, knitting needles, household textiles, international textiles, did we say yarn???

Net proceeds benefit the Hillestad Textiles Gallery, the Historic Textile & Costume Collections, and students studying Textiles, Merchandising and Fashion Design at UNL through the Friends newly established UN Foundation endowed fund.

Bring a friend, shop early for the best selection, and please tell your sewing, quilting, and crafting friends about this fantastic sale! Thanks for your support. For more information, email: hillestadfriends@yahoo.com or call Lisa 402-466-0951
Friends Members 2014

Michael & Judy James
Karen Janowy
Mona Jenkins
Nancy Armstrong Johnson
Jun & Ree Kanelo
Rose M Kaal
Rita & Joe Kean
Dinne Kennedy
Chong Knevel
Elda Kobis
Marjorie Kostelnik
Mary L. Lammers
Judith Bucklin Lane
Sydney Langness
Julia Laier-Chenne
Joan Laughlin
Shelia Lewis
Janet Lindstead
Carol Loomcy
Boonie Luckey
Roy Maurer & Denny Macomber
Kimberlee Madden
Alison Mandel-Stein
Jane Marie
Janice Martin
Jean Martin
Dr. & Mrs. Martin Massengale
Carren & Tice Miller
Roger & Margaret Miller
Venita & Robert Mittelstaedt
Jan Moore
Jessica Mottin
Mo Niel
Michelene Neville
Lynne Nevin
Shirley Niemeyer
Andrea Nusley
Betty Starr, Norml Foundation
Robert & Victoria Northrup
Laurel Novak
Maureen Oe
Janet & Jeff Foley
Susie Quambech
Kimberly Rath
Sue & Tom Reber
Janet Remmenga
Jay Rich
Jane & Carl Rohman
Kathie Rosella
Patricia Sadler
Jack Saltzman
Liana Sandin
Jacque Schoetz
Judy Schrock
Nan Schweiger
Coralee Sentermir
Rhonda Seaceart
Helen Selininen
Rebecca Shacklett
Verla Rarick Shaner
Millie Shultz
Leah Sonsens-Hayes
Georgia Stevens
Nissa Struggson
Clare & Robbie Swaid
Sue & Terry Swallman
Chris Taylor
Carol Thayer
Shelby Timmons
Jeri Timmons
Margie Trembley
Dorothy Tuma
Sharon Vandervick
Julia Van Meter
Kirsten Vest
Steve Wake
Janice Walker
Diana Walker
Cale Ward
Lisa Warren
Mark Warren
Virginia Wantas
Mary Wendell, NE Bishop Method
Rebecca Williams
Jeannie Wilson
Lois Wilson
Kathleen Wirth
Ann Wood
Avery Woods
Shaull Young
Mary Zacilasone
Linda Zillig

Students:
Kathryn Ahrens
Camille Anderson
Athrenne Anderson
Logan Becker
Salem Boehm
Burgundy Bredhauser
Bayleigh Buhr
Nathaniel Cai
Shelby Cramack
Taylor Cramack
Jillian Cressey
Elizabeth Chis
Kelley Ciprani
Faith Costad
Emma Dannehil
Cindy DeLong
Laura Dennis
Mariella Dones
Lindsay Doyce
Trisha Dybdal
Shelby Engels
Rachel Erickson
Xuyuan Gao
Anna Garrett
Jasmine Gatson
Weifang Gong
Stevie Grossenbacher
Heather Guenther
Sadie Hammond
Ashlee Hanson
Lily Hirshby
Whitney Heuermann
Kayla Humphrey
Nicole Jarp
Jennifer Jefferson
Carli Johnson
Cari Johnson
Anna Keiser
Katelyn Kerzy
Madison Korte
Mackenzie Laidl
Donna Langford
Kalie Larson
Amadita Lensch
Shawna Luedke
Erica Malette
Rebekah McGill
Molly McPherson
Anna Meslow
Angie Miller
Samarena Moravc
Kendra Morgan
Samarena Nordland
Erin O'Loughlin
Amanda Peterson
Kendall Prior
Kathlyn Rathman
Chelsea Rice
Mary Rice
Jayell Roberts
Erika Ruhneke
Kelli Schnick
Olivia Steen
Katlyn Taylor
Lisa Temme
Mikaela Tardy
Nermin Terric
Jennifer Tidwell
Cally Tinnm
Barbara Turner
Cassidy Vineyard
Olivia Vogel
Marissa Waddel
Erinn Walkerhorst
Katlan Walker
Briana Walters
Helen Xu
Yang Yu

Dr. Barbara Trout had to limit a recent donation to the Historic Textile and Costume Collections – her resources were already spread very thin to accommodate the proper care and storage of these exquisite items.

Our mission was clear – to provide the needed financial support to enable TMFD to operate even more effectively. We are thrilled to announce the creation of Friends of the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery Endowment Fund, which has come to fruition at last, after being introduced as a strategic goal in 2005.

The Friends’ initial gift of $25,000 is just a beginning. We will continue to support this fund, as well as donate directly to the Gallery and the Historic Collections. Net proceeds from our Textiles Sale are earmarked this year for the support of our new fund. You will be receiving a special appeal letter from the University of Nebraska Foundation soon introducing this endowed fund and we hope that you will respond positively. As the fund grows, more financial support will be available to the Gallery and the Historic Collections to enhance the student learning experience. Your tax-deductible gift will do much to help ensure that Dr. Trout never has to limit a donation and can continue to digitally archive the Collections, that we can afford new lighting and dress forms in the Gallery, or that we can hire a graduate assistant to help with exhibit preparations.

Retired Gallery Director Wendy Weiss said it best, that this gift will “…enable talented students to develop their expertise in the care and presentation of textiles and apparel in a professional setting.”

Thank you in advance for your support.