



NEWS RELEASE

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MUSEUM OF QUILTS & TEXTILES LAUNCHES NATIONAL SEARCH FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Linda Craighead Named Interim Director

SAN JOSE, Calif., March 11, 2011 – The San Jose Museum of Quilts & Textiles announced the departure of Executive Director Jane Przybysz and the launch of a national search for her replacement. Przybysz, Executive Director of the museum since 1998, is resigning to take the position of Executive Director at McKissick Museum at the University of South Carolina, effective April 2011.

“This move represents a new phase in my career as a culture worker. McKissick Museum’s remarkable folklife and natural history collections have the potential to engage students and faculty in catalytic conversations about cultural and biodiversity in the Southeast that have implications for communities worldwide,” said Przybysz.

Board President Connie Tiegel stated, “Jane set a high bar for excellence in exhibitions and programming, and worked passionately to move the museum through many phases of growth. Jane is leaving the museum well-positioned for the future and we are very grateful for her leadership and commitment over the past 12 years. We wish her all the best.”

Stepping in as interim director is Linda Craighead, who was most recently director of Arts & Sciences for the City of Palo Alto. Craighead also served as director of the Palo Alto Art Center for more than 16 years and brings a wealth of programming, development and management experience to the museum. Craighead plans to take a seat on the board at the conclusion of her interim role.

According to Tiegel a search committee is currently in place to review potential candidates for the permanent executive director. “We plan to do our due diligence in finding the right person to lead the museum through its next phase of growth,” she said. “Linda’s experience in successfully leading similar searches will be of great benefit as we expect the process to take four-to-six months.”

The Museum of Quilts & Textiles was the first museum in the United States dedicated to quilts and textiles as an art form. Museum and Museum Store hours are: 10:00am-5:00pm Tuesday through Sunday; closed Mondays and major holidays. Admission is \$8.00 general; \$6.50 students and seniors; and free to museum members and children under 13. Admission is free on the first Friday of each month. The Museum of Quilts & Textiles is located at 520 South First Street in downtown San Jose. For more information, call 408-971-0323, visit www.sjquiltmuseum.org or send an email to searchcommittee@sjquiltmuseum.org.