

Heartstring Quilters

October 2020

**Thursday, October 8, 2020, 7 p.m. via Zoom
Robin Schwalb**

Robin Schwalb is a New York City native who explores the rich variety of the written word in her graphically compelling quilts and fabric collages. The use of written symbols in her work balances an appreciation of their abstract beauty with the desire to include the “found art” of relevant texts. However, since the natural tendency to read a text disrupts emotional or intuitive responses to her work, Schwalb tries to circumvent this in several ways: by using individual letters or ideograms from exotic or obsolete languages; by using the text decoratively as a repeating pattern in the background; by so cropping and chopping the text that it becomes illegible; or by concealing the text in the quilting. A wry sense of humor informs her choice of images and text, which are manipulated and combined for maximum visual impact. The desire to use specific, personally meaningful images dictates a process-oriented approach. Schwalb transforms her basic material with photo silk-screen printing, stenciling, dyeing, and painting, in addition to the standard repertory of piecing, appliqué, and quilting.



In Memoriam - Robin Levenberg



Former Heartstrings member and past president Robin Levenberg died on July 26. “Robin was an eternal optimist adored by her nieces, nephews, a wide circle of lifelong friends, and many admiring dogs. She graduated from Philadelphia School of Textiles and Science and worked as a junior executive at John Wanamaker. Robin spent a good deal of her life donating time towards charitable causes including Ryan’s Case for Smiles, which provides fun pillowcases for children entering hospitals. She was so proud her chapter has sewn and donated over 15,000 pillowcases. She used her creative talents to become an award winning quilter and she was known for creating masterpieces with her sewing and embroidery machines.”

The guild donated \$100 in Robin’s name and Martha received a lovely thank you note from Ryan’s Case for Smiles in the last week.

This photo appeared in The Jewish Exponent in August 2018. Front left: Robin Levenberg and Suzan Hirsch; back left: Martha Klein, Judy Bergman, Sandi Myer and Judy Fleigelman. This group made hundreds of p---y hats for the Women’s March.

Heartstring Quilters Board Meeting Minutes September 7, 2020

The meeting began at 6:10 p.m. on Zoom.

Present were Lauren Anderson (programs, newsletter), Deb Schwartzman (programs), Karoline Wallace (president, membership, website), Christina Johnson (sunshine), Gwen Gatto (hospitality), Martha Klein (co-treasurer), Susan Leonard (co-treasurer) and Vernyce Dannells (secretary).

Martha mailed a brief treasury status report prior to the meeting. We have healthy balance in the treasury (\$527 more than in '19). HSQ expenses are largely incurred by paying presenter fees, and the size of our guild and current Corona restrictions makes fundraising to increase our coffers unlikely. However, Mary Kay Hitchner has been in touch to indicate that 3 members of her MT guild want to attend 3 of the upcoming year's presentations. She is mailing a check for her full membership and a \$3 courtesy attendance for each of these to attend throughout the year.

Martha will investigate and facilitate online electronic fee submission to make payments easy for those who will be paying on a per meeting basis. We also concurred that even though we're not meeting at Lankenau, we will continue to carry our annual insurance fee to assure that those who might attend future in person gatherings are covered for any injury sustained.

Karoline continues in her role of President, maintains her membership duties and any tech support necessary for the guild's online or social media presence. She'll be checking in with Lankenau to learn whether, once gatherings are permitted, the guild will still be able to meet there. She reported that we have 30+ members to anticipate for income. Some possibilities for increases in membership fees may arise from extending \$3 attendance fees to alumni, since there's a strong likelihood that this year all of our meetings will occur virtually. We might also find that, when presenters consent, our recorded meetings will help increase participation and boost membership. Karoline has also been able to substantially reduce the fees for hosting HSQ web pages year by adding them to her Word Press hosted site, resulting in significant savings to the guild.

The program planners will be approaching upcoming presenters for consent to record—those who agree will be able to receive a copy of their presentation, and members who attend and don't want their image to appear during the meeting will be able to join without video. Deb suggested members be assisted to learn enough about how to optimize their ZOOM show'n tell presentations so that all will show/see their creations to the best advantage.

Lauren will be sending out meeting reminders to both our current and former (alum) members a week prior to each event so that we can improve the likelihood of participation in each of the meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Vernyce Dannells, secretary
9/8/2020

Newsletter Submissions

If you would like to share your work with members of the guild, please e-mail me a photo and complete description for inclusion in a future newsletter. Since we are not meeting in person, a photo from you is a better way to show your work than a screen shot from me! Without *Show & Tell*, there isn't as much need to create a newsletter. Send your submissions to me at altolauren@mac.com. Please make sure the photo is hi-res (300 dpi or better) if possible. Thank you!

Lauren

Article of Interest

AIDS Quilts for an Artist and His Partner, Sewn During a New Pandemic

(from the NY Times)



VIDEO



Rule Breaking Quilts | Shruti Dandekar | TEDxVishrambag

Heartstring Quilters

The newsletter of Heartstring Quilters is published monthly.

Due to Covid-19, Monthly meetings are held the second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. via Zoom.

Membership dues are \$40/year. Guest fee is \$3, or \$5 when there is a speaker.

Officers & Committees

President: Karoline Wallace

Secretary: Vernyce Dannells

Programs: Lauren Anderson and Deb Schwartzman

Treasurer: Martha Klein

Asst. Treasurer: Susan Leonard

Hospitality: Patty Hewson

Newsletter: Lauren Anderson

Membership: Karoline Wallace

Sunshine: Christina Johnson

Raffle: Terry Ciampitti

Website: Karoline Wallace

Newsletter Submissions

Send items for the newsletter, including announcements and information from other guilds, photos, etc. by the 18th of each month to Lauren Anderson at: altolauren@mac.com.

Visit

www.heartstringquilters.com

for more information.