

# QUILTING SISTAH NEWS



## *African American Quilt Guild of Oakland*

### President's Message - A Time for Gratitude



As I am writing, we are moving into the Fall and Winter months which means longer evenings. Why not settle in, put up your sewing area and begin to create, sew and quilt. Now is the time to plan projects with the fabric you purchased on your travels this summer. If you did not travel, find some fabric in your stash and design a new project. At our last meeting, Teresa Weyand led us in a sew day focused on making Fidget Quilts for people suffering from dementia and Alzheimer's diseases. Check our website for the instructions for the Fidget Quilt. If you are looking for gifts to make for the holiday season, come to our November meeting on Saturday, November 24th. Once again, Ann Robinson will be demonstrating new holiday gift projects. At this meeting, I always find my Christmas gift ideas.

During this time of harvest and giving, be thankful for all of the many gifts and blessings we have received throughout the year. Let us not forget those among us who are homeless, hungry, and without life's basic necessities. In our own way, let us go beyond ourselves and our families and share our gifts with others who are in need. Perhaps make a worthy cause quilt, serve a meal to someone, sort through your stash and give away fabric you will never use to an agency that will use it to provide warmth to others.

At this time, I would like to thank each of you for your membership and devotion to the African American Quilt Guild of Oakland. For those of you from across the world who read our newsletter, thank you for your interest in our Guild. I would like to thank the members of our Newsletter committee (Teresa Weyand, Teri Green, Catherine Mukai, Loretta Henry) for all their hard work in creating "Quilting Sistahs." I leave you with these words from [wishuponaquilt.com](http://wishuponaquilt.com)

"Quilters-  
Cut with hope.  
Stitch with grace.  
Quilt with dreams.  
Bind with laughter.  
Share with love."

Blessings, Marie dePorres Taylor

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

*Our next meeting will be on November 24, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. Ann Robinson will lead the meeting with projects for the holidays.*

*The Holiday Party will be at Teresa Weyand's home in Alameda on December 8, 2018 from noon till three. Details will follow!*

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## NIAMBI KEE AND THE CITY OF HAYWARD LIBRARY

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### Niambi Kee and City of Hayward Library

The Guild is excited to announce that member Niambi Kee's quilt art piece, "And on the Fifth Day," has been purchased by the City of Hayward as part of the permanent collection at the new Hayward 21st Century Library. The Library had its Grand Opening Celebration on Saturday, October 27, 2018 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. However, because of construction delays, access was limited to the first floor and all other activities: music, demonstrations took place on "C" street.

It is fitting that Niambi's art, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, should be installed in the library. She is a self-taught quilter who spent many hours in the Brooklyn Public Library poring over books in the 746 section. When art books were decommissioned, the librarian would notify Niambi and give her first choice of the books. Niambi was also an active volunteer at the City of Hayward Library. In 2016 she heard that there was a call for entries prior to the new library breaking ground. At the same time, she was tutoring a young man who had no access to books in his home and she recognized the need for a new library and spoke at the Hayward City Council to encourage the building of a new library.

The call for entry requested that Alameda county artists provide a photograph of the art. No specific theme was indicated. Niambi submitted images of five quilts in December 2016 (she emphasizes the importance of

properly photographed quilts). later learned that the committee responsible for selecting the art had included her among the 40 artists being considered out of 150 artists who submitted work. She didn't hear anything more until April 2018. An art selection committee requested dimensions. Later, they told her to send the piece that had been chose to be framed. Once she was told to invoice the City of Hayward, she knew her piece, "And on the Fifth Day," had been purchased. The check arrived in August! Niambi is honored and excited to be a part of the new Library's permanent collection. Please stop by the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Library to see her work.



## Marion Coleman and National Heritage Fellowship



Photo by Ora Clay of Marion accepting her award

### **The Sky's the Limit for Quilting**

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) just made it official—Marion Coleman is a national treasure. Marion traveled to Washington DC in September to accept her award of a National Heritage Fellowship, in the company of the nine other 2018 honorees.

The celebrations were held at the Library of Congress in late September, with three days of activities for the Fellows and a public concert on September 28. Treat yourself and watch the concert on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gq9kKombf44>. Skip to minute 27 for Marion's

initial appearance in a wax print gown, or start at the beginning (minute 10) to hear the musical Fellows perform and settle in for the show.

When AAQGO member Ora Clay nominated Marion for the National Heritage Fellowship—with supporting letters from Guild members Dolores Presley, Frances Porter, and Marilyn Handis—she put it well when she said “Marion made me feel special, that I was her special project. That has turned out to be true, but over time I have discovered that there are many others who have the same feeling. Marion treats everyone as if they are special.”

What makes Marion even more of a treasure to us is that Marion can flip her focused beam of attention into a generous spotlight. Marion’s light shone on all quilters at the NEA concert, where she said quilting “represents warmth, comfort, but also reminds us of memory, history, and life all around us.” She brought only six of her legendary quilts on stage with her, but through them the audience took a tour of the emotions quilts inspire.

Dr. Carolyn Mazloomi, an NEA Heritage Fellow herself, also wrote in support of Marion’s nomination and provided the official biography on NEA’s website: <https://www.arts.gov/honors/heritage/fellows/marion-coleman>. The “Podcasts” tab of this website will take you to a 27-minute interview with Marion where she mentions how the American Quilting Society and Dr. Mazloomi’s call for quilts helped her branch out from traditional quilting into story and art quilts. AAQGO supporter Lily Kharrazi of the Alliance for California Traditional Arts (ACTA) and Dr. Patricia Turner rounded out the nomination package in support of Marion.

Onstage at the NEA concert Marion touched on some of her heritage: family, love, African American culture, sisterhood, Oakland, experience with aging, health, and caretaking. In her podcast, Marion speaks about the AAQGO *Quilts Around Oakland* exhibit and about encouraging visitors by asking “what story could they tell about themselves, because they are the community.” What stories of your heritage can you put in a quilt? “The sky’s the limit for quilting.”

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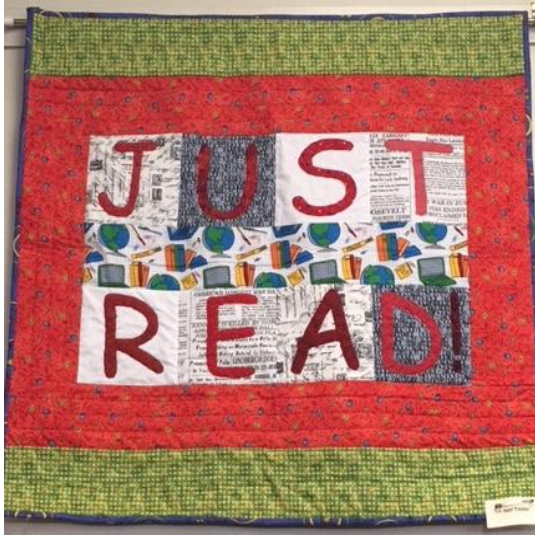
## Quilts at the Lakeview Library

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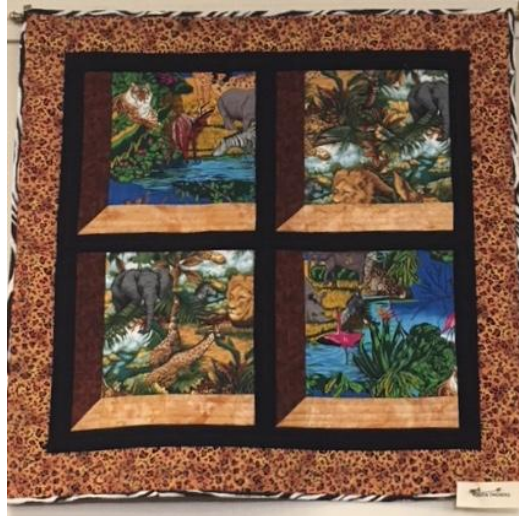
Quilt members continue to answer the call for quilts from the community. Here are quilts from the Lakeview Library show. Kudos to all the talented women! Read on!!

**-LAKEVIEW LIBRARY  
OAKLAND, CA  
OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2018**

**Suzi Taylor**



**Rosita Thomas**



**Loretta Henry**



**Catherine Mukai**



Ernestine Tril



Fran Porter



Carolyn Walker



LaQuita Tummings



Julia Vitero



Jerry Hickey



**Norma Mason**



**Patricia Bass Bailey**



**Dolores Vitero Presley**



**Nell Mays**



**Ora Clay**



**Ann Robinson**





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## I Am AAQGO – Dianne Gates-Anderson

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Name	Dianne Gates-Anderson
Age(ish)	60ish
Occupation	Retired Environmental Engineer
Where I was born	England, but raised in Oklahoma
Town in which I currently live	Union City
Favorite place to take friends when they come to visit	Hiking in Coyote Hills regional park or Muir Woods
The people who mean the most to me	My husband and children and my made up family of girlfriends living in the bay area away from family in the south or east coast

A Key event in my life and the impact it had on me	Getting my college degree as a single parent made me strong and realize how resilient I am
Hobbies	Quilting, watercolor painting, travel, photography, cooking
Favorite Sports Team	none
Sports I enjoy	Badminton, hiking
Pet(s)	none
Favorite Food/dessert	Anything with sugar in it (I'm bad)
One thing I want to accomplish while I am able	As many quilts as possible. I would love to be able to have a quilt accepted into a show
Favorite vacation destination	Europe
What I like most about quilting	Being able to express myself with fabric
One thing I want to accomplish in quilting	Get quilt accepted into a show

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## I am AAQGO - Cassandra “Sandi” Knight

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Name	Cassandra “Sandi” Knight
Age(ish)	48
Occupation	Attorney
Where I was born	Santa Clara, CA
Town in which I currently live	San Francisco and San Jose
How long I've lived in the Bay Area	Back since Nov. 2017 after 5.5 years in NYC and London; almost whole life in N. Cal before that
What I like most about the Bay Area	The architectural beauty of SF
Favorite place to take friends when they come to visit	So many to choose! Palace of Fine Arts; Lombard St.; Ferry Building
The people who mean the most to me	My family! My mom, brother and niece especially and all of the quilters who came before me
A Key event in my life and the impact it had on me	Having 2 of my quilts displayed in the Fiber Matrix, a museum exhibit in NYC in October 2017; it propelled me to want to accomplish more with my quilting
Hobbies	Besides quilting, I’m a huge sports fan
Favorite Sports Team	I have season tickets to the SF Giants, SF 49ers and Stanford Football, so can I call a tie? :-)
Sports I enjoy	Baseball, Football, Basketball, Tennis
Pet(s)	None
Favorite Food/dessert	My mama’s sweet potato pie

One thing I want to accomplish while I am able	Travel to Asia and South America; return to Africa (I realize I keep cheating and saying more than one thing)
I "give back" by volunteering with	I'm on the Board of Directors of the Stanford National Black Alumni Association
Favorite vacation destination	Florence, Italy
What I like most about quilting	The connection to my family's history, and the creativity and mental escape
One thing I want to accomplish in quilting	A portrait quilt of my great-grandmother and great-grandfather
How AAQGO has made me a better quilter	I just joined, but can't wait to see!
Other information you would like to share	I'm excited to be part of the group!



## NOTES FROM ALL OVER, INCLUDING HOUSTON INTERNATIONAL QUILT SHOW

My travels have taken me far and wide these past few months. I have been to Richmond, VA (family wedding) and Washington, D.C. (sightseeing) and then Seattle (just because I had never been there) and Vancouver but the best trip was just for me. I was extremely thrilled and honored to have my quilt, "In the Ghetto" show at the International Quilt Show in Houston as part of a special exhibit of quilts from the book, "Inspired by Elvis" published by Schiffer and curated by Donna Marcincowski DeSoto (my best friend from 9<sup>th</sup> grade at Star of Sea High School in Hawaii.)

The show was phenomenal and all the quilts on display at the show were beautiful, original and stunning. I had my proverbial 5 minutes of fame when I was asked to talk about my quilt and asked to pose for pictures and even sign my name on my quilt in the book. It was a very affirmative experience and I attribute any inspiration I may have as coming directly from my almost 20-year participation in the AAQGO where I learned how to be confident enough to express my truth in fabric. Here is a picture of me and my quilt in Houston. Teresa Weyand



# NEW MEMBERS AND RETURNING MEMBERS

WELCOME!!!!

Kim Conner

Dianne Gates-Anderson

Sandi Knight

Denise Curtis

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## WE COVER THE BAY

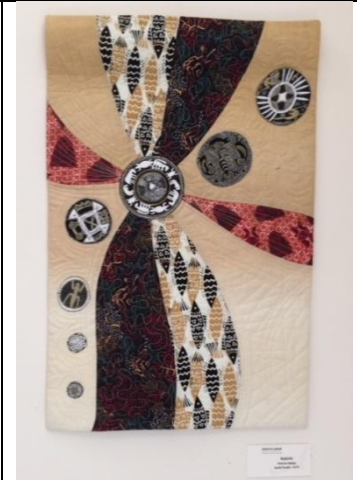
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Have you ever wondered where we all live? Well, our own Catherine Mukai put together a spreadsheet showing where we arrive from when we congregate for our meetings. We are from ALL over the Bay Area! <b>City</b>	<b>Members</b>
Oakland	33
Fairfield	4
Hayward	3
San Jose	3
San Leandro	3
San Francisco	2
Tracy	2
Union City	2
Alameda	1
Berkeley	1
Castro Valley	1
Daly City	1
El Cerrito	1
Menlo Park	1
Pittsburg	1
Rodeo	1
San Lorenzo	1
Stockton	1
Vacaville	1

**AAQGO QUILTS CURRENTLY ON DISPLAY**  
**JOHN O'LAGUE GALLERY, HAYWARD CITY HALL**  
**OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2018**  
***CELEBRATING HERITAGE***



Pat Bass Bailey  
*Black Sheep*



Pat Bass Bailey  
*Rebirth*



Dolores Vitero Presley  
*Dia de los Muertos*



Dolores Vitero Presley  
*Family Tree*

	
Julia Vitero <i>Giraffes</i>	Julia Vitero <i>Red Princess</i>

## *SUNSHINE AND SHADOW*

Our positive thoughts and prayers to Jeannette Robinson and Francie Gross and all other members who are facing medical challenges.

### *BIRTHDAYS!*

<i>NOVEMBER</i>	<i>DECEMBER</i>	<i>JANUARY</i>
Julia Vitero - 4 Patricia Harris - 5 Marion Thomas - 22 Teri Green - 28	Rosita Thomas - 6 Verlie Collins - 11 Marsha Carter - 12 Gloria Wells - 14 Teresa Korpall Weyand - 20 Dorothy Wilkins - 25 Carolyn Pope - 28 Barbara Fuston - 29 Denise Curtis - 30	Pati Fried Deborah Brown - 5 Norma Mason - 9 Lola Tatum - 12 Linda Franklin - 16 Karolyn Lewis - 28 Gail Gardley - 29



## LOCAL QUILTING AND ART EVENTS

October 5 - December 12

*Celebrate Heritage*

Hayward Art Council and ART, Inc.

John O'Lague Galleria

Hayward City Hall

Hayward, CA

February 8 - 10, 2019

Folsom Quilt Show

Folsom, CA

November 26, 7:30 PM

*Show and Tell*

East Bay Heritage Quilters

Unitarian Universalist Church

1 Lawson Road, Kensington, CA

February 22 -24, 2019

*2019 Stitches West*

Santa Clara Convention Center

Santa Clara, CA

December 7 - 9

*Artifactory Holiday Fair*

1190 Hopkins Avenue

Palo Alto, Ca

[www.artifactoryholidayfair.com](http://www.artifactoryholidayfair.com)

March 22 -23, 2019

San Francisco Quilt Guild Show

St Mary's Cathedral

San Francisco, CA

December 22 - 23

*Craneway/KPFA Holiday Fair*

Craneway Pavillion

Richmond, CA

May 2019

*3xth Annual Show*

Berkeley Main Library

Berkeley, CA

January 19 - 20

*Country Crossroads Quilt Show*

Modesto Centre Plaza

Modesto, CA

May 18 - 19, 2019

Carquinez Strait Stitchers Quilt Show

Clock Tower

Benicia, CA

February 2, 2019

*8th Annual Quilt Show*

Heritage Quilters Guild of Fresno, CA

Praise Church of God in Christ

Clovis, CA

October 2019

PIQF

Santa Clara Convention Center

Santa Clara, CA

# OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

September 1, 2018- August 31, 2020

Officers and committee chairpersons can be reached at [aaqgo@gmail.com](mailto:aaqgo@gmail.com) or

PO Box 31834, Oakland, CA 94604

<b>OFFICERS</b>	
President	Marie dePorres Taylor
Vice President	Teresa Weyand
Secretary	Rosita Thomas
Treasurer	Dolores Vitero Presley
Historian	Donald Foreman
<b>COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS</b>	
Black History Month Family Workshop	Ann Robinson
Education	Ernestine Tril
Exhibits	LaQuita Tummings
Membership	Loretta Henry, Catherine Mukai
Newsletter	Teresa Weyand
Sunshine	Evelyn Johnson
Website	Ann Robinson
Worthy Causes	Felecia Germany
<b>SUSPENDED OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES FOR 2018-2020</b>	
Parliamentarian	
Library	
Opportunity Quilt	
Publicity	
Retreat	

**MEMBERSHIP:** Membership shall be open to anyone interested in the purpose and objectives of this Guild, and payment of annual dues. No discrimination shall be made with regard to race, color, creed, or national origin.

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