

# SISTERS OUTDOOR QUILT SHOW™



Our Mission is to educate and inspire the public about the art of quilting and to benefit the schools and our Community Partners in Sisters and Central Oregon.

*“An outdoor quilt show that combines the stellar beauty of Sisters with the inspiration of hundreds of quilts is about as good as it can possibly get on this earth.”*

*—Andrea Hoke, First time visitor to Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show*

Jean and I are honored to be the caretakers of the 36 year tradition of the Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show (SOQS). And we are thrilled to present you with our first ever Annual Report. In the last several years the show has grown in many ways and where we are today is the result of the amazing support of our donors, business sponsors, foundations, staff, board members and especially our volunteers.



We've maintained the integrity of the show that Jean founded in 1975 while expanding to become an important link between the arts and economic vitality in Central Oregon. Thanks to the support of over 550 volunteers donating thousands of hours throughout the year, we are able to do more than ever before.

When I assumed the role of Executive Director in 2003, about 1,000 quilts were displayed in a one day show. Since then the show has expanded to include the Around the Block Fiber Arts Stroll and Quilt Walk, Save it For Sunday, and an annual fundraising event. We've established Community Partnerships with Kiwanis of Sisters, Sisters Parks & Recreation and Wendy's Wish Foundation/St. Charles Cancer Treatment Center to help fund their important programs. We've moved our office to a permanent space in downtown Sisters and hired part-time staff. In 2012, 1,500 quilts will be on display in events that span the entire month of July.

A highlight of 2011 was a partnership with Sisters Folk Festival pairing the Quiltmakers from Gees Bend, Alabama with the high school music students of the Folk Festival's Americana Project in a workshop and concert. The students and Quiltmakers shared their personal stories in music and song. The audience was moved by the poignant connection between these two groups from such different cultural backgrounds. Another winner for 2011 was "Save it for Sunday" featuring quilts hanging outdoors in the beautiful setting of FivePine Lodge and a popular lecture and walking tour lead by Jean. The potential for bringing people to Sisters on Sunday is tremendous and you can expect to see that event grow in the coming years.



We are particularly pleased with this year's financial results. With no fee for entry to the show, we are dependent on the support of individuals, businesses, quilt sales and grant funding to cover the \$175,000 in expenses it takes to put on our events. Individual contributions exceeded our goal of \$10,000 by 85% and we were awarded operating support grants from the Oregon Arts Commission and U.S. Bank Foundation totaling \$10,000. A priority for our board is to build a stable financial future for SOQS and a portion of this year's net income of \$28,237 will be used to establish a 'sunny day' fund to set us on that course.

As we prepare for 2012, Jean and I thank our dedicated board, volunteers, businesses and individuals who have supported us for so many years.

Ann Richardson  
Executive Director  
Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show

Jean Wells  
Founder and Board Chair  
Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show

# Our Community Partners...

are regional, non-profit organizations that collaborate with us on special fundraisers. In 2011 we donated close to \$15,000 to our Partners. Our signature fundraiser, Wish Upon a Card, a sale and silent auction of donated fabric postcards raised \$9,325 for Wendy's Wish/St. Charles Cancer Treatment Center to provide support to patients undergoing cancer treatment in Central Oregon. Our newest fundraiser, the Small Wonders Challenge, a sale of small quilts donated from across the country to benefit Sisters Parks and Recreation, raised \$1,175. Our annual raffle quilt partner, Kiwanis of Sisters received \$1,675 to support their local projects. Additional donations to school and sports groups for their volunteer support in 2011 totaled \$2,588. Over the past five years we are pleased to have donated \$80,000 back to our Community Partners.

## Donors...

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### THANKS TO . . .

The generosity of more than 550 volunteers working over 3,500 hours this year, we hosted a world renowned quilt show, expanded to a month of quilt and fiber arts events and partnered with five different community groups to meet specific needs in our region.

### FOUNDATIONS

Roundhouse Foundation  
US Bank Foundation  
Oregon Arts Commission  
Oregon Community Foundation

