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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**QUILTERS, MUSICIANS & CRAFTERS  
ARE THE STARS OF STORIES OF THE STITCH**

**AREA MUSICIANS SCHEDULED FOR  
STORIES OF THE STITCH ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>**

STORIES OF THE STITCH, the Art's Council's seventh annual quilt show is expanding its horizons this year to include demonstrations from many different fiber arts disciplines and will host area musicians and crafters in addition to the outdoor judged quilt show. The Arts Council is excited to announce that Elizabeth LaPrelle and Anna Roberts-Gevalt will be performing that morning at 11:00 am. Elizabeth and Anna have created "a new kind of traditional music performance. It weaves traditional ballads and songs, fiddle & banjo tunes with storytelling and with handcrafted images & pieces of theater— marionettes, shadow-puppets, woodcuts, collage, and sewn scrolls called "crankies." Elizabeth and Anna "are excited to bring visual art and theater to the performance: we are trying to engage ourselves and our audience with traditional art in all the forms it can take—from canning to woodcuts, quilting to singing, to better express the rich stories this region has to share." Jean Callison, from Mouth of Wilson, will also be performing during the day. Jean, a life-long educator, plays 5 stringed instruments and is currently working on a new one woman show based on the Victorian era "Crazy Quilts." Performing in period costume, Jean plays her stringed instruments and sings very old, classic, Appalachian ballads using an "open throat" method that she calls "caterwalling."

This year's judges for Stories of the Stitch run the gamut from quilting experts to arts activists. Linda Fiedler, an internationally recognized quilter whose quilts hang in both private and corporate collections throughout the country, leads the panel. Joining her is Laura Bryant, retired Galax-Carroll Library Director and member of the Wolf Hills Quilt Guild in Abingdon. Laura has been quilting for 30 years and

volunteers at the 1908 Courthouse in Independence. Theresa Stone Lazo rounds out the judging panel; Theresa, who was born and raised in Elk Creek, Virginia, grew up in a home where music and art were important. Over the years, Theresa has promoted the arts and the business of the arts serving on the Arts Council board, the Galax City School Board, and helping to establish City Gallery in Galax. At the present time Theresa serves as chair of the board for Chestnut Creek School of the Arts. The quilting categories to be judged will include Hand-Pieced & Hand-Quilted; Hand-Pieced & Machine-Quilted; Machine-Pieced & Quilted; Appliquéd (Hand or Machine); Other (art, clothing, pillows, etc.); Classic Quilts (created before 1940); Group Quilts; and Youth (for quilters under 20). Additional ribbons will be awarded for People's Choice & Best Story.

Quilts can be entered in the show starting now and up through the morning of September 10<sup>th</sup> and Fiber Artists are invited to participate through demonstrations and the rental of booths for the sale of their own handcrafted fiber-work. The booth fee is \$10 and artisans are asked to provide their own tents, tables, and displays. Currently scheduled are demonstrations in spinning, weaving, and felting, as well as many other fiber related disciplines. In addition to the judged Quilt Show, demonstrations, and vendors, the day will include music, food & drink, and a Kids Crafts Tent where artisans will provide a 'hands-on' experience, sharing their craft with children and their parents.

For information on entering your quilted items or reserving vendor space, contact the Arts Council at 276-238-1217 or email [info@artsculturalcouncil.org](mailto:info@artsculturalcouncil.org). The brochure and vendor registration forms can also be downloaded from the Arts Council's website: [www.artsculturalcouncil.org/stories-of-the-stitch](http://www.artsculturalcouncil.org/stories-of-the-stitch). To get to the Matthews Farm Museum travel west on 58 from Galax, go left on to Meadow Creek Road, travel about and mile and turn right on to White Pine Road. The Museum is a short distance down at 126 White Pine Road. For additional information you may go to their website, [www.matthewsfarmmuseum.org](http://www.matthewsfarmmuseum.org), or call the Arts Council office.

Hours for the Stories of the Stitch will be from 10:00am to 4:00pm and admission is Free of Charge.

The Arts & Cultural Council of the Twin Counties is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the arts, [www.artsculturalcouncil.org](http://www.artsculturalcouncil.org), funded in part by Twin Counties individuals and businesses, local municipalities, the Virginia Commission for the Arts and National Endowment for the Arts and PennPAT/Mid Atlantic Arts. Matthews Farm is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the rich rural cultural heritage of Grayson County, [www.matthewsfarmmuseum.org](http://www.matthewsfarmmuseum.org).

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