

RMQM Policy on Accepting Donations of Quilts and Other Objects

Donating to the Permanent Collection—Although a quilt may be beautiful and have much significance to the owner, it may not be appropriate for the museum’s collection. For a quilt to be considered for acceptance into the permanent collection, the following criteria must be met initially:

- ✓ **Condition**—the item must be in mint or excellent condition.
- ✓ **Outstanding example**—the item must be an outstanding example of its kind, not duplicated in the existing collection, or if duplicating a current collection piece it must be a better example which could replace what is in the collection.
- ✓ **History**—the item must have a relationship to a specific American time period; quilts with a connection to Colorado history and quilts with sound provenance are given extra consideration.

Donating to the Education Collection—If the item is not of the best caliber for the Permanent Collection, it may be considered for the Education Collection. For this, it must meet the following criteria:

- ✓ **Condition**—the item should be in good to medium condition, (able to be handled in teaching and trunk shows).
- ✓ **Good to outstanding example**, not represented in the existing collection. Quilts that tell a good story are given special consideration.

When a quilt is brought in to be considered for the collections, the donor will be given a “Temporary Receipt” and the piece will be held at the museum to be reviewed by the museum’s Collections Committee. The review process may take up to two months. Once a decision has been made, the donor will be contacted.

Unrestricted Donation or Gift— An unrestricted donation is given to the museum to support the museum’s mission in whatever way is most appropriate. Such a donation may be considered for placement in the collections, sold in the Museum Store, used in a class, or auctioned at a fund raising event, among other possibilities.

ÿ When a donation is accepted by the museum, the donor is given a receipt for tax purposes.

Although we always enjoy seeing many different quilts, Museum staff may not put forth any definitive judgment or offer definite opinions on the authenticity of any object(s) brought for identification. Under no circumstances will any information regarding estimated monetary value or worth be given to the owner (for museum liability reasons). If the owner wishes to know more information on their piece, the staff may suggest the following:

- ✓ Have the quilt (or top or blocks) professionally appraised by a certified quilt appraiser.
- ✓ Browse the museum library to conduct their own research on the piece.
- ✓ Have the quilt documented by the Colorado Quilting Council.