

NATIONAL QUILT MUSEUM/Quilt Journeys: Three Quilters
December 9, 2011 to March 13, 2012

Three Quilters is presented in conjunction with Murray State University's *Journey Stories* exhibition, which is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and the Kentucky Humanities Council.

Three Quilters tells the stories of three women whose journeys were not from point A to point B, but from one phase of their lives to another, encompassing spiritual, emotional, and educational journeys. Each woman issued herself a quilt challenge, and each took initiative to address the challenge in her own way. The results of their journeys are on view in this amazing exhibition.

Journey Stories focuses on the different kinds of journeys that have contributed to the history of a country, a region, a family, an individual. This exhibition aims to examine the range of these different kinds of journeys, which may be stories of uprooting and moving to a new land. Immigration and travel – over roads, rails, rivers, trails, and skyways have shaped American society. *Journey Stories* takes a look at how transportation and migration helped build our nation, how it has changes us, and how our mobile world looked to travelers along the way.

Educational materials relating to both the Smithsonian exhibition and the one at the Quilt Museum will engage school groups and young visitors in reading and writing that sparks their interest in their own journeys, and contributes to their development as good readers and writers who can think critically and analytically.

Writing a Feature Story (Grades 6 – 12)

Links 1 - 3 below provide background about writing feature stories. Link 4 is an actual feature that was printed in the Murray Ledger & Times and was written by columnist Constance Alexander, Faculty Scholar in Murray State University's Teacher Quality Institute.

1. http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/lesson_images/lesson987/QualitiesFeatureStory.pdf
2. <http://academics.uww.edu/cni/webquest/Fall02/newspaper/feature.htm>
3. http://web2.jefferson.k12.ky.us/CCG/supp/MS_FeatArtWrtgPerRdg.PDF
4. www.murrayledger.com

Students should be able to answer the following questions by reading the feature article:

- 1) What factual information does the article include?
- 2) Where does the article seem to suggest opinion?
- 3) What kind of research did the writer do?

Some other possible topics for feature writing about the exhibition include: Comparing and contrasting the three quilters; writing about how each artist uses color; after reading all the explanatory material about the exhibition, write about the journey of each quilter (or one of the quilters).