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American Quilter's Society will bring 21,000 to Grand Rapids for 'QuiltWeek'

Print (http://blog.mlive.com/businessreview/western_impact/print.html?entry=/2013/08)

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GRAND RAPIDS, MI – More than 21,000 members and guests of the **American Quilter's Society**



Quilters formed a "flash mob" on the Gillett Bridge last year when they are in town for the American Quilter's Society annual conference.

File photo | Mlive Media Group

Experience Mich

(<http://www.americanquilter.com/>) will once again descend on Grand Rapids this month after the group staged its successful debut conference here last summer.

More than 750 world class quilts will be on display as **"QuiltWeek"**

(<http://aqsshows.com/AQSGrandRapids/>) is in town from Aug. 14 through Aug.

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from around the world.

“If attendance and great feedback from convention delegates is a barometer by which most event planners gauge success, then the inaugural American Quilter’s Society gathering in Grand Rapids in 2012 was a grand slam,” said Doug Small, President of Experience Grand Rapids, in a news release announcing their return.

“We are excited to have them back again in 2013 for the second year of a three-year contract and feel that our community is the perfect setting for this group,” Small said. “We’re happy to provide accessible entertainment options in a safe, clean and active community.

RELATED: Attendance at quilters show, Grand Rapids' largest convention, topped best estimates, say organizers (http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2012/10/attendance_at_quilters_show_gr.html)

“While we were thrilled with the 2012 results, we expect an even bigger turnout in 2013,” Small said. “We are committed to creating a long-term relationship that would make Grand Rapids the host destination for this group through 2017.”

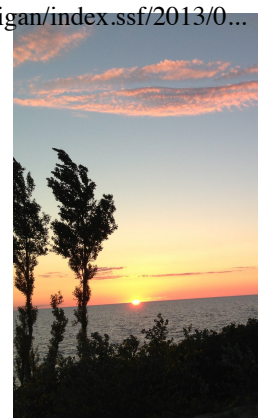
Headquartered in Paducah, Kentucky, the American Quilter’s Society presents QuiltWeek as a celebration of the art of quilt making and showcases stunning masterpieces created by today’s textile artists.

More than 750 quilts will be on display from across the globe, along with the largest quilter’s merchant mall in Michigan. Visitors will also be able to learn from the best in quilting instruction in the AQS School of Quiltmaking.

QuiltWeek will host four internationally celebrated exhibits of textile artwork. They include:

- The “Twelve by Twelve International Art Quilt Challenge” will loan its exclusive Colorplay exhibit to the society.
- Coming from Germany, Claudia Pfeil’s “The Silk Road Tour” will make its North American debut.
- Folks are from the Philippines will enters the international scene in the exhibit, “Celebrating Quilts – The Caohagan Way.”
- And, the Tentmakers of Cairo will bring more than 125 new works in “Return of Stitch Like an Egyptian.”

The show also will include 325 works that will compete for more than \$44,000 in cash awards. Entries come from 42 states and six nations.



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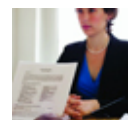
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