

AFAM FROM HOME

Community Quilt Project

Signature quilts are typically a collective undertaking with each block created by and/or named for a different member of a community. In the spirit of this collaborative endeavour, we invite you to create your own squares and to share them as part of the museum's Community Quilt Project.

Select a prompt below to design an **album quilt** or **friendship quilt** square. Contribute your own block to an AFAM Community Quilt by sending your square as a PDF or JPEG to education@folkartmuseum.org.*

Looking for more inspiration? Explore *Signature Styles: Friendship, Album, and Fundraising Quilts*.



Inspiration

Friendship Star Quilt

This quilt is one of a well-documented number of Delaware Valley Quaker-made signature quilts dating from 1840 to 1860. The two main groups represented are the Saverys and the Cressons, all members of a large extended family. E.H. Savery, whose signature can be found on the star in the center of the quilt, was Elizabeth Hooten (Cresson) Savery, wife of William Savery, grandson of the well-known eighteenth-century Philadelphia cabinetmaker.



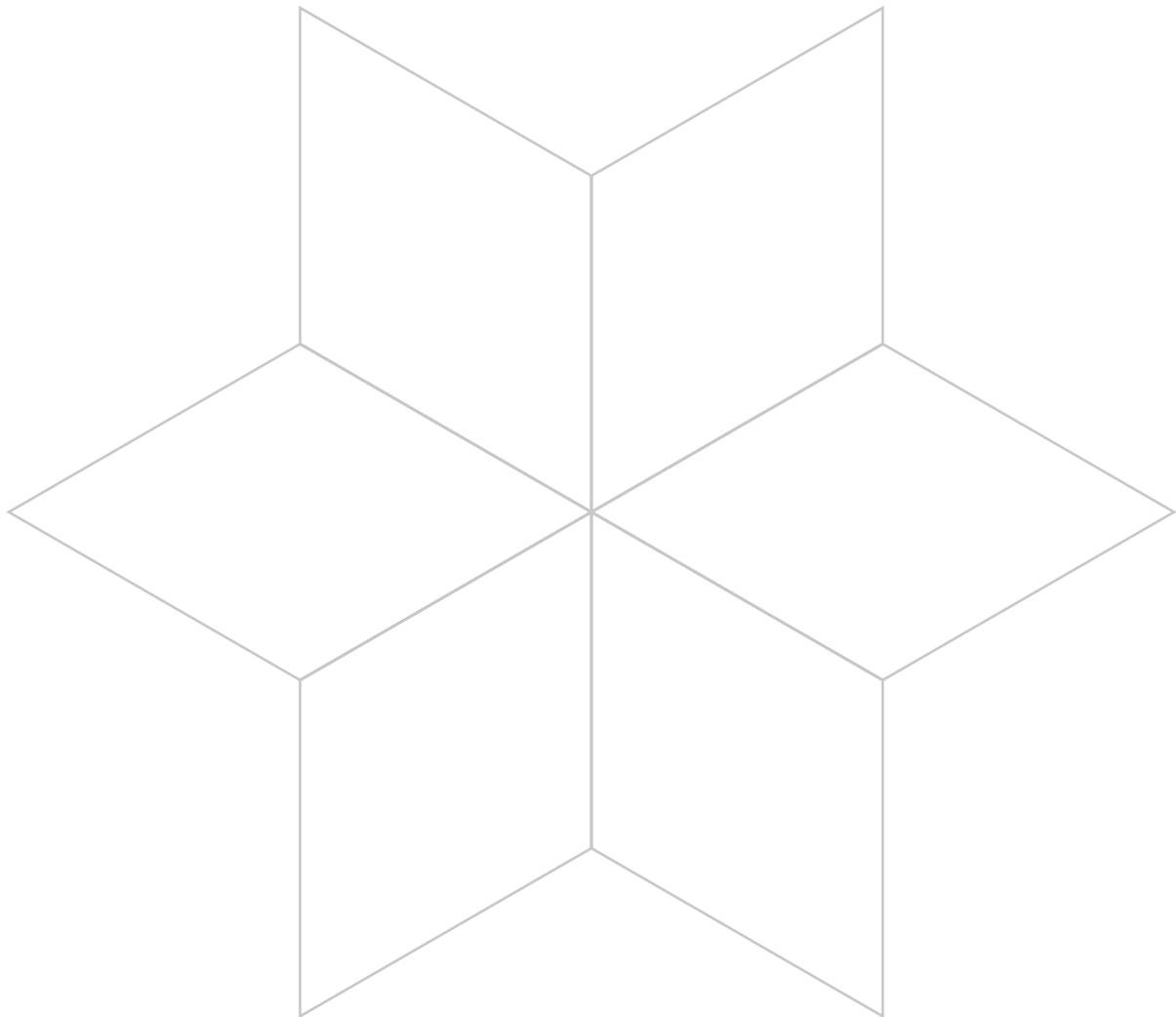
FRIENDSHIP STAR QUILT, Elizabeth Hooten (Cresson) Savery and others (1808-1851), Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1844, cotton and linen with ink, 83 1/4 x 80 in., gift of Marie D. and Charles A.T. O'Neill, 1979.26.1. Photo by Matt Hoebermann

FRIENDSHIP QUILT

Friendship quilts, such as this Star Quilt, are typically characterized by a repetition of the same pattern across all squares. Like other types of Signature Quilts, they were often conceived as gifts to celebrate a moment of change in a friend's life and might be inspired by such important events as a marriage or a move to a new community and place.

Who is a friend or loved one that you are thinking of at this time? Embellish the star with your own colors and patterns in the 7x7" square below or draw your own star within a square using the same dimensions. Add a name or other details to the center that represents someone from your community.

Please take a photo of your square against a dark background and send the image as a PDF or JPEG to education@folkartmuseum.org to be included.



Inspiration

Hudson River Quilt

Begun in the late 1960s, this album quilt represents a contemporary take on the tradition of the signature quilt. The group project was conceived to promote the river's protection during a time of increasing environmental awareness. Made by various quilters, the blocks represent scenes along the Hudson's path from upstate to New York Harbor, including depictions of flora and fauna and familiar sites such as the estate of artist Frederic Church, West Point, the Tappan Zee Bridge, and the Manhattan skyline. During the years leading up to the country's Bicentennial, the project sparked a number of similar undertakings of group quilts made for a particular cause.



HUDSON RIVER QUILT; Irene Preston Miller (1917-2007) and The Hudson River Quilters; Croton-on-Hudson, New York; 1969-1972; cotton, wool, and blends with cotton embroidery; 95 1/4 x 80 in.; gift of the J.M. Kaplan Fund, 1991.31. Photo by Matt Hoebermann

ALBUM QUILT

Album quilts feature blocks with a variety of distinct designs, usually including flowers, animals, and other pictorial motifs, such as those seen here in the Hudson River Quilt. Quilters created a range of images drawing on their imagination, popular visual vocabulary, and places in their local communities.

What are the places that you are most excited to revisit in your community?

Choose a site that holds special significance to you and draw or collage that place in the 7x7" square below or draw your own square using the same dimensions. The Hudson River Quilters used a variety of colors. We invite you to use the palette of your imagination.

Please take a photo of your square against a dark background and send the image as a PDF or JPEG to education@folkartmuseum.org to be included.

