

Join us to explore the concept of creating a place to honor our knit and crochet heritage.

On November 8-10, 2012, the Wisconsin Historical Society will co-host a symposium designed to explore the concept of a Knitting Heritage Museum. The gathering, supported in part by the Yarn Group of The National NeedleArts Association, will be held in Madison, Wisconsin.

Knitted and crocheted objects, works of the hand and heart, provide snapshots of the ethnic traditions and socioeconomic status of the maker and wearer. An infant's christening gown celebrates an intergenerational milestone - an intricate Shetland shawl or Bohus sweater knit for hire illustrates the often unsung ways women supported their families - a sock knit



during wartime connects the maker on the homefront with the warrior defending his or her country. These often humble and utilitarian items were worn, passed down from generation to generation, and sometimes donated to a museum.

This symposium will initiate a discourse on how best to understand, categorize and make accessible the objects and the stories these knitted and crocheted objects hold.

FULL REGISTRATION (\$175) INCLUDES:

All Sessions, Thursday's Welcome Reception, Friday's Wine and Cheese Reception, breakfasts, lunches, and all breaks, on both Friday and Saturday. *Thursday evening lecture only, \$25.*



Lodging Details:

LOWELL CONFERENCE CENTER

610 Langdon Street
Lowell Conference Center has reserved a limited block of rooms for the Symposium. Our room block will be released Oct. 6. Paste this URL into a new browser window to reserve online:
<http://bit.ly/knitting08nove>
To make reservations by phone, call (608) 256-2621, and please refer to the group code: **KNITTING**
Two-block walk to Symposium Events.



The Wisconsin State Capitol Building, Madison, Wis.

If the Lowell Conference Center is full, other rooms are available:

BEST WESTERN PLUS INN ON THE PARK

22 S Carroll Street,
Madison, Wisconsin 53703-3309
When calling to make reservations refer to group code:
Knitting Heritage
Phone: 608-285-8000
reservations@innonthepark.net
Complimentary Shuttle to and from Dane County Airport and Symposium Events by prior arrangement. Twenty- minute walk to Symposium Events

BEST WESTERN PLUS InnTowner Hotel

424 University Ave. Madison, WI 53726
Phone: 608-233-8778
Reservations: 1-800-258-8321 (no group code required)
www.inntowner.com
Complimentary Shuttle to and from Dane County Airport and Symposium Events by prior arrangement. Twenty-five minute walk to Symposium Events

SHERATON MADISON HOTEL

706 John Nolen Drive • Madison, WI 53713
Phone: 608-251-2300
Central Reservations: 888-627-7077 (no group code required)
<http://www.sheratonmadison.com/>
Gratuity-based Shuttle to and from Dane County Airport and Symposium Events by prior arrangement. Thirteen- minute drive to Symposium Events



Knitting Heritage Museum: A Work in Progress

A Symposium to Explore the Case for Collecting, Preserving, Researching, and Sharing Our Knit and Crochet Heritage



Sorority Girls Knitting for Hospital Patients, Madison, Wis., October 11, 1948, WHS Image ID# 54956

November 8 - 10, 2012

Wisconsin Historical Society
University of Wisconsin Campus
Madison, Wisconsin

Are you interested in identifying, preserving or displaying knitted or crocheted objects?

Join us to explore how to:

- Engage a segment of the population not currently being served.
- Use the internet to build a dynamic, global, relationship among museums and knitters.
- Harness and make accessible, the expertise of skilled practitioners.
- Establish a venue for sharing knowledge of techniques, traditions and objects.
- Elevate the status and appreciation of knit and crochet.

Symposium attendees will:

- View a special exhibit created by the Curators of the Wisconsin Historical Society's Textiles and Costume Collection and UW-Madison's Helen Louise Allen Textile Collection.
- Participate in interactive forums and discussion groups.
- Hear well-known speakers.



Who Should Attend :

- Textile curators, educators, historians and researchers
- History and Women's Studies faculty and students
- Yarn industry professionals
- Knitting and crochet designers
- Art patrons, collectors and passionate practitioners
- Everyone interested in preserving the heritage of knitting and crocheting

Register

www.regonline.com/knittingheritagemuseumaworkinprogress

For More Information contact:
knithheritagemuseum@gmail.com.

or call Karen D. Kendrick-Hands, Symposium Chair,
313.600.1670

Read more:

www.facebook.com/KnittingHeritageMuseum

www.ravelry.com/groups/museum-wip,

knittingheritagemuseum.wordpress.com.



Symposium Agenda

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2012

Location: Wisconsin Historical Society, Lobby
816 State St., Madison, WI
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Registration

5:00 - 5:45 p.m.
Welcoming Reception sponsored by Wisconsin
Historic Foundation
Opening of Curators' Choice Exhibit
Location: Wisconsin Historical Society, Auditorium

5:45 - 6:30 p.m.
Welcome and Opening Remarks
- Dr. Ellsworth Brown, *Ruth and Hartley Barker
Director, Wisconsin Historical Society*
- Karen D. Kendrick-Hands, *Symposium Chair*
- Leslie Bellais, *Curator, Department of Textiles
and Costume, Wisconsin Historical Society*
- Liese Pfeifer, *Academic Curator, Design Gal-
lery, School of Human Ecology, UW-Madison*

6:30 - 7:15 p.m.
Lecture
"The Knitting Image: Popular Media, Art, and
Industry Look at American Knitters."
- Susan Strawn, Ph.D., *Knitter, author of Knitting
America: From Warm Socks to High Art, and
Professor, Apparel Design and Merchandising,
Dominican University, River Forest, IL*



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2012

Location: University of Wisconsin Memorial
Union Great Hall
800 Langdon Street, Madison, WI

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
Registration, Continental Breakfast

Keynote Address
"So You Want to Start A Museum"
- Melissa Leventon, *Principal of Curatrix Group
Museum Consultants and Appraisers, former Cu-
rator-in-Charge of Textiles, Fine Arts Museums
of San Francisco.*

A Virtual Knitting Museum?
Exploring Form, Content and Partnerships
- Jennifer Lindsay, *Program Coordinator, The
Smithsonian Community Reef, a Satellite Reef of
the Hyperbolic Crochet Coral Reef created for
the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural
History, 2010-11.*

A Case Study: Building A Digital Collection
Among Museums
- Emily K Pfothenauer, *Project Coordinator for
Wisconsin Decorative Arts Database And Pro-
gram Manager for Wisconsin Heritage Online.*

Break

Panel Discussion: The Value of Heritage and
Why It Matters
Panelists: - Melissa Leventon, *Principal of Cura-
trix Group Museum Consultants and Appraisers,
former Curator-in Charge of Textiles, Fine Arts
Museums of San Francisco*
- Susan Strawn, *Ph.D., author of "Knitting Amer-
ica: From Warm Socks to High Art", Professor,
Apparel Design and Merchandising,
Dominican University, River Forest, IL;*
- Trisha Malcolm, *VP and Editorial Director,
Vogue Knitting;*
- Jack Blumenthal, *VP Lion Brand Yarn;*
- Karen Kendrick-Hands, *Symposium Chair*

Open Forum for Comments and Questions

Lunch, Tripp Commons

Breakout Sessions (see Event Schedule for Loca-
tion Information)
Break
Reporting from the Breakout Sessions

Wine and Cheese Reception
Location: Wisconsin Historical Society
Dinner on own in escorted groups to local
restaurants

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2012

Location: Lowell Center
610 Langdon Street, Madison, WI

8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

Facilitated Planning Session

Lunch

Conclusion and Next Steps

Wisconsin Book Festival
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Wisconsin Historical Society Lobby
Meet and Greet -Stitch and Sign.
An exploration of contemporary knit and cro-
chet books. Meet and mingle with many of to-
day's authors and designers who are advancing
the styles and techniques that you enjoy stitch-
ing. Selected titles will be available for sale and
signing