



Linda Muñoz and Monica Moore are shown in Camden at a demonstration on quilts. Quilts from Muñoz's private collection, sewn during the Great Depression were displayed. The demonstration included discussions on the history and construction of quilts, plus the history of the Black Belt's nationally-recognized folk-artists—the Gee's Bend Quilters.



Monica Moore discusses color, and design. Students learn the elements of design including color, line and texture.

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*As a DANA Teaching Artist, Linda received specialized training from the Alabama Institute for Education in the Arts and the Kennedy Foundation to integrate arts into classroom curriculums.



Half of the students from the third grade enrichment program at U. S. Jones show off their new quilt-top bench.

This year, the Children's Patchwork History Project conducted three workshops, one each in Wilcox, Marengo and Choctaw counties. Many thanks to the Black Belt Community Foundation for funding this project for a second year, the Alabama Black Belt Heritage Area and the Center for the Study of the Black Belt at the University of West Alabama for facilitating the workshops and Auburn University Environmental Institute for additional support.

We hope to provide similar workshops in all the Black Belt counties in the future to enhance the arts and natural history in the classroom.

CHILDREN'S PATCHWORK HISTORY PROJECT 2011-2012



FUNDED BY THE
BLACK BELT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

SPONSORED BY THE
ALABAMA BLACK BELT HERITAGE AREA



Gee's Bend Quilters

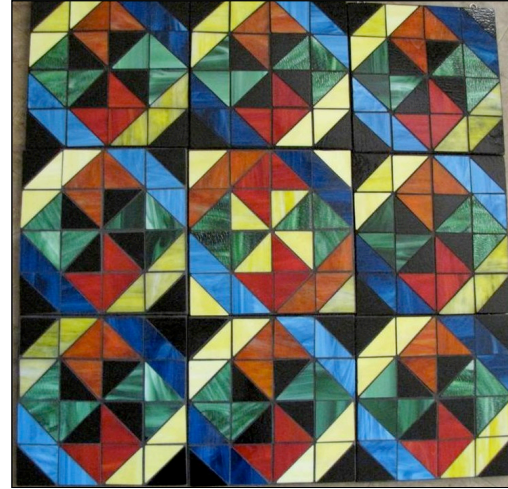


Local Gee's Bend Quilters gave a presentation about their art to the Camden School of Arts and Technology students in October 2011. Florine Smith (not shown), Mary Ann Pettway (bottom-left and top-right) and Mary Lee Bendal (bottom-right) shared several quilts, stories and songs. Instructors, Kay Stone (bottom-center), Linda Muñoz (top-left) and Monica Moore (not shown) conducted the CSAT after-school workshop.

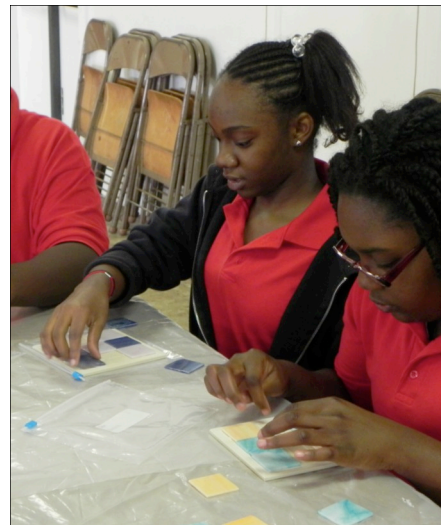


Camden School of Arts and Technology

Wilcox County



Twenty-two CSAT after-school eighth grade students each made a nine-patch glass quilt-top trivet to take home. Then, working together, they made a nine-square mosaic quilt (shown above) for the Gee's Bend Ferry Terminal.



U. S. Jones Elementary School

Marengo County



Forty students in the enrichment program at U. S. Jones created a bench in true scrap-quilt fashion. The school was the recipients of a grant from the Alabama Black Belt Arts Initiative to complete a 25-square glass mosaic quilt (below.) In November 2011, they used the scraps from that quilt and made a one-of-a-kind quilt-top bench (top.) Rosa Hall conducted two natural science/history programs.



Choctaw County Elementary School

Choctaw County



In February 2012, three teachers and 90 fifth graders from CCES spent an afternoon learning about the history of Alabama's Black Belt region. The students rotated through three hands-on stations. First, they learned about the Gee's Bend Quilters, their history and recognition as folk artists. Next they viewed items about natural history, including a fossilized mosasaur vertebrae and crab. At the final station, the students created their own glass mosaic quilt-squares and discussed color, shape, and other aspects of composition.

