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For Immediate Release

CONTACT:

Kathy Quandt, Director of Operations
Albany County Convention & Visitors Bureau
518-434-1217 x 213, kquandt@albany.org

ALBANY, N.Y. – The Albany Heritage Area Visitors Center presents **The Art of the Quilt – From Traditional to Contemporary** from Jan. 12 through March 27, featuring the work of members of Q.U.I.L.T., Inc. of Delmar.

The exhibit at the Visitors Center at 25 Quackenbush Square, corner of Broadway and Clinton Avenue, features more than 50 pieces of handiwork by local artisans that depict the evolution of the quilt from functional craft to cutting-edge fabric art.

The public is invited to meet the artists at an opening reception on Jan. 20 from 12 to 3 p.m. and on First Friday in Albany, Feb. 1, from 5 to 9 p.m.

Included in the show are an award-winning, traditional Bargello quilt that uses strip piecing and cascading color; a quilt incorporating hand-dyed fabric, couched yarns, beads and ribbon entitled "Celebration;" and a piece inspired by graffiti art.

Heart and imagination abound in this exhibit, where visitors will meet "Sweet, Sweet Daisy the Cow", the "Bug" and see "Swimming Dolphins," as well as images of Morocco. Several service projects also will be on display, including a quilt made to benefit Habitat for Humanity.

The Delmar quilters' guild, dedicated to promoting quilting as well as education, will offer two classes in conjunction with the exhibit. On Feb. 16, an **Introduction to Quilting** will be offered at the Visitors Center from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. An **Art Quilt Basics** workshop will be held on March 15 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There is a \$30 fee for each class and advance registration is required. Call the Visitors Center at (518) 434-0404 for information.

The Albany Heritage Area Visitors Center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Public parking is available via Spencer Street. For additional information, call (518) 434-0405 or visit www.albany.org.

The Albany County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Inc. was established in 1976 to promote the civic and commercial progress of the community through increased development of conventions and tourism. ACCVB currently represents more than 300 member businesses and assists each year in hundreds of regional meetings. ACCVB also operates the Albany Heritage Area Visitors Center, Henry Hudson Planetarium and the Albany International Airport Information Center. For more information, call 518-434-1217 or 800-258-3582 and/or visit www.albany.org.

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