

Barb Holtzman to be in int'l quilting competition

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

Barb Holtzman, of Holyoke, has been selected as a semifinalist for the 2009 American Quilter's Society (AQS) Quilt Expo, Oct. 28-31 at the Iowa Events Center in Des Moines, Iowa.

Holtzman has been chosen to display this quilt, Night Flowers, along with 202 others in the annual contest, which is offering more than \$42,000 in total prize money.

Night Flowers was chosen from a large field of entries and will compete against others within its category. Three quilting authorities will judge this elite group in Des Moines, and winners will be announced at the opening of the show on Wednesday, Oct. 28. The first place winner within each category will receive a \$1,500 cash prize, and the Best of Show will receive \$10,000.

Regardless of how the quilt places in final judging, all semifinalists' quilts will be displayed at the annual show, now in its second year. Last year, the show had an attendance of over 24,000 quilters, collectors, enthusiasts and vendors.

Quilts were entered in this international contest from 38 states, along with Germany, Canada, Japan, New Zealand and the Netherlands. The quilt artists employ a wide variety of techniques ranging from traditional pieced patterns to painted and embellished original designs. This year more than 1,000 quilts will be on display throughout the show.

Some of the special exhibits that will be featured along with the contest quilts include The Quilting Tradition—Amish & English; Quilts by prizewinning Quilt Maker Millie Sorrells; and Artful Bras by Quilters of South Carolina.

For more information, visit www.americanquilter.com.