

A Word of Thanks

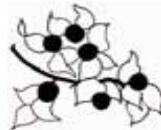
The Fort Vancouver Tapestry exhibition in the Penguin Student Union Building on the Clark College campus is a huge success. We are constantly overwhelmed by the number of visitors who journey every day to see this great work of art and take pride in knowing our community is celebrated for all to see. Thank you, President Branch and staff at Clark College for your support and assistance. A very special debt of gratitude is due Barbara Kerr, Director of Media Relations, Clark College. Her enthusiasm and boundless energy has been and continues to be awe inspiring. Thank you, Barbara.

Our Docent Program

The Fort Vancouver Tapestry is more than an art piece, a textile narrative or community project. It is all of these and more. It is a historical document. It is the finest creative effort of many. It is our collective community memory and spirit made manifest. It is our gift to the future. Seeing the Tapestry for the first time is always awesome – the sheer size and scope is breathtaking. A subsequent visit often means closer observation where fresh nuance and subtle textures are revealed. Yet even then, a more complete appreciation of the Tapestry is best achieved when meeting with the stitchers who created it. The Fort Vancouver Tapestry project proudly announces that volunteers and stitchers of the Tapestry are serving as docents during the Clark College exhibition through Spring, 2006. The current schedule is **Tuesday and Thursday from 11am to 1pm.** They will helpfully present to you many of the finest techniques and stories entwined in the Tapestry’s grasp. Additionally, the staff of the Fort Vancouver Tapestry is available to docent for larger groups whose time commitments require a showing at a time other than those currently posted. Please make your reservation or request additional information by calling 992-0975. If you would like to join in becoming a docent, please call Sherry or Robert at the Tapestry workroom. Oh, and don’t forget, visiting the Tapestry is a great way to introduce your community to friends from out of town.

Posters and Samplers!

Bring home and complete a replica piece of the Fort Vancouver Tapestry yourself! We now have available sampler kits of some of the Tapestry icons. Our first series is of flora stitched throughout the Tapestry. Reserve yours today by calling the Tapestry workroom or asking a docent at the Tapestry exhibition.



We also have the first two of a series of posters available, “Ilchee Watches our Endeavors” and “Bell tower-Look to the Future”. Posters are available at the Clark College Bookstore or at the workroom. Again, give us a call.....

Travel Update

As you may have heard, the Fort Vancouver Tapestry will be introducing the region to a worldwide audience beginning in January 2007. Our first stop will be the Washington State Capitol, Olympia, WA. We have been invited to show the Tapestry in the Columbia Room in the Capitol Building. This will be a wonderful opportunity for delegations from across the state to see Clark County, this ‘single place across time.’

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The Tapestry Workroom

Dear Friends of the Tapestry,

The tragedy of natural catastrophe we witness in the newspapers seemingly every day is a stern warning to prepare and appreciate our bounty every day. Too clearly we have seen that generations of memories and the accumulation of centuries can be swept away like.....water. It is all so heart-rending. Yet far beyond the sadness of material loss is the trauma inflicted on the essence of community - her people. An entire forest of families are now scattered like the very wind that blew it all away. But all is not lost. It is in trying times like these that true endurance and greatness is measured. New Orleans will look to her deep roots in music and multiculturalism; coastal communities will seek to rekindle seafaring life and a hospitality that will again draw many to their doors. Institutions will rise again. Seeds will be planted, crops will mature, harvest is forthcoming. But until such time, our beloved country requires that we practice a most basic tenant of the founding fathers by embracing those most in need. These ‘huddled masses yearning to breathe free’ in our own homeland need help and support. We need to lift our hearts and minds with renewed vigor to guarantee that all have access to attain, “To each his best effort; for each a just reward”. If I learned any lessons working on the Fort Vancouver Tapestry project it is these: Greatness is found in every corner. The smallest stitch brings the spark of fire. Caring for one brings us all forward. Devotion and commitment to honor and celebration is a highest calling. Share. Each and every place seeks to call their children home.

As always, we seek your financial support to continue the progress of the Fort Vancouver Tapestry. Our docent program brings fresh insight to the many who visit the tapestry. The Fort Vancouver Oral History project is creating a whole new dynamic. In this instance our community is celebrated directly by those who shaped it. Our Tapestry Exhibit Catalogue details each of the panels, awakens the past and brings it forward. And lastly, our efforts to share the Tapestry with a worldwide audience is progressing well yet requires sustained support. Please consider contributing to our goal of community building through heritage craft and community celebration. Your help makes all the difference.

Thank you again. You have our fondest love and appreciation.
Robert Bradley

From Sherry.....

I would like to add my own note of thanks, not only to all our generous supporters, but also to Robert Bradley. He has truly brought the Tapestry to where it is today with his creative and very fertile vision of what this piece of art can do for our community. His generosity in taking on tasks—like this newsletter—is never-ending and very, very much appreciated. And we like his sense of humor. His culinary classes for the School for the Deaf have earned our rent. If the Tapestry could give out medals, Robert, you would wear the biggest one. I know I speak for all the stitchers, volunteers and supporters in saying a resounding

THANK YOU.