



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hartford Youth Quilters' Exhibition Opening at Hartford Public Library!
"New Stories: Freedom Quilts Designed by Sankofa Textile Students" exhibit debuts at Hartford History Center at the Downtown Library on Saturday, June 29th

Hartford, Connecticut (June 25, 2013) — On Saturday, June 29th from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Hartford Public Library will host an opening reception for local Hartford students' exhibit, *New Stories: Freedom Quilts Designed by Sankofa Textile Students*. Reception will be held at Hartford Public Library's **Hartford History Center** (3rd Floor, Downtown Library, 500 Main Street). Light refreshments will be served. This event is free and open to the public.

The exhibit showcases quilts made by local youth in Sistah Nandi's *The Creative You* program at the Sankofa Kuumba Center in Hartford. The quilts were created by students of Ed Johnetta Miller, an internationally known quilter, artist, designer, teacher, curator and lecturer. Miller is acknowledged as one of the most creative and colorful improvisational quiltmakers in the United States. Widely exhibited throughout the country and internationally, her quilts can be found in many prominent museums, corporate and private collections including The National Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.; Nelson Mandela's National Museum in Cape Town, South Africa; and the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art in Hartford, Connecticut.

This stunningly unique collection of quilts will be on display in Hartford History Center at Hartford Public Library from June 29 – September 30, 2013. For more information, visit www.hplct.org.

About Hartford Public Library

The Hartford Public Library traces its roots to 1774. It operates 10 locations in the City of Hartford. The Library receives more than 865,000 visits per year. Services include access to a large collection of materials for reading and research, as well as music and video. Programs provide education, information and enrichment to the people of Hartford in such areas as citizenship training, literacy, business skills and cultural awareness. The mission of Hartford Public Library is to provide free resources that inspire reading, guide learning, and encourage individual exploration. According to a recent editorial in *The Hartford Courant*, "Indeed, the Library has established itself as the center of the community in Hartford." To learn more about the library, please see www.hplct.org.

About Hartford History Center

Hartford History Center at Hartford Public Library, collects, preserves, and makes available three centuries of materials and information relating to the history, literature, and culture of Hartford. Located on the third floor of the Downtown Library, 500 Main Street, the Hartford History Center is open 1:00 – 5:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, please call the History Center at 860-695-6297 or visit online at <http://hhc.hplct.org/>.

About Sankofa Kuumba

Sankofa Kuumba is dedicated to positive community development through increased personal involvement in the arts. The mission of Sankofa Kuumba is to research, teach, and promote the cultures of the African Diaspora by working with youth, children, families and communities.