

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

Campus News Archive

Campus News, Newsletters, and Events

10-21-2015

Morris to Host the Internationally Celebrated AIDS Memorial Quilt

University Relations

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/urel_news

Recommended Citation

University Relations, "Morris to Host the Internationally Celebrated AIDS Memorial Quilt" (2015). *Campus News Archive*. 1641.

https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/urel_news/1641

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Campus News, Newsletters, and Events at University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. It has been accepted for inclusion in Campus News Archive by an authorized administrator of University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. For more information, please contact skulann@morris.umn.edu.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MORRIS

Contact:

Melissa Vangsness, Director of Communications
Phone: [320-589-6414](tel:320-589-6414), weberm@morris.umn.edu

Jenna Ray, Editor/Writer
Phone: [320-589-6068](tel:320-589-6068), jrray@morris.umn.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[Morris to Host the Internationally Celebrated AIDS Memorial Quilt](#)

Summary: The campus will host a series of public events in conjunction with the display.

MORRIS, Minnesota (October 21, 2015)—Sections of the internationally celebrated AIDS Memorial Quilt—the 54-ton handmade tapestry that stands as a memorial to more than 94,000 individuals lost to AIDS—will be on view Wednesday, October 28—Tuesday, December 1, at the University of Minnesota, Morris. The campus will host a series of public events in conjunction with the display.

The exhibit will open on Wednesday, October 28, with an opening reception and a discussion on “Staging AIDS: Angry Activism, Painful Memorials” led by Professor of Theatre Arts Ray Schultz at 7 p.m. in the Edward J. and Helen Jane Morrison Gallery. In conjunction with opening night for the Theatre Discipline’s production of Larry Kramer’s *The Normal Heart* (directed by Schultz), there will be a reception on Thursday, November 12, at 6 p.m. in the Raymond J. Lammers Proscenium Theatre. On Sunday, November 1, there will be a reading of AIDS-related poetry and dramatic literature beginning at 3 p.m. in the gallery. On Wednesday, November 18, Cory Schroeder ’16, Bloomington, will give a presentation on the lives of local residents Dick Hanson and Bert Henningson, who are represented in our quilt display, at 7 p.m. The exhibit will close on Tuesday, December 1, with a World AIDS Day Reading from 10 a.m.–6 p.m. in the gallery. Other events will be announced throughout the exhibition.

Established in 1987, The NAMES Project Foundation is the international organization that is the custodian of The AIDS Memorial Quilt. The Quilt began with a single 3x6-foot panel created in San Francisco in 1987. Today it is composed of more than 48,000 individual panels, each commemorating the life of someone who has died of AIDS. These panels come from every state in the nation and every corner of the globe. They have been sewn by hundreds of thousands of friends, lovers, and family members into this epic memorial, the largest piece of ongoing community art in the world.

In a war against a disease that has no cure, The Quilt has evolved as our most potent tool in the effort to educate against the lethal threat of AIDS. By revealing the humanity behind the statistics, it helps teach compassion; triumphs over taboo, stigma, and phobia; and inspires individuals to take direct responsibility for their own wellbeing and that of their family, friends, and community. Sections are on display across the country in schools, churches, community centers, businesses, corporations, and other institutional settings all in the hope of making the realities of HIV and AIDS real, human, and immediate. To date more than 15 million people have seen The Quilt at tens of thousands of displays worldwide.

“We are thrilled to have the chance to share The AIDS Memorial Quilt with your community,” says Julie Rhoad, executive director of The NAMES Project. “These handmade blocks, created by friends and family, tell the stories of individuals who have lost their lives to AIDS. We bring you their stories in the hope of inspiring compassion, healing, and personal responsibility. We thank Morris for hosting this event, and we invite you all out to see what wonderful art we have created together as a nation.”

New AIDS Memorial Quilt panels will be accepted by Morris and the Morrison Gallery. For more information, please visit aidsquilt.org/make-a-panel. For more information on the Morris display, call 320-589-6285. For more

information on The NAMES Project and The Quilt, visit aidsquilt.org or call the national headquarters at 404-688-5500.

This free, public display of The AIDS Memorial Quilt will be hosted in the Morrison Gallery Monday–Thursday, 9 a.m.–8 p.m., Friday, 9 a.m.–6 p.m., and Saturday, 1 p.m.–4 p.m.

Schedule of Events:

Wednesday, October 28

Opening reception for *The AIDS Memorial Quilt*

“Staging AIDS: Angry Activism, Painful Memorials” by Ray Schultz, professor of theatre arts
7 p.m., Edward J. and Helen Jane Morrison Gallery

Thursday, November 12

Opening-night reception for Larry Kramer’s *The Normal Heart*, directed by Schultz
6 p.m., Raymond J. Lammers Proscenium Theatre

Sunday, November 1

“What the Living Do: AIDS in Poetry and Drama”
3 p.m., Edward J. and Helen Jane Morrison Gallery

Wednesday, November 18

“Dick Hanson and Bert Henningson: Rural Activist in the 1980s”
7 p.m., Edward J. and Helen Jane Morrison Gallery

Tuesday, December 1

Exhibit closing, World AIDS Day Reading
10 a.m.–6 p.m., Edward J. and Helen Jane Morrison Gallery

[View this story electronically.](#)

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at morris.umn.edu or call 888-866-3382.

###