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Hmong Story Cloths: Stitching a History October 7, 2016 - January 15, 2017

SAN JOSE, California, August 12, 2016 - The San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles is pleased to present the exhibition *Hmong Story Cloths: Stitching a History*. Chronicling the lives of the Hmong people of Laos, Story Cloths are vibrant and intricate needlework that developed out of refugee camps following the Vietnam War.

As an alternative to written language, village women would stitch cloth at night to document and communicate the story of their daily lives: collecting water, harvesting, transforming hemp into fabric- and also the highlights of their lives: escaping a great flood, New Year festivities, and marriage rituals. The story cloths offer an intimate view into the cultural legacy and resilience of the Hmong people. Celebrate these embroidered pieces on view at San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles October 7, 2016 - January 15, 2017.

These exhibitions and related programs are supported in part by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation; Silicon Valley Creates, in partnership with the County of Santa Clara and California Arts Council; by a Cultural Affairs grant from the City of San Jose; and the Santa Clara Valley Quilt Association.

Museum and Museum Store hours are: **11:00am-4:00pm Wednesday through Friday; 11:00am-3:00pm Saturday and Sunday; closed Mondays, Tuesdays and major holidays.** Admission is \$8.00 general; \$6.50 students and seniors; and free to Museum members and children 12 and under. Admission is 'pay what you can' on the first Friday of each month. The Museum of Quilts & Textiles is located at 520 South First Street in downtown San Jose. For more information, call 408-971-0323 or visit www.sjqiltmuseum.org.



Additional Images Available Upon Request

For interviews, additional images or more information, please contact Amy DiPlacido at Amy@sjquiltmuseum.org or 408.971.0323.