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**CULTURAL ARTS ASSOCIATION SHOWCASES "WOMEN ON THE FRINGE"
Anything goes for a group of fiber artists**

Santa Rosa Beach, FL – The Cultural Arts Association is proud to present "Women on the Fringe" as part of the CAA's monthly Artist Series. Artists Ann Morrell, Beth Church and Mary K. McGraw, all members of the Fiber Art Group, will present their work and discuss their non-traditional approach to quilting and fiber art with the audience. This presentation will take place at the Coastal Branch Library at 336 Loop Road off Hwy. 331 on Sunday, March 9 from 3–4pm. It is free and open to the public, and refreshments will be served. For more information on "Women on the Fringe" and other CAA events, please contact Lee at 850.622.5970, culturalarts@embarqmail.com or culturalartsassociation.org.

Ann Morrell says that most of the members of the Fiber Art Group, which meets the first Thursday of each month, started out as traditional quilters but became interested in creating quilts with more artistic

function. The only rule they now follow is that “anything goes,” and the artists will incorporate hardware, wood and photography to the quilts while also utilizing dyed, rusted, bleached and hand-painted fabric into their overall designs.

Morrell says her process is a simpler version of quilting and is something she was able to teach her two young granddaughters. Because her pieces are not washable, she is able to use more artistic license with her fabrics and accessories. More of her work can be viewed on her blog at wannabe-art.blogspot.com.

Inspired by historical Chinese and Japanese toys, Beth Church began her work 5 ½ years ago when she learned the art of making thread balls. Using rice hulls wrapped in light-weight fabric, batting and yarn, Church then finishes the balls with unique embroidery. Church says she loves the creative freedom of embroidery, and her designs range from the simple to the extremely complex. Church will give the interesting history of this art form and will demonstrate some of her stages of creation.

Mary K. McGraw is a Panama City Beach artist who says she “has a thing for experimenting and trying new techniques.” McGraw collects and makes her own beads and incorporates self-dyed silks into her pieces of work. She also creates jewelry. More can be read about McGraw on her blogspot at blogger.com.

For more information on the Fiber Art Group, contact Ann Morrell at 850.231.9006.