

# TEXTILE SOCIETY *of* AMERICA

---



December 1, 2015

Full Name  
Street Address  
City, State, Zip

Dear [mail merge],



I am writing to ask you to support the Textile Society of America with a contribution to our upcoming 2016 Symposium, *Crosscurrents: Land, Labor, and the Port*. This event, TSA's 15th Biennial Symposium, takes place in Savannah, Georgia, October 19-23, 2016, in partnership with the Savannah College of Art and Design. **TSA's mission is to foster and disseminate knowledge about textiles worldwide. We accomplish this in several ways but the most impactful is the organization of our biennial symposia.** These dynamic conferences offer participants the opportunity to share knowledge and creative processes, advancing textile studies and arts, in all their many facets, nationally and internationally.



***The impact of TSA's symposia cannot be overstated, extending far beyond the events themselves!*** The proceedings of each symposium since 1988 have been published and are globally accessible to the public through DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln website. This vital body of knowledge is accessed by scholars, artists, and textile enthusiasts all over the world. Since they were first uploaded in 2011, **the nearly 1000 Symposium papers published on Digital Commons have been downloaded 330,000 times!**



We rely on your help to sustain this vital program and ensure it—and the scholarship that emerges from it—remains accessible. Symposium registration fees are no longer sufficient to cover the increasing costs of our conferences. We ask you to consider becoming a named sponsor of *Crosscurrents: Land, Labor, and the Port* with a donation of much needed funds. **Your financial support assures broad participation, and diverse and comprehensive programming.** As a sponsor, you will be recognized and your name will appear in the Symposium program and on the website. Our 2014 Symposium in Los Angeles made a broad and deep contribution to the textile field with 150 speakers, 450 participants from 34 countries, and an exhibition of contemporary textile art. **With your support, the 2016 Symposium will be of similar scope and consequence.**

**Our goal is to raise \$20,000 and to do that we need a gift from every member. Your gift—every gift—makes a difference and allows us to:**

- continue to provide a forum for new research and artistic exploration;
- provide financial aid to emerging scholars and artists; and
- cultivate future leaders in the field of textiles.

***Your gift is an investment in TSA's mission*—fostering and disseminating knowledge about textiles worldwide. It will ensure the continuation of the core of our organization—the biennial symposia - and their vibrant contributions to the field. The Textile Society of America relies on your philanthropy. **Please join me as a sponsor of the 2016 Symposium. Thank you in advance for your generous support. We look forward to seeing you in Savannah in 2016.****

Sincerely,



Roxane Schaughnessy  
President, 2014-2016  
Textile Society of America

*"As an artist, textile enthusiast, and professor, the TSA Symposium is a celebration of this field that we all value and contribute to with passion. It is a catalyst for conversations that move our field forward, and one of the only places where you have an international gathering of textile researchers who are open and excited to meet and exchange ideas. For me, it has been amazing to develop relationships with other artists and researchers that led to opportunities that have grown beyond the 3-day event and into my community. Several TSA meetings led to workshops at my university, where students are able to learn from and interact with internationally known artists who specialize in a broad range of techniques. Each symposium has proven to be incredibly valuable in terms of what I have learned, what has challenged me, and what I bring back into my studio and classroom. I look forward to what the next symposium will bring!"*

*- Lesli Roberston, Senior Lecturer, Fibers, University of North Texas*