African American quilt-making is an artistic process of weaving, designing and shaping fragments of fabric into whole quilts. The finished product presents diverse shades and shapes of fabrics coaxed into a connected design in spite of their different textures, contexts and associations. This mode of designing and stitching, with its links to women’s creative work and African cloth-making, opens a window into one aspect of women’s creativity. The idea of quilting itself also provides a metaphor for connecting black women’s lives and histories into a connected and readable whole. As a theme in the Black Studies Open House, the framework of quilting allows us to bring together varying contexts and forms of black women’s creative work.

**Black History Month Art Exhibit curator—J. Tony Hancock (Kansas City Artist)**

**Tuesday, February 23, 2010**

*“Reconfiguring The Americas: Intersections of American and Caribbean Spaces in the Writing of Paule Marshall and Toni Morrison.”*

**Guest Speaker:** Dr. Veronica N. Wilson-Tagoe, Visiting Professor—UMKC Black Studies Program

**Special Presentation:** “African American Quilters Continuously Stitching the Dream” - The Mo-Kan Heart Quilters Guild

**Wednesday, February 24, 2010**

*“Transitions in Indigenous Art: Creating in a Democratic South Africa”*

**Guest Presenter:** Dr. Adrienne W. Hoard, Professor and Artist, University of Missouri-Columbia

**Thursday, February 25, 2010**

*“Love Letters to Generations: Reading from ‘Where I Must Go,’ and Selected Poems”*

**Guest Speaker:** Angela R. Jackson, Poet and American Book Award Recipient

All events begin at 6:30pm at the Black Studies Office (5305 Holmes Rd)

Contact the Black Studies Office for further details at 816.235.2636.