PIXELADIES

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CAMERON PARK, California (May 11, 2012) – Artists' new how-to book brings the eco-friendly Japanese art of wrapping with fabric to a new generation.

With the publication of *Furoshiki Fabric Wraps: Simple – Reusable – Beautiful,* artists Deb Cashatt and Kris Sazaki want to bring the Japanese art of fabric wrapping to a new generation. Furoshiki (literally "bath spread") is like origami but with fabric. Using simple folds and knots, the book gives detailed instructions for 20 different wraps, from the handy grocery bag to the very popular two-bottle wine wrap. The instructions are fully illustrated, and the book includes 24 project cards to tear out and pass along to others. As a review in *Publishers Weekly* (2/13/12 http://www.publishersweekly.com/978-1-60705-433-7) points out, "The photo on the book's cover, an elegant double knotted wrapping, makes the case that the practice is stunning as well as environmentally sound."

Besides the eco-friendly crowd, the book appeals to the artistically minded by including a chapter on designing furoshiki. It covers kid-friendly methods such as fabric pens on plain fabric to tips on design placement to make the wraps even more beautiful. Even the casual reader will appreciate the stunning creations showcased in the artists' gallery.

The idea for the book came about by accident. Kris, a third-generation Japanese-American (sansei), has the habit of taking her potluck creations to functions wrapped in a furoshiki. She and Deb noticed how many people commented on the wraps. "How did you do that?" was perhaps the most common question. Deb quickly recognized that they should write a book so others could learn the simple tricks, too. In their Cameron Park studio, Deb worked on the illustrations while Kris wrote the text. They were sure they had a great idea, but they didn't anticipate how beautiful the book would end up looking. Large, full-page photos of the wraps as well as close-ups of the knots and folds give the book a coffee-table book feel. *Furoshiki Fabric Wraps: Simple – Reusable – Beautiful* (C&T Publishing March 2012, ISBN: 1607054337)

Deb and Kris have been creating art together as the Pixeladies for over eight years. Friends since their days at Sac State, they combined their love of technology and fabric by designing and printing their own fabric to create one-of-kind pieces that include scarves and wall pieces. Their work has been exhibited nationally and internationally. Some recent work can be seen in *500 Art Quilts*, by Ray Hemachandra (Lark Books 2010) and *Journey of Hope in America: Quilts Inspired by President Barack Obama*, by Carolyn Mazloomi (Voyager Press 2010). More information on the Pixeladies is available at: http://www.pixeladies.com/pressroom. If you would like to schedule an interview with the Pixeladies, please contact Kris Sazaki via telephone (916.320.8774) or email (kris@pixeladies.com)

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