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Mitchell Museum of the American Indian Hosts Native Film Festival on November 6

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct. 30, 2014 – The Mitchell Museum of the American Indian has been selected as one of the venues to host this year’s First Nations Film and Video Festival (FNFVF). The event, to be held from 6:00-8:00 pm on November 6, will feature the full length film “Indian 101”, about Comanche Activist Ladonna Harris, as well as several film shorts. The FNFVF is the only film festival that works exclusively with Native American film and video makers across the country.

The mission of the FNFVF is to advocate and celebrate the works of Native American filmmakers as well as new works and films that break racial stereotypes and promote awareness of Native American issues, and to provide appropriate venues for their works. All films screened are written and/ or produced and directed by Native American artists from the United States, Canada, Central and South America and Mexico.

“We promote Native first voice and self-representation in the media,” said Earnest Whiteman III (Northern Arapaho), Director of FNFVF. “Not a lot of film festivals do this.”

The feature film, “Indian 101”, by documentary filmmaker Julianna Brannum (Comanche), chronicles the life of Comanche activist and national civil rights leader LaDonna Harris and the role that she has played in Native and mainstream American history since the 1960s.

Following the feature film, several short films will be shown including “Silverback” by Lucas Rowley, “Locked Doors” by Arlene Bowman and “Salmon Spearing” by Annabella Brueker. Also included on the program is “Scenes from HAMLET” directed by Ernest M Whiteman III, which is a contemporary adaptation of Shakespeare’s play that features an all-Native American cast.

Admission to the FNFVF at the Mitchell Museum is free. Refreshments will be available at an additional cost. All proceeds will benefit the museum. For more details about the event on November 6, contact visitor services at (847)475-1030 or visitor.services@mitchellmuseum.org

First Nations Film and Video Festival Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to providing venues for Native American filmmakers of all skill levels and promoting their voice and works. For more information about FNFVF, visit <http://www.fnfvf.org>.

The Mitchell Museum is one of only a handful of museums in the country that focuses exclusively on the art, history and culture of American Indian and First Nation peoples throughout the United States and Canada. In 2012, The Mitchell Museum was named “Best Museum of The North Shore: Up and Comer” by *Make it Better* magazine, won the Superior award by the Illinois Association of Museums and was named a national finalist by the American Association of State and Local History award program.

For more information about The Mitchell Museum of The American Indian, visit www.mitchellmuseum.org or call 847-475-1030. The museum is open Tuesday-Wednesday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday- Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday noon to 4 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors, students and children and Free for Mitchell Museum members and Tribal members.

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