

Contact:
Jennifer Howell
Public Relations
Mitchell Museum of the American Indian
(847)475-1030
jhowell@mitchellmuseum.org

For Immediate Release

6th Annual Dr. Carlos Montezuma Honorary Lecture & Awards to recognize John E. Echohawk, Louis Delgado & Yvonne Walker Keshick Nov. 10

October 27, 2015-The Mitchell Museum of the American Indian is pleased to announce John E. Echohawk (Pawnee), an attorney and founder of the Native American Rights Fund, will be the keynote speaker, and receive the event's namesake award, at the sixth annual Dr. Carlos Montezuma Honorary Lecture & Awards. New this year, Louis Delgado (Oneida) will be honored with the Elizabeth Seabury Mitchell Award for service and philanthropy, and artist Yvonne Walker Keshick (Little Traverse Bay Band of Ottawa) will receive the Woodrow "Woody" Crumbo Award for Native arts.

The event, which honors members of the American Indian community who have raised awareness and contributed to the community in the same spirit as Dr. Montezuma, will be held on Tuesday, November 10 at the Mitchell Museum's 3009 Central Street building in Evanston. The Awards Ceremony and VIP toast begins at 5:30pm, with the lecture to follow at 6:30pm. A reception will conclude the event.

The Dr. Carlos Montezuma Honorary Award is given for a distinguished speaker whose contributions in social activism advanced Native peoples on a national scale. Given this year to John E. Echohawk, it recognizes the work of Dr. Montezuma, a Chicago physician and Native American activist who was one of the founding members of the Society of American Indians and ardent advocate for the voting rights for Native peoples. Mr. Echohawk was the first graduate of the University of New Mexico's special program to train American Indian lawyers. He has been recognized as one of the 100 most influential lawyers in America by the National Law Journal and has received numerous service awards and other recognition for his leadership in the Indian Law field. He served on President Obama's first transition team on Indian Affairs. He has been discussed by the Obama administration as a possible nominee to the federal bench.

The Elizabeth Seabury Mitchell Award is given for exemplary service and philanthropic giving in promoting American Indian culture. Mrs. Mitchell gave generously to many native organizations throughout her life, including co-founding the Mitchell Museum of the American Indian. The 2015 recipient of her namesake award is Louis Delgado (Oneida). Mr. Delgado has extensive experience in the fields of education, community development and philanthropy. He has held administrative and/or teaching positions at Loyola University Chicago, Chicago Board of Education, NAES College, and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. He currently serves on the boards of directors of national and local nonprofit organizations including: The Needmor Fund, Native Americans in Philanthropy, and

the Field Museum of Natural History, and has been instrumental in the formation of the Chicago American Indian Community Collaborative. Louis holds Masters degrees from the University of Chicago in Public Policy and in Social Work, and has received several prestigious awards in recognition of his work.

The Woodrow "Woody" Crumbo Award is given in for exceptional contributions in the development and preservation of American Indian art. Woody Crumbo spent six decades of the mid-20th century creating and promoting Native American art. He participated in hundreds of exhibits, painted murals inside the US Department of Interior, and had hundreds of his pieces acquired by museums like the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Smithsonian. The 2015 recipient is Yvonne Walker Keshick (Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa). Keshick's quillwork is widely recognized as some of the best in the nation, and she generously shares her skills with her community and family. To ensure the continuation of the tradition, she has written a manuscript that provides instructions on making quillwork, as well as information on the cultural meanings related to quillwork. She is a 1992 Michigan Heritage Awards winner as well as a 2014 National Endowment for the Arts Heritage Fellow. Her work is featured in the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. and New York City.

The event is sponsored by Northwestern University. The fee for the lecture is \$12 for museum members/ \$15 for non-members. Tribal members are free. To attend both the lecture and awards ceremony, the cost is \$30. To RSVP for the Dr. Carlos Montezuma Honorary Lecture & Awards, or for more information, contact Visitor Services at (847)475-1030/ visitor.services@mitchellmuseum.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.

###