



Meet Me at the Mitchell

A member's guide to programs, special events, news and much more!

Giving Thanks



Together we raised \$33,000 at our Annual Benefit "A Decade of Independence." We would like to thank our benefit sponsors: Northwestern University, John J. Cahill, Inc., Jennifer N. Pritzker, Tom & Sue Laue, The Prudential Foundation Matching Gifts Program, Suzanne Sharrow-Christopher of Prudential Advisors, Barb Goodman & Seth Weinberger, and First Bank & Trust of Evanston.

We also want to recognize the benefit committee led by Susan Salisbury: Ivan Berk, Jan Berkson, Gary Cooper, Chuck Dickson, Sue Laue, Jackie McGuire, and Frances Hagemann.

We would also like to thank these generous organizations and individuals for their continued support: Chicago Community Trust, Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, Evanston Community Foundation and the Illinois Humanities; Ivan & Shelly Berk, Jan & Jeff Berkson, John & Sarabess Cahill, Dennis & Frances Clarkson, Gary & Laura Cooper, Chuck & Wendy Dickson, James & Deborah Ford, Loren & Nancy Ghiglione, Rob & Catherine Graettinger, Alice Gutenkauf, Frances Hagemann, Karen & Bob Hlavin, Sue & Tom Laue, Thomas McDonald, John & Linnea Mead, Joyce Niederman, Jennifer N. Pritzker, Sue and Tim Salisbury, Norman Sandfield, Seth Weinberger & Barb Goodman, Steven Wheeler, Alan Zunamon & Nancy Cunniff, and Patricia Zygmun.

Contemporary Native Women Opening Doors to Change

Opening June 18, guest exhibit curators Arlene Hirschfelder and Paulette Molin (member of the Chippewa Tribe from White Earth), two prominent humanities authors and museum consultants with over 25 years' experience, will guide visitors on a journey of social justice through twelve inspiring and empowering indigenous women who fearlessly changed the course of history in fields from the violence against women to clean water rights.

See images of the work of these twelve women, look at their personal items, hear their impassioned voices and watch videos of pivotal moments breaking new ground for women everywhere. Follow the example of Ada Deer, Menominee, who says "You don't have to collapse just

because there's a federal law in your way. Change it!" Meet Sarah Deer, Muscogee Nation of Oklahoma, MacArthur Foundation "genius" grantee who helped secure passage of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013. Then meet another MacArthur "genius" who preserves language as a means of cultural understanding Jessie Little Doe Baird, Mashpee Wampanoag. With their unique life stories, the exhibit will inspire audiences and stimulate conversations in community responsibility and engagement.

6/18 Saturday Exhibit Opening
1pm Reception
2 pm Curator's Tour
3pm Panel Discussion

Notes From the Director

We've gotten rave reviews for our new monthly themed programming providing regular visitors a more in-depth experience at the museum. Be sure to check out the family art & stories, as well as, our spotlight tours offered twice a week. Almost all of our summer programming is completely free for members. We recently acquired a glass basket made and donated by prominent Tlingit artist, Preston Singletary, shown here, and a large R.C. Gorman pot donated by Joyce Niederman.

As we continue to celebrate our "Decade of Independence" we reflect on the impact the museum continues to make in raising awareness. With our May 10th "On The Table" public forum we are launching our education initiative to change Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day in Evanston and beyond. We hope you and other organizations will join our mission and bring greater recognition to the history of Native peoples on October 10th.



Calendar of Events: May

Spotlight Tours

Saturday 10:30-11:00AM
Wednesdays 4:00-4:30PM

Native American Housing Styles: Learn about the diversity of Native American housing styles and their relationships to local materials.

Weekend Arts & Stories

Saturdays 11:00AM-Noon
Sundays 12:30-1:30PM

Spider Woman's Gift: Spider Puppet, God's Eye, Straw Loom Weaving, and Loom Weaving crafts for all ages.

Flute Group, Alternating Thursday 6:00 - 7:45 PM

Contact museum for meeting location

Friday, May 6

Free Friday

Tuesday, May 10

12:00-1:00PM

"Recognizing the Invisible: Bringing greater awareness to Native Peoples." Join us for a brown bag lunch roundtable to share your thoughts. **Please RSVP by May 6th.** This is a free event.

Thursday, May 12

6:00-7:30 PM

First Nations Film and Video Festival. Join us for an evening of short films by Native American directors and writers.
Free with regular admission

June

Spotlight Tours

Saturday 10:30-11:00AM
Wednesdays 4:00-4:30PM

Contemporary Native American Art: Come see the often missed contemporary Native American Art found throughout our permanent and temporary exhibits.

Weekend Arts & Stories

Saturdays 11:00AM-Noon
Sundays 12:30-1:30PM

Bison and the Arts of the Great Plains: Bison Puppet, Parfleche, and Ledger Art, crafts for all ages

Flute Group, Alternating Thursday 6:00 - 7:45 PM

Contact museum for meeting location

Friday, June 3rd

Free Friday

Saturday, June 18

1:00 PM

2:00-3:00

3:00-4:30

Exhibit Opening: "Contemporary Native Women."
Welcoming reception
Exhibit tour by guest curators Arlene Hirschfelder and Paulette Molin (White Earth Chippewa).
Panel discussion "Opening Doors to Change."
See website for more details

July

Spotlight Tours

Saturdays 10:30-11:00AM
Wednesdays 4:00-4:30PM

Native American Transportation: Joins us in exploring pre and post contact forms of transportation used by different tribes.

Weekend Arts & Stories

Saturdays 11:00AM-Noon
Sundays 12:30-1:30PM

Turtle holds up the World: Turtle puppet, Felt Sea Turtle, and Turtle Jewelry crafts for all ages.

Flute Group, Alternating Thursday 6:00 - 7:45 PM

Contact museum for meeting location

Friday, July 1st

Free Friday

Sunday, July 19

1:00-2:00 PM

Native Plant Tour: Join us for a tour of significant plants growing in front of the Museum. Learn about the various uses of plants such as hawthorn, and juniper.
Free with regular admission

August

Spotlight Tours

Saturdays 10:30-11:00AM
Wednesdays 4:00-4:30PM

Garden tour: Come outside and join us for a brief tour of our garden and the Ho-Chunk ciproke.

Weekend Arts & Stories

Saturdays 11:00 AM-Noon
Sundays 12:30-1:30PM

Raven the Trickster: Raven Puppet, Northwest Coast Canoe, and Button Blanket crafts for all ages.

Flute Group, Alternating Thursday 6:00-7:45 PM

Contact museum for meeting location

Friday, August 5

Free Friday

Saturday, August 6

11:00AM-12:30PM

Raven Tales: Join us for a special program featuring stories from the acclaimed **Raven Tales** animated series. Find out how Raven brought light in the world in **How Raven Stole the Sun**. See who wins a battle of cunning when two tricksters meet in **Raven and Coyote**. Be careful of what you ask for, a lesson learned for a childless couple who seeks the help of the witch Dzunakwa in **The Child of Tears**.
Free with regular admission.

Recognizing the Invisible: "On The Table " Community Discussion

On the Table is an annual forum designed to elevate civic conversation, foster new relationships and create a unifying experience across the Chicago area that is supported by the Chicago Community Trust. The Mitchell Museum will host a discussion on the topic of **"Recognizing the Invisible: Bringing greater awareness to Native Peoples"** May 10, from Noon-1:00pm. We will address how we can bring greater focus and recognition to issues surrounding Native Peoples. In particular, we would like to explore how we can replace Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day throughout the City of Evanston and beyond. This is a movement to recognize and celebrate Indigenous Peoples in the United States. Cities like Seattle, Minneapolis, and Denver have replaced Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples' Day. Join us for a brown bag lunch to share your thoughts and ideas about Indigenous Peoples' Day for the City of Evanston. Refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP by May 6th.

First Nations Film and Video Festival



On May 12, the Mitchell Museum will host the First Nations Film and Video Festival. For 16 years, FNFVF has

brought Native American film and video makers of to numerous venues throughout the Chicago area. 2016 brings an exciting line-up of 8 films that share the experiences and perspectives of contemporary Native Peoples in the U.S. and Canada. The films are varied but share themes such as the voice of mothers and a recapturing of "traditional" art as a way of healing. **The 7th Wave** tells the story of Emmit Oliver, a Quinault Tribal elder who organized and helped revitalize the canoe tradition in the Northwest. **OTHER** follows a Native man as he goes on a job interview and discovers a glaring omission on the job application. **Clouds of Autumn** explores the impact Canadian residential schools had on the relationships of First Nations children with their heritage, themselves, and nature itself through the eyes of a brother and sister. Don't miss these insightful films. Bring your own snacks.

Ethnobotanical Tour



On Sunday, July 19, tour the Mitchell Museum's garden and green space and meet the various trees and plants that call the Mitchell Museum home. This tour will cover many of the denizens of garden including northern yucca, yarrow, and milkweed.

In particular, there will be a focus on the juniper and downy hawthorn trees. Both species hold a wide array of significance for many Native Peoples throughout North America. They are also common garden and ornamental trees found in Evanston and the surrounding area. Learn about their uses as food, medicines, lumber, and spiritual significance.

The Garden Tour runs from 1:00 to 2:00pm. The tour is included with the price of admission.

Spring Recipe: Milkweed Shoot Salad



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Early Spring is the time to find nutritious eats sprouting from the forest edge or open meadow. The young shoots of **common milkweed** (*Asclepias syriaca*) make a healthy and tasty spring salad. Looking similar to asparagus, the shoots can be harvested up to about eight inches tall. Once they grow over eight inches, they become tougher and begin to develop toxins.

Recipe:

- Boil 1 cup of milkweed shoots for 20mins. Remove from water (do not reuse the water).
- Once cooked, combine the milkweed shoots and fiddleheads together on a bed of wild greens such as mesaline lettuce, dandelion, and garlic mustard (local invasive weed) leaves.
- Add olive oil, salt and pepper to taste
- For the meat lover, add sliced venison, bison, beef or lamb to the salad, and your meal is complete.



Mitchell Museum of the American Indian

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Like Us On Facebook!



Join the Mitchell Museum for Inspiring Programs and Events!

Spotlight Tours

As members and friends of the Mitchell Museum of the American Indian you are likely familiar with our exhibits, but there is always more to see and learn at the Mitchell Museum. Come join us every Wednesday from 4-4:30 pm and Saturday from 10:30- 11 am for a tour spotlighting a different theme each month.

In May we will be discussing different housing styles, such as plank houses, hogans, teepees, and wigwams and how these styles are related to the available materials in each region. We will also include a trip outside to our ciporoke. June will highlight Contemporary art and artists featured throughout the museum, such as Jason Wesaw, Kathleen Wall, Chris Pappan, and Patricia Michaels. In July we will be discussing different types of transportation pre and post European contact throughout North America. August's tour will focus on the Native American plants in the Mitchell Museum's garden and their significance to Native people.

These tours are a great way to entertain out of town guest or get more from your visit. We hope to see you each month.



Contemporary glazed and kiln fired pot decorated with dyed deer tail, Jason Wesaw, Potawatomi, 2014

Indigenous Peoples' Day Concert & Celebration!

The Mitchell Museum of the American Indian and the City of Evanston are excited to announce that we are joining progressive cities, universities and other cultural institutions across the country and around the world in replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Celebrated on the second Monday of October, Indigenous Peoples' Day celebrates the history and culture of Indigenous peoples throughout the world, and acknowledges the many tribes who lived across America long before Christopher Columbus.

Join us on Monday, October 10 for a full day of events culminating with a special Indigenous Peoples' Day music concert featuring nationally renowned Native musicians. The museum will be open to the public all day and offering free admission that Monday, and we will host a discussion panel in the afternoon.

More details about Indigenous Peoples' Day, our upcoming concert event, and our fall music exhibit coming soon! Follow updates on our website and on Facebook: www.mitchellmuseum.org.