

Mitchell Museum of the American Indian
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News

For Immediate Release

Attn: Events & Calendar Editors/Museums/Lectures

Lakota Elder to Talk on Tribal Traditions August 28 at Mitchell Museum

EVANSTON, Ill., August 23, 2010 — John P. Clifford, a Lakota elder, will give a presentation on “Lakota Culture and Storytelling” at 2 p.m. on Saturday, August 28, at the Mitchell Museum of the American Indian in Evanston.

Clifford was born in Rosebud, S.D., and is of Oglala Lakota and Sicangu Lakota descent.

Recognized tribal elders serve as advisors, teachers, and recorders of history. They are valued for their knowledge of traditional ways, teachings, stories, and ceremonies. As spiritual and cultural leaders in their communities, they are sought out for their experience, character, and ability to apply traditional teachings to contemporary problems and challenges, both personal and communal.

Clifford, 71, has been a member of the board of directors of the Association of American Indian Affairs and a steering committee member of the Native American Rights Fund, among other positions

Clifford earned a bachelor’s degree from Marquette University and master’s degrees from Marquette and the University of Notre Dame. A South Milwaukee resident, he was a teacher and administrator in the Milwaukee Public Schools for more than three decades and was involved for many years with the school system’s WE Indians program to help American Indian students

improve their academic performance.

Clifford's presentation complements the Mitchell's exhibit "Dazzling Colors: The Evolution of Plains Reservation Art," on view through October 17.

Admission to the event is included with museum admission, which is \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for seniors, students, teachers (with valid school ID), and children. Maximum admission per family is \$10. Admission is free for Mitchell Museum members, tribal members, and active-duty members of the U.S. military and their immediate families. The independent, nonprofit Mitchell Museum is at 3001 Central St., Evanston. For information, phone (847) 475-1030. On the Net: <http://www.mitchellmuseum.org>.

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