



Meet Me At the Mitchell

1st Quarter 2010

Vol. 2, Issue 1

Making it Possible

As a non-profit organization the Mitchell Museum relies on the generosity of individuals, corporations and granting agencies. Without their support the Mitchell Museum would be unable to produce interpretative exhibits, offer tours and programs, or care for its rich collection of American Indian art and culture. Here are just some of the ways the museum has received assistance. Lupita's Mexican Restaurant in Evanston donated their delicious food for three museum events. We purchased a new Nikon D5000 camera to photograph the collection with donations from William Linder and Devon L. Pyle-Vowles, and also a discount from Best Buy in Evanston. The new exhibition, "Raising the Totem," was funded through generous contributions from Dr. Robert M. Gluckman, the Consulate General of Canada, Joyce and Bruce Chelberg, and Kenneth Flammang. We also received discounts from several vendors to significantly cut our costs including Quartet Digital Printing, Good's of Evanston, and a donation of a bench from Plain and Simple: Amish Made Furniture. As you can see, every contribution large, small, cash or discounted services make a big difference to the museum. Consider what kind of difference you could make in our wish list on the last page.

Raising the Totem: Exploring Northwest Coast Indigenous Cultures on Display

On February 12th the world will watch the Opening Ceremonies of the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver and rediscover the Northwest Coast due to an unprecedented amount of First Nation's artistic participation in the Olympic ceremonies. The Vancouver Olympic Organizing Committee has worked closely with the city's First Nations – the Lil'wat, Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh – to highlight aboriginal cultures throughout the Olympics in the opening ceremonies, public art, the Olympic medals design, an educational aboriginal pavilion, and the cultural Olympiad. These are just some of the ways the Vancouver 2010 Winter Games will teach the world about the native peoples of the Northwest Coast.

To help educate our local community about the First Nations art and culture, the Mitchell Museum of the American Indian has showcased this region in our newest exhibit "Raising the Totem: Exploring Northwest Coast Indigenous Cultures."

Stretching along the coast of the Pacific Ocean from the Southern tip of Alaska through British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, and Northern California, the Northwest Coast is an area which has been home to diverse groups of indigenous peoples for over ten thousand years.



A model inuksuk similar in style to the Vancouver 2010 Olympic emblem. On display now in *Raising the Totem*.

As Chief Justin George (Tsleil-Waututh) said, "The Olympic Games is a huge, huge potlatch...It's our time to show our capabilities and who we are." Visit the museum to discover more about "potlatch" celebrations, First Nations Olympic art, and learn more about the rich history and culture of the region, and view the beautiful Northwest Coast artifacts on display from the Museum's collection. *Raising the Totem* runs through June 13th. Check our calendar for exhibit related programming.



Kathleen McDonald Appointed Executive Director

After a nation-wide search for an Executive Director, the Mitchell Museum found the ideal candidate in their own backyard. Kathleen McDonald, an Evanston resident, was welcomed to the staff as Executive Director on December 15, 2009. Her eleven years of museum experience at small and large museums, professional museum training, and academic credentials made her an ideal candidate for the position. She has

managed museum operations for the San Diego Historical Society, developed exhibitions and curated collections at the Chicago History Museum, and consulted for museums across the country. Over the past month and a half she has already made significant improvements to the operation of the museum and will roll out several new programs including a new Docent Training Program start-

ing February 24th. She is eager to see the museum thrive financially, improve the visitor experience, offer additional family programs, and display more of the museum's own collection in interpretative exhibitions like "Raising the Totem." We look forward to the exciting improvements she will bring to the museum while upholding our core vision. Please introduce yourself to Kathleen next time you're at the museum.

Spring Benefit

Taste of Native America

Please join us for a mouth-watering and memorable evening at Now We're Cookin', Evanston's innovative culinary arts space!

Tickets: \$100 per person

Date: Sunday, February 21, 2010, 4:00-7:00 PM.

Location: Now We're Cookin', 1601 Payne Street, Evanston
Silent Auction, including Bulls and White Sox tickets, Native American art, and more! Split the Pot Cash Raffle!

All proceeds benefit the Museum's education, arts, and outreach programs for children, adults, and scholars.

This benefit has been underwritten in part through the generous support of Northern Trust Company.

Calendar of Events - February

Saturday, February 6 10:30 AM to Noon	Kids Craft Morning Northwest Coast Rattles
Saturday, February 13 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM	Kids Programming Create an Olympic <i>Find Your Passion in Sport</i> Poster Using the Vancouver 2010 Find Your Passion in Sport posters which teach children about the importance of sports to Canadian First Nations Youth, children will create their own posters, illustrating which sport they are most passionate about while learning about Aboriginal culture.
Thursday, February 18 1:00 to 2:30 PM	Book Discussion Group <i>Last Standing Woman</i> by Winona LaDuke
Saturday, February 20 11:00 to 11:30 AM	Kids Programming <i>Raven Tales</i> animated video, Episode 2: "Raven and the First People."
Sunday, February 21 4:00 to 7:00 PM	Spring Benefit — Taste of Native America
Saturday, February 27 2:30 to 4:00 PM	Ron Kanutski Hand Drumming and Anishinabe Story Telling
Sunday, February 28 1:00 to 2:30 PM	Film Screening <i>Totem—The Return of the G'psgolo Pole</i> (70 minutes) In 1929 a 9-meter totem pole was stolen from the Haisla people's village in British Columbia. Discovered in 1991 in Stockholm Sweden, this documentary follows the Haisla's journey to reclaim their traditional mortuary pole.

Calendar of Events - March

Friday, March 5 10 AM to 5 PM	Free Friday at the Mitchell Museum!
Saturday, March 6 10:30 AM to Noon	Kids Craft Morning Northwest Coast Masks
Sunday, March 7 1:00 to 2:30 PM	Film Screening <i>The Spirit of the Mask</i> (60 minutes) This documentary gives a rare view into the powerful masks of the Pacific Northwest Coast Native peoples and tells the story of the Northwest Coast peoples' struggle to preserve their traditions against the onslaught of European colonialism.
Saturday, March 13 11:00 to 11:30 AM	Kids Programming <i>Raven Tales</i> animated video, Episode 3: "The Sea Wolf."
Thursday, March 18 1:00 to 2:30 PM	Book Discussion Group <i>Everything You Know About Indians is Wrong</i> by Paul Chaat Smith
Saturday, March 27 2:00 to 3:00 PM	Michael Pace Pace will wear his traditional regalia and explain about Lenape traditions, including the waterdrum.
Sunday, March 28 1:00 to 2:30 PM	Lecture from Thomas Pleger, Associate Professor of Archaeology, University of Wisconsin "The Old Copper Industry: The Origins of Prehistoric Metal Technology in Eastern North America"

Calendar of Events - April

Friday, April 2 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM	Free Friday at the Mitchell Museum!
Saturday, April 3 10:30 AM to Noon	Kids Craft Morning Northwest Coast Button Blankets

**Mention this Ad and I will donate
\$100 to the Museum***



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Sunday, April 4	Easter Sunday Museum Closed
Saturday, April 10 11:00 to 11:30 AM	Kids Programming <i>Raven Tales</i> animated video, Episode 4: "Gone Fishing."
Thursday, April 15 1:00 to 2:30 PM	Book Discussion Group <i>Crazy Horse and Custer: The Parallel Lives of Two American Warriors</i> by Stephen E. Ambrose
Saturday, April 17 10:30 AM to Noon	Kids Craft Morning Potlatch Baskets
Sunday, April 18 1:00 to 2:30 PM	Film Screening <i>I'TUSTO: To Rise Again</i> (54 minutes) In 1997, the Kwakwaka'wakw Nation was rocked to its core as their ceremonial Bighouse became engulfed in the flames of an arsonist's fire. This film shares the powerful story of the people's strength and perseverance when coming together to quickly re-build the Bighouse.
Saturday, April 24, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM Sunday, April 25, Noon to 4:00 PM	Turkey Mountain Road Show Appraisals performed by staff from Turkey Mountain Traders (Scottsdale, AZ), specialists in American Indian art, jewelry, and folk art. Call the museum for details on how to participate.

Calendar of Events - May

Saturday, May 1 11:00 to 11:30 AM	Kids Programming <i>Raven Tales</i> animated video, Episode 6: "Bald Eagle."
Friday, May 7 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM	Free Friday at the Mitchell Museum!
Saturday, May 8 10:30 AM to Noon	Kids Craft Totem Poles
Sunday, May 9 1:00 to 2:30 PM	Film Screening and Lecture with Judy Hoffman, University of Chicago Hoffman will introduce the documentary <i>Box of Treasures</i> (28 minutes) and discuss her work on the film, showing the Kwakiutl of Albert Bay, Vancouver as they redefine their cultural identity while constructing a center to house masks and other potlatch valuables. The film addresses the changing role of language, art, and ritual in the context of the modern economy. Discussion to follow.
Saturday, May 15 11:00 AM	Kids Programming <i>Raven Tales</i> animated video, Episode 9: "Raven and the Coyote."

New Docent Training Program

Ever wanted to expand the minds of the young and old, develop and share your knowledge of American Indian culture, and join the volunteers of the Mitchell Museum? Here is the long anticipated opportunity for docent training to provide you with the skills, education and confidence needed to lead school groups and adult tours through the permanent and temporary exhibitions and demonstrate how to make American Indian inspired crafts.

The program is designed for volunteers willing to commit to the training program and a docent time slot once a week or every other week. The training sessions will be held at the Mitchell Museum weekly starting February 24th through March 17th. We will be videotaping these sessions for people who want to docent but are unavailable for those times.

For session times and more information, please contact Kathleen McDonald at kmcdonald@mitchellmuseum.org. Pre-registration is required.



American Indian Recipe, from the book *Enduring Harvests: Native American Foods and Festivals for Every Season* by E. Barrie Kavasch

Salmon Cakes, a Northwest Coast specialty

Ingredients: 1/2 cup corn oil; 1 cup cornmeal; 1 cup cooked salmon; 2 cups cooked squash; 1 egg, well beaten, fluffy; 1 clove garlic, finely diced; 1 small onion, finely diced; 1/4 cup parsley, finely diced; 1/2 teaspoon celery seed; 1/2 teaspoon dill weed; 1/2 teaspoon paprika; Salt and pepper to taste.

Place the cornmeal in a large, flat dish. In a large mixing bowl, blend the remaining ingredients together well, balancing the flavors and seasonings. Using a tablespoon and your hands, shape 12-15 small cakes, about 1 inch thick and 3 inches in diameter. Place each cake in the cornmeal. Pat and turn to coat each side.

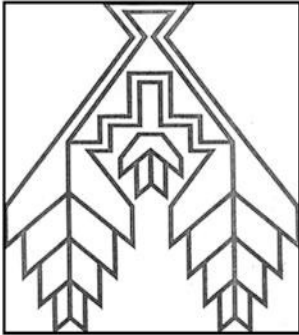
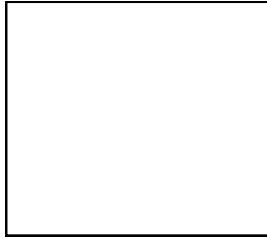
Heat the oil in a large flat skillet over medium heat. Carefully place the cakes in the hot oil so that they do not touch each other. Sauté over medium heat for about ten to fifteen minutes on each side, until nicely golden brown. Serve hot with wild salad greens, peas, and wild rice. Whipped cloudberries or salmonberries make a tasty dessert to follow this meal.

Serves 8.

Mitchell Museum of the American Indian

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New Membership Benefits!

For the first time this year, the Mitchell Museum is offering a new level of membership. Those who join or renew at this new, \$100 level, will receive reciprocal benefits to all institutions belonging to the North American Reciprocal Museum program, an association of over 370 museums in the United States, Bermuda, Canada, and El Salvador. Local member institutions include the Block Museum of Art at Northwestern University; the Oriental Institute at The University of Chicago; the Loyola University Museum of Art; and the Smart Museum of Art. Other notable members include the Heard Museum in Phoenix; the Charles M. Schulz Museum in Santa Rosa, California; and the Indianapolis Museum of Art. A full listing of participating institutions will be provided with your specially marked membership card.

Volunteer Spotlight: Barbara Johnson

Researching in the library, leading tour groups, writing curriculum guides, Barbara Johnson does it all. After moving back to Chicago in 1996, Barbara missed her connection to the American Indian community in Massachusetts and joined the Mitchell Museum while it was still a part of Kendall College. She has been a dedicated volunteer ever since enjoying the camaraderie and learning opportunities at the museum. As a former teacher and life-experience learner, Barbara brings her presentation skills, knowledge of American Indian history, and first-hand experience visiting tribal cultures to the museum visitor. She is excited to be one of the presenters during the new Docent Training Program starting February 24th and encourages everyone to expand their horizons by

volunteering at the Mitchell Museum and discover this “gem” in our community. Contact Trish Barr, Volunteer Coordinator barrtrish@comcast.net or Kathleen McDonald kmcdonald@mitchellmuseum.org for more information about volunteering.

Wish List

ELSEC 764 Environmental Monitor.
Donation: \$1,350

This environmental monitor measures ultraviolet light, visible light, temperature, and relative humidity—the four parameters that cause the most damage to museum collections. The ELSEC monitor will be used to ensure that the Museum’s environmental conditions are stable and safe for artifacts.



HEPA Filter Vacuum Cleaner. Donation: \$325



Excellent for cleaning artifacts in exhibits and collections storage, this HEPA filter vacuum and attachments will keep our collections clean.

Adobe Contribute. Donation: \$199

Help the Mitchell Museum keep our redesigned website (launching in March) up to date with Contribute, a program that allows Museum staff to create and manage web content.

Sponsor a Storyteller. Donation: \$150

Underwrite the cost of bringing a storyteller to the Museum.