



APRIL 2021

MUSEUM NOTES

News from the Iroquois Indian Museum

Howes Cave, NY, www.iroquoismuseum.org

Museum plans 2021 opening, events

Limited hours, demos, dancers, festivals scheduled



Dear Friend of the Museum,

After more than a year of closure, we are excited to reopen April 1 with limited hours and public health precautions in place.

Over the past year, the Museum has been busy creating virtual programming like the summer artist demos series, themed tours on our website, and virtual field trips with participants from all over North America (we've booked several school groups from Alberta, Canada).

Thanks to supporters like you, the Museum's Annual Appeal raised nearly \$41,000 to help us be able to open and offer events this year.

We are looking forward to being a destination for visitors and area residents again this year while creating a safe space for all. Visitors will need to ring the bell to gain entrance and wear a mask and practice social distancing while inside the building. We are planning to offer individual activity packets for children while the interactive exhibits in the Children's Museum are temporarily closed.

With our beautiful surroundings starting to turn green and blossom, we are welcoming people to take advantage of our 45-acre Nature Park. Visitors can learn about native plants from a Haudenosaunee perspective through labels near the entrance of the Park

by the log houses that were transported to Howes Cave from Six Nations.

The Museum has planned a full schedule of mainly outdoor events each weekend in July and August, with additional programming in the fall. See inside for more information on our 2021 offerings.

We can't wait to have friends old and new at our home in Howes Cave again! We--especially Chief Feline Officer Little Boy--hope to see you soon.

Warmly,
Steph Shultes,
Museum Director

OPENING HOURS-April

Monday-Wednesday: Closed
Thursday-Saturday: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Sunday: Noon-4 p.m.

OPENING HOURS-May-October (Subject to Change)

Monday: Closed
Tuesday-Saturday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday: Noon-5 p.m.

ADMISSION RATES

Adults: \$8
Seniors (62+): \$6.50
Teens (13-17): \$6.50
Students (5-12): \$5
Children (Under 5): Free

2021 Schedule of Events

We are thrilled to be able to present events this year after not being open since 2019. Most events will be presented outside with safety precautions in place. With the support from grants, we can present many events at no additional fee other than Museum admission, with the exception of the Fingerweaving Workshop; Roots, Rhythm, and Ale Concert; and Annual Iroquois Art Festival. We look forward to seeing you this year!



Several Haudenosaunee social dance groups will perform throughout the summer.

Saturday | July 3

Haudenosaunee Dancers from Onondaga

Various times from 10 am to 4 pm

Pride in the culture, discipline, and a dedication to tradition are a hallmark of the Haudenosaunee Dancers, who perform Iroquois social dances as practiced in their small traditional community near Syracuse. Leader and skilled seamstress Sherri Waterman-Hopper has traveled internationally as an artist and cultural speaker, and she will be joined by a core group of singers, musicians, and dancers. They will perform at various times throughout the day.

Saturday | July 10
Social Dancers

Various times from 10 am to 4 pm

Another Haudenosaunee dance group will offer presentations at the Museum throughout the day.

Saturday | July 17

Artists Demo by Teoi Elijah | Traditional Outfits

Various times from 10 am to 4 pm

Teoi is Akwesasne Mohawk and the owner of Shaking Reeds Designs, which specializes in custom-made Iroquois clothing and accessories for men, women, and children such as intricately beaded collars and cuffs, beaded and appliquéd ribbon shirts and skirts, breechcloths, and leggings. She will offer demonstrations throughout the day.

Saturday | July 24

Artist Demo by Marilyn Hill | Fingerweaving

Various times from 10 am to 4 pm

Marilyn is Tuscarora Bear Clan and self-taught in the old-style loomless weaving technique popular in the 18th Century for sashes and garters. While most men today purchase commer-

cially produced sashes, Marilyn has spearheaded a small revival. She will offer demonstrations throughout the day.

Sunday | July 25

Fingerweaving Workshop with Marilyn Hill

Time TBA

Fingerweaving artist Marilynn Hill, Tuscarora, will lead a class on the skill popular in the 18th century. Registration and attendance fee is required.

Saturday-Sunday |

July 31-August 1

Artist Demo by Jamie Jacobs Porcupine Quillwork

Various times each day

Jamie is a cultural educator and artist from the Seneca community of Tonawanda and admired for his attention to detail and historic knowledge. He will offer demonstrations throughout the weekend on porcupine quillwork, which is used in decorative elements on Haudenosaunee objects, such as clothing, moccasins, and quiver pouches. Jamie is a collections assistant at the Rochester Museum and Science Center.

Friday | August 6

Roots, Rhythm, and Ale Amphitheater Concert

5-9 pm

The Museum will present an evening of music and beverage

featuring Schoharie zydeco/jam band The Rubber Band, and blues harmonica and guitar musician and Haudenosaunee artist Mike Jones and vocalist Kari Kennedy. Beer from local breweries will be available for purchase. Event tickets are \$10.

Saturday | August 7

Artist Demo by Anna Thompson | Moccasins and Beadwork

Various times from 10 am to 4 pm

Anna is from the Mohawk community of Akwesasne and admired for her workmanship and use of hand-tanned leather, striking use of color, and original beaded designs on moccasins, dance garters, mittens, and other items. She has been honored by the Ganondagan State Historic Site, the Abenaki and Mohawk Art Market at the Adirondack Experience, and others. She will offer demonstrations of her skill throughout the day.

Saturday | August 14

Allegany River Dancers

Various times from 10 am to 4 pm

Founded in 1979, the Allegany River Dancers have become one of the best-known Native dance groups in North America. Their performances often encourage audience participation and feature intertribal "Pow wow" style dances, such as a dance that uses 30 hoops to form designs found in nature.

Saturday | August 21

Artist Demo by Randy Greene | Drums and Rattles

Various times from 10 am to 4 pm

Randy is Tuscarora Nation Turtle Clan and leads a social dance troupe. He will demonstrate traditional construction of waterdrums, cow horn rattles, and feather fans used in social dances.

September 4-5 | Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm, Sunday from noon to 5 pm

Annual Iroquois Arts Festival

The Annual Iroquois Arts Festival celebrates Haudenosaunee creativity with live performances by cultural groups, demonstrations, an outdoor Arts Market with traditional and contemporary arts and fine crafts, family activities, and more. The event will feature The Sky Dancers from Six Nations Reserve in Ontario, Onondaga storyteller Perry Ground, the Museum's archaeology department, and wildlife rehabilitator Kelly Martin, who will bring a variety of animals, including birds of prey. Event tickets at \$10.

Saturday | October 9

Reception for 2021 Identity/Identify Exhibit

1 to 4 pm

The Museum will present an Indigenous People's Day Weekend reception of its 2021 contemporary art show, *Identity/Identify*, with speaker Drew Hayden Taylor. Taylor is a writer, journalist, and playwright whose works speak to his experience as a mixed race individual and the role of humor in negotiating difficult issues such as tribal membership, colonization, and adoption. Drew's credits include



Drew Hayden Taylor

over 70 plays, numerous non-fiction books, and a performance at The Kennedy Center in Washington, DC.

Saturday | October 16

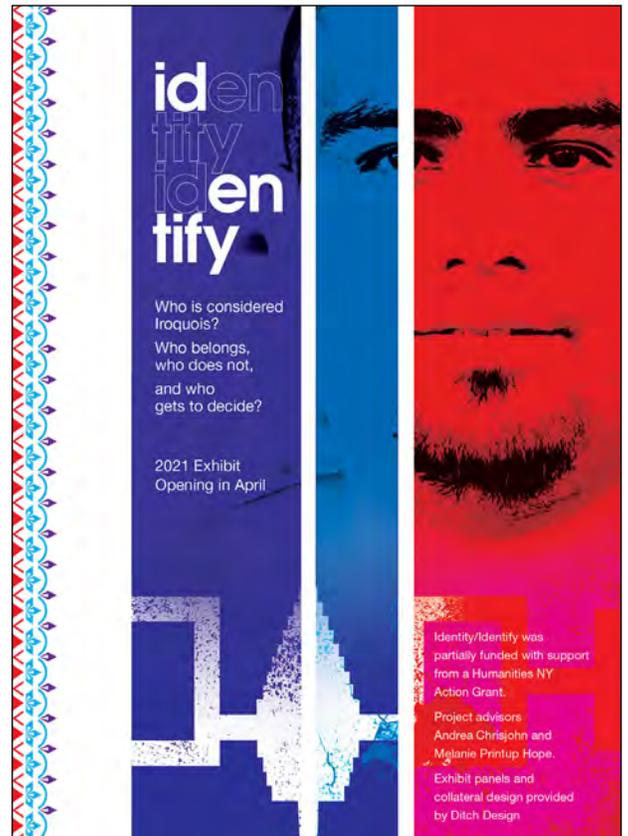
Early Technology Day

Various times from 10 am to 4 pm

The Museum's annual event has been moved from spring to fall, when visitors will be able to watch and participate in the ancient art of making chipped stone tools known as flint knapping, fire making, cordage making, atlatl spear throwing, and early archery. There will be displays of projectile points, tools, and local archaeological finds from the Museum's archaeology department. Think you've found an artifact? Bring it with you and the Museum's experts will try to identify it for you.

These events are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, Humanities New York, Poets & Writers, and friends and members of the Iroquois Indian Museum.

Show to feature art about Iroquois identity and belonging



Identity/Identify features works by 16 Haudenosaunee artists throughout North America who explore how definitions and designations determine access to tribal and federal resources, rights, residency options, and other components of cultural and community participation.

Artwork created specifically for the exhibit presents the political and polarizing issues surrounding blood quantum standards, the position and challenges of mixed race individuals, and those who grew up off reservation.

The exhibit features video, sculpture, beadwork, and photography by Peter Jones, Hayden Haynes, and Michael Jones from Seneca territory; Margaret Jacobs and Natasha Smoke-Santiago from Akwesasne; Robert D'Alimonte from Tuscarora; Karen Ann Hoffman from Oneida, Wisconsin; Danielle Soames from Kahnawake; Andrea Chrisjohn from Kingston, NY; Shelia Escobar and Lance Hodahkwon from Syracuse; Rosy Simas from Minneapolis; Ric Glazer Danay from California; Melanie Printup Hope from Toronto; Dawn Dark Mountain from Santa Fe, NM; and Erin Antonak from Mississippi.

The exhibit is on view from April 1 through November 31, with a reception featuring artists and special guest Drew Hayden Taylor on Saturday, October 9.

We offer a fond farewell to Tammy Tarbell, Mohawk ceramicist and friend

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the passing of respected ceramicist Tammy Tarbell (1950–2021). Tammy was a Turtle Clan member of the Mohawk Nation and resided in Syracuse, NY.

From 1992–1993 Tammy participated in a Metropolitan Life internship at the Museum. During her time as a member of the IIM’s extended family she constructed the first giant turtle for the Children’s Museum pond; donated a piece to our membership raffle; organized a Women of the Haudenosaunee exhibit and two mini-festivals.

Tammy is best known for her sculptures of Native women, a form based on her own personal journey and intended to uplift and empower women. These single figure compositions speak to the spirituality and inner beauty of women; and the responsibility an individual has for his/her decisions and life path. Her remarkable life-size Iroquois Woman sculpture has been on display in the Women’s World exhibit case since 1992 and continues to attract the attention of IIM visitors.

Tammy’s ceramic repertoire also includes masks, pots, small cushions, and dolls, many which feature beads, feathers, horse tails, and leather. Tammy explored a variety of materials until the 1980’s when her creative focus narrowed to clay.

She earned a BFA in ceramics from Syracuse University. As an emerging ceramicist, she was especially inspired by the dedication of San Ildefonso Pueblo potter Maria Martínez. During her studies, Tammy developed her own interpretation of the highly polished blackware made famous by Martínez by incorporating Haudenosaunee symbols and subjects. Turtles, bears, beavers, and cylindrical vessels finished with Raku firing and white crackle glazes also feature prominently in her expression.

In 1987 Tammy received a NYSCA Artist in Residence grant at the Metropolitan School for the Arts in Syracuse. The residency included the creation of Heritage Beckons, an ambitious 8’x18’ ceramic wall relief that addressed social and environmental issues and featured native clays.

Tammy received numerous awards in her lifetime including first and second place from Red Earth Art Festival (Oklahoma) and the Eiteljorg Museum Art Market (Indiana). In 1996, she was the first woman honored with the Iroquois Museum’s Excellence in Iroquois Arts Award. Her work has been exhibited throughout the United States, as well as in Germany and Belgium. She is represented in the permanent collections of the IIM; Everson Museum



Tammy Tarbell worked at the Iroquois Museum in the 1990s and her work is in the permanent collection.

of Art (Syracuse, NY); New York State Museum (Albany, NY); Ganondagan State Historic Site (Victor, NY); the Mashantucket Pequot Museum (Ledyard, CT); and many private collections.

Our condolences go out to her brother, IIM Cultural Interpreter Mike Tarbell; daughter Marnie; niece and former IIM staff member Mandy Tarbell, members of Tammy’s family; and friends. Her humor and talent will be missed.

Connect with Us

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