



MUSEUM of
NORTHERN
ARIZONA

Celebrating the Colorado Plateau

PRESS RELEASE

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Art, music, dance featured at Museum of Northern Arizona's Zuni Festival of Arts & Culture May 28 & 29

(Flagstaff, Ariz.) April 14, 2016 – Share in language, life ways and traditions of more than 50 Zuni artists at the 26th Annual Zuni Festival of Arts & Culture, Saturday, May 28, and Sunday, May 29, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Museum of Northern Arizona (MNA), 3101 N. Fort Valley Road in Flagstaff.

Ticket prices are \$12 for adults and \$8 for seniors (67+), students (with ID), American Indians (10+ with tribal affiliation) and youths 10-17. Children under 10 are free. The festival is presented in partnership with the A:shiwi A:wam Museum and Heritage Center (AAMHC) in Zuni, N.M.

Patrons will enjoy two days of authentic food, artist demonstrations and musical and dance performances by the Zuni Olla Maidens and Cellicion Zuni Dancers. Attendees can peruse and purchase a wide-array of art including pottery, jewelry, fetish carvings, beading and weaving by award-winning contemporary and traditional artists. Insightful documentaries and lectures by educators and scholars showcase Zuni identity, emergence and migration beliefs, worldviews, and current day issues on the reservation.

Jim Enote, AAMHC Executive Director, will present two discussions over the weekend. *Impersonators and Imposters* presents a critical look at Native imitators and concepts of identity, ownership and the sacred and profane. *Zuni Fakes and Replicas in Museums* examines the prevalence of fakes or replicas of authentic Zuni ceremonial objects. Enote will discuss Zuni pseudo-ceremonial collections and what it means for collectors and auction houses.

Cultural consultant Elroy Natachu Jr. will discuss and demonstrate the process of making *he'baloka*, or Zuni wheat pudding in *Zuni Ancestral Foods*.

Curtis Quam, AAMHC Cultural Educator at the A:shiwi A:wam Museum and Heritage Center will present two lectures. First, a screening, narration and critique of three 35mm silent films shot at Zuni Pueblo in 1923 by Owen Catell—*Land of the Zuni*, *Paper Bread-Making & Corn Grinding* and *Hairwashing*—followed by a discussion of the journey of the Zuni from Grand Canyon to “the middle place” in *Emergence and Migration*.

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“We welcome our friends from Zuni Pueblo and the A:shiwi Museum to Flagstaff to share the richness and diversity of their culture with our community,” said Director & CEO Carrie M. Heinonen. “This Festival reminds us of the Zunis’ deep history and connection to the landscape of northern Arizona and the Colorado Plateau.”

The spiritual and ancestral landscape of the Zuni includes the San Francisco Peaks (Sunha:kwin K'yaba:chu Yalanne) in the west, Steamboat Wash in the north, Mount Taylor in the east, the Salt and Gila River basins to the south, and the Grand Canyon, the Zuni place of origin. Zuni Pueblo is the largest of 19 pueblos in New Mexico with 11,000 members spread over 600 square miles. They are often considered the most traditional of all of the Southwestern pueblo people, having managed to preserve their core beliefs and identity while integrating useful parts of the modern world. The fact that the A:shiwi language bears no similarity to any other known language is indicative of their unique cultural identity.

A free member preview will be held Friday, May 27, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and includes a cocktail reception, silent auction and first opportunity to purchase artwork directly from the artist. To become a member, call 928.774.5211, ext. 219.

For more information on the 26th Annual Zuni Festival of Arts & Culture, including a schedule of events and participating artists, visit musnaz.org or call 928.774.5213.

Image Captions:

(Left) Young dancers await their turn to perform at the Zuni Festival of Arts & Culture © 2014

(Center) Zuni Olla Maiden Corliss Edaakie-Bobelu at the Zuni Festival of Arts & Culture © 2014

(Right) Weaver Aric Chopito demonstrates his craft at the Zuni Festival of Arts & Culture © 2014

The **Museum of Northern Arizona** inspires a sense of love and responsibility for the beauty and diversity of the Colorado Plateau. Founded in 1928, the 200-acre campus includes an historic exhibit building with nine galleries showcasing the geology, anthropology and art of the region; research and collections facilities; a museum shop and bookstore; and more than 450 public programs annually. To learn more, visit musnaz.org or call (928) 774-5213.

Location: Museum of Northern Arizona, 3101 N. Fort Valley Rd, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

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