



MUSEUM of  
NORTHERN  
ARIZONA

*Celebrating the Colorado Plateau*

**PRESS RELEASE**

**CONTACT** Cristen Crujido, Marketing Director, [ccrujido@musnaz.org](mailto:ccrujido@musnaz.org), 928.774.5211, ext. 273



## **MNA presents the 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Navajo Festival of Arts & Culture**

(Flagstaff, Ariz.) April 13, 2016 – More than 80 award-winning artists and presenters will travel from across the Navajo Nation for a weekend of cultural immersion at the Museum of Northern Arizona's 67th Annual Navajo Festival of Arts & Culture, Saturday and Sunday, August 6 and 7 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. The Museum is located at 3101 N. Fort Valley Road in Flagstaff.

Ticket prices are \$12 for adults and \$8 for students (with ID), American Indians (10+ with tribal affiliation) and youth (10-17). Children under 10 are free. The event is supported in part by the Arizona Commission on the Arts and the Flagstaff Arts Council with City of Flagstaff/BBB Revenues.

"Reaching the 67-year mark for the Navajo Festival of Arts & Culture is an incredible milestone on many levels," said Museum Director and CEO Carrie M. Heinonen. "The festival is a place where culture, creativity and community happen, and reflects the long-standing and mutually beneficial relationship between the Museum and the Navajo people."

It all began in August 1949 through a collaboration of traders on the western portion of the Navajo Reservation when 15 trading posts submitted ten of their best rugs to the Museum of Northern Arizona to compete for prizes. The Museum's goal was to align both weavers and traders in keeping alive the old styles of weaving and improving the quality of yarns, dyes and designs. Today, the weekend event draws thousands of visitors from across the region and around the world.

"What is unique to this festival is the rare opportunity to meet and engage with so many talented artists," said Cristen Crujido, MNA Director of Marketing & Public Affairs. "Each of our Heritage Program festivals provides an in-depth look into the cultures and peoples of the Colorado Plateau and allows wonderful exchanges between artists and visitors."

The public will have the opportunity to purchase traditional and contemporary examples of silverwork, jewelry, painting, weaving, folk carving, sculpture and more directly from the artists.

—MORE—

Artist demonstrations, traditional foods, musical performances and the pageantry of Navajo social dances will also be featured.

“Our main stage entertainment includes some of the region’s best performers,” said Crujido. “More than a dozen musical groups and dancers will take the stage Saturday and Sunday, including local favorite Sihasin.”

A free member preview, Friday, August 5, from 6 to 8 p.m., includes a juried arts award ceremony, silent auction and first opportunity to purchase artwork from participating artists. To become a member of the Museum, call 928.774.5213, ext 219.

The Museum of Northern Arizona is located three miles from historic downtown Flagstaff on scenic Highway 180 leading to the Grand Canyon.

The festival is supported by the Arizona Commission on the Arts which receives support from the State of Arizona and the National Endowment for the Arts, Arizona Humanities, City of Flagstaff BBB Revenues and Flagstaff Arts Council.

For more information, including a complete list of scheduled performances and participating artists, visit [musnaz.org](http://musnaz.org). Information is also available by phone at (928) 774-5213.

\*\*\*

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](http://musnaz.org) or call (928) 774-5213.

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

**Phone & Website** 928.774.5213, [musnaz.org](http://musnaz.org)

**Connect with MNA** @museumofnaz #museumofnaz

