

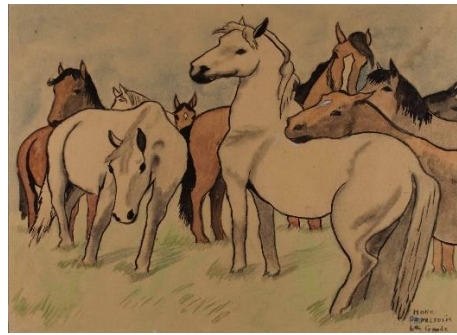


MUSEUM of  
NORTHERN  
ARIZONA

*Celebrating the Colorado Plateau*

**PRESS RELEASE**

**CONTACT** Cristen Crujido, Marketing Director, ccrujido@musnaz.org, 928.774.5211, ext. 273



### ***When We Were Young: The Legacy of MNA's Junior Indian Art Show* honors young artists of the Colorado Plateau**

(Flagstaff, Ariz.) June 3, 2016 — More than 30 works, honoring the young artists of the Colorado Plateau, are on display at the Museum of Northern Arizona (MNA). *When We Were Young: The Legacy of MNA's Junior Indian Art Show* (1931-1976) features work by Native American artists and craftsmen, many pieces of which have not been exhibited in more than 50 years. On view through fall 2016, the exhibition is included with Museum admission: \$12 for adults and \$8 for students (with ID), American Indians (10+ with tribal affiliation) and youth (10-17). Members, and children under 10, are free.

*When We Were Young*, curated by MNA Supervisory Archaeologist, Jim Collette, was mounted in conjunction with the inaugural Youth Fest in May as a testament to MNA's long-term support of art education and Native artists. Featured artists include: Ramon Albert, Jr. (Ramon Dalangyawma), Tony Begay, Hoke Denetsosie, Anthony Honahnie, Delbridge Honanie, Leroy Kewanyama, Raymond Naha, Dennis Numkena, Swayne "Webb" Polacca, Loren Phillips, Randall "Randy" Sahmie, Gibson Talahytewa, Terrance Talaswaima and Hansen Twoitsie.

From 1931 to 1976, MNA hosted the Junior Indian Art Show, showcasing work by youth between the ages of 6-18. The annual exhibit was originally conceived as the *Junior Art Show* in 1931 and later narrowed to include only children attending schools on tribal reservations. In 1947, it was renamed the *Junior Art Show for Indian Schools*, and in 1951 became the *Junior Indian Art Show*.

"The success of the *Junior Indian Art Show* is a remarkable legacy that can be seen, today, in the works of many celebrated artists and craftsmen," said Carrie M. Heinonen, CEO and the Robert Breunig Director of MNA. "Numerous artists who participated achieved renown as working professionals in the following decades."

Both Honanie and Talaswaima were founders of the artist collective Artist Hopid, along with Neil David Sr., Michael Kabotie and Milland Lomakema while Hoke Denetsosie became a well-known illustrator of children's books including the Little Herder series about Navajo life.

In addition to works featured in *When We Were Young*, more than 250 pieces of children's artwork have been accessioned into MNA's Fine Arts Collection. Many were purchased by Museum co-founder, Mary-Russell Ferrell Colton, an advocate of art education, Native American rights and the support of Native American arts.

—MORE—

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, 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

## IMAGES

**Left:** Gloria Honanie (Hopi, Age 15), *Corn and Cloud*, 1954. Tempera on board, C332.

**Middle:** Hoke Denetsosie (Navajo, Age 10-12), *Horses in a Meadow*, 1934. Watercolor and crayon on paper, C24.

**Right:** Terrance Talaswaima (Hopi, Age 12), *Boy with Bow and Arrows*, 1952. Watercolor on paper, C353.

