

TAMÁSTSLIKT CULTURAL INSTITUTE



"LEGEND & LEGACY: Jackson Sundown and Happy Canyon A Century Later"

Pendleton, Oregon
For immediate release

A new exhibit at [Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute](#), "Legend & Legacy: Jackson Sundown and Happy Canyon A Century Later", opens Saturday, September 2, 2016. Opening day is free to the public.

This year marks the official 100th anniversary of the [Happy Canyon](#) pageant, a nightly show presented during the Pendleton Round-Up each year. Roy Raley, the Pendleton Round-Up's first president, believed that the community and visitors attending the Round-Up needed first-class community entertainment for their evenings. Working with local Tribal members and historians, Raley wrote the script for Happy Canyon, planned the scenery, and directed the first pageants. Today's pageant begins with the portrayal of the early American Indian culture. Emigrants, seeking a new life, come to the frontier and soon the two cultures clash. Fighting breaks out, then peace comes and the scene changes to that of a wild frontier town. The show ends with a patriotic flourish that is unique and not seen anywhere else.

It is also the anniversary of the famous 1916 saddle bronc ride of Jackson Sundown for which he won the World Title in the Saddle Bronc Championship at the [Pendleton Round-Up](#). Jackson, a well known horseman and a Nez Perce Tribal member, was a crowd favorite with his big sombrero and his hair in braids, tied under his chin held in place with a handkerchief, with bright colored shirt, and angora chaps. In 1911, Sundown made the Saddle Bronc Finals for the World Championship at the Pendleton Round-Up, which ended in controversy and protest. He competed against George Fletcher, an African American, and John Spain, a European American. In 1915, Sundown made the Saddle Bronc Finals for the World Championship at the Pendleton Round-Up, and again placed third. A friend paid his entry fee and convinced him to ride again in 1916 where he ultimately won the world championship over two European American cowboys.



The exhibition, created and curated by staff, historians, and collectors, includes artifacts, photos, and written stories. Visitors will learn about the history of the Happy Canyon Pageant and the Umatilla Confederated Tribes' participation in its story and presentation as well as the championship ride of Jackson Sundown.

The exhibit will be open through October 29, 2016.

For more information, go to www.tamastlikt.org.

About Tamástlikt Cultural Institute

Tamástlikt Cultural Institute is owned and operated by the [Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation](#). A Blue Star museum, Tamástlikt is one of the many museums across the nation that offers free admission to families of active duty servicemen and women year-round.

In addition to the museum and interpretive center, Tamástlikt operates a museum store, café, and offers meeting room rentals. Tamástlikt is open six days a week, 10am-5pm, Monday-Saturday; closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Kinship Café is open from 11am to 2pm on the same days the museum is open.

Tamástlikt is located at 47106 Wildhorse Boulevard at the far end of the main driveway of the Wildhorse Resort & Casino, 10 minutes east of Pendleton, Oregon.

Tamástslikt can be reached via Exit 216 off Interstate I-84 or by following the “Mission-LaGrande” sign south off Highway 11 onto Highway 331.

For more information, contact Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute at 541.429.7700 or visit www.tamastslíkt.org.

Media: for more information, photos, interviews, please contact Michelle Liberty at Attitude Marketing, 509.540.0931 or email liberty@getattitude.net.