

TAMÁSTSLIKT CULTURAL INSTITUTE



Celilo Falls & Fishermen

PEPSI PRIMETIME @ THE MUSEUM PRESENTS Stories & Songs Celilo Falls and Columbia River

Pendleton, OR - for immediate release

Pendleton Bottling Co./Pepsi presents another program in the Pepsi Primetime @ the Museum series - "Stories & Songs". On Wednesday, May 31, 5:30pm, at [Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute](#), three Oregon Folklife Network culture keepers who are also closely associated with the Confederated Tribes of Umatilla will explore the traditions of Ncíwana, the big river, through songs and stories for a multi-generational audience from northeastern Oregon. Admission is free.

Fred Hill, Thomas Morning Owl, and Toby Patrick collectively have profound knowledge learned from their families about ceremonies such as “first fish”, self-regulation of fishing practices under the system of reciprocity, tribal songs and prayers about water and salmon and life, and the traditional tools and containers that river people, Wanapam, and first salmon people, Wykanashpam, created.

All three are master singers on both hand and big drum and participate in leadership of the Umatilla Longhouse. They each have prepared fish for feasts there as well. All of these men were schooled in Plateau cultural manufacture of goods for trade and practical use.

For audience members from the ‘greatest generation’, Celilo Falls may be a real place in their memory. For the younger generation, it may be a place they’ve heard stories

about from their families. But for today's young people, the magnificent fishery is a myth, a legend, or an imaginary place.

The storytellers' stories and songs have the power to bring to life what is often referred to as a “dead” river, now a series of reservoirs behind dams where once a ferocious yet benevolent force sustained Plateau peoples for millennia. The program will also make Celilo real again - for at least an hour or so.

Pepsi Primetime @ the Museum is FREE and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

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. Free admission is offered on the first Friday of every month.

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. Tamástlikt 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 Tamástlikt Cultural Institute at 541.429.7700 or visit www.tamastlikt.org.