

## TAMÁSTSLIKT CULTURAL INSTITUTE



OPENING AT TAMÁSTSLIKT CULTURAL INSTITUTE

# SAVAGES AND PRINCESSES

## The Persistence of Native American Stereotypes

presented by  
CHI St. Anthony Hospital and Mahoney Group

*For immediate release*

Pendleton, OR

Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute presents "SAVAGES AND PRINCESSES: The Persistence of Native American Stereotypes" opening on **July 5** through October 19. The public is invited to view the exhibit on opening day for **FREE!**

Stereotypes of Native American peoples are ubiquitous and familiar. The exhibition *Savages and Princesses: The Persistence of Native American Stereotypes* brings together thirteen contemporary Native American visual artists who reclaim their right to represent their identities as Native Americans. Whether using humor, subtlety, or irony, the telling is always fiercely honest and dead-on. Images and styles are created from traditional, contemporary, and mass culture forms.

The exhibition intends to counteract the disappearance of Native portrayals. It embraces Native Americans' power to replace stereotypical images that permeate the

current pop culture landscape. Recognizing that stereotypes often occur without conscious awareness, the exhibition includes didactic information that explores common stereotypes about Native peoples that are falsehoods, followed by the truths behind them.

According to exhibition curator America Meredith, American society has great difficulty acknowledging its past with Native peoples or allowing them visibility in the present. The exhibition's artists use the unexpected—humor, emotion, or shock—to encourage viewers to question and challenge stereotypes, even unspoken, unacknowledged ones.

The artists represented are:

Matthew Bearden (Citizen Potawatomi-Kickapoo-Blackfeet-Lakota) mixed media artist, painter, Tulsa, OK

Heidi BigKnife (Shawnee Tribe), jeweler, Tulsa, OK

Mel Cornshucker (United Keetoowah Band), ceramic artist, Tulsa, OK

Tom Farris (Otoe-Missouria-Cherokee), mixed media artist, Norman, OK

Anita Fields (Osage-Muscogee), ceramic artist, Stillwater, OK

Kenny Glass (Wyandotte-Cherokee), textile artist, regalia maker, Tahlequah, OK

Shan Goshorn (Eastern Band Cherokee), photographer, Tulsa, OK

Juanita Pahdopony (Comanche), sculptor, Lawton, OK

K. H. Poole (Caddo-Delaware), draftsman, Oklahoma City, OK

Zach Presley (Chickasaw), collage and digital artist, Durant, OK

Hoka Skenandore (Oneida-Oglala Lakota-Luiseño), mixed media artist, Shawnee, OK

Karin Walkingstick (Cherokee Nation), ceramic artist, Claremore, OK

Micah Wesley (Muscogee-Kiowa), mixed media artist, Norman, OK

For more information, go to [www.tamastslkt.org](http://www.tamastslkt.org).

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### About Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute

Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute is owned and operated by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. A Blue Star museum, Tamástslíkt is one of the many museums across the nation that offers free admission to families of active duty servicemen and women year-round. Tamástslíkt is also a member of the North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM) Association and offers free admission to members of participating museums.

In addition to the museum and interpretive center, Tamástslíkt operates a museum store, café, and offers meeting room rentals. Tamástslíkt 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.

Tamástslíkt 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. Tamástslíkt 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](http://www.tamastslíkt.org).

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**Media:** for more information, photos, interviews, please contact Michelle Liberty at Attitude Marketing, 509.540.0931 or email [liberty@getattitude.net](mailto:liberty@getattitude.net).