

TACOMA ART MUSEUM

1701 Pacific Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98402

MEDIA RELEASE

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Sunday: Celebrate Contemporary Native American Art and Culture at Tacoma Art Museum's 7th Annual Free Northwest Native Celebration

Tacoma, WA – [Tacoma Art Museum](#) welcomes all to the 7th annual [Northwest Native Celebration](#) on Sunday, May 15, 2016 from 10 am to 4 pm. The celebration highlights the vitality and resilience of Northwest Native artists and communities through contemporary and traditional Native culture and art. This community festival offers free admission to all visitors, and begins with a blessing by the [Puyallup Canoe Family](#). See visual and performance art, participate in hands-on activities, listen to spoken word and storytelling, get inspired with a runway fashion show, and connect with artists at the art

market. Visitors are also welcome to view TAMs exhibitions, including the special exhibition *Edvard Munch and the Sea*.

“Northwest Native Celebration brings together some of the greatest Native artistic voices of the Northwest. The event changes a little bit each year, which keeps the experience dynamic for our visitors,” said Britt Board, Community Engagement and Studio Programs Manager at TAM. “We showcase visual arts talents and beyond. This year, we’ll feature storytelling and spoken word artists, as well as drumming to accompany the fashion show.”

New artists alongside familiar returning artists and designers offer visitors the chance to experience a variety of authentic, hand-crafted art, including traditional carvings, glasswork, and textiles. Visit the art market to learn about drums by [Joe Seymour of Squaxin Island/Acoma](#), prints from Upper Skagit’s Tacoma-based [Araquin Designs](#), intricate Tlingit metalwork by [Jennifer’s Copper and Silver](#), the contemporary digital illustrations of [Jeffrey Veregge](#) of Port Gamble S’Klallam, and much more. The afternoon fashion show spotlights the work of four contemporary Native clothing designers, including Tacoma’s [Transcendence](#); [Edzerza Designs](#) from Vancouver, BC; and Seattle-based [ARAE](#) and [MEKA Clothing](#).

Books and Looks, an interactive storytime in the galleries, is a new activity this year. Join TAM educators for engaging readings of children’s books by Native authors, paired with discussions of a related contemporary Native artwork in the galleries. Three stories will be shared: [Shi-shi-etko](#), by Nicola I. Campbell with illustrator Kim LaFave, at 11:00 am; [Greet the Dawn: The](#)

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[Lakota Way](#), written and illustrated by S.D. Nelson, at 1:00 pm; and [Dragonfly Kites](#), by Tomson Highway with illustrations by Julie Flett, at 3:30 pm.

This event honors the traditions of Northwest Native culture in our region and supports community connections. Join TAM in celebrating this annual local tradition. For more information and a full schedule, see TacomaArtMuseum.org/events, click on [Northwest Native Celebration](#); and Tacoma Art Museum's [Facebook](#) event page.



Image Credits:

MEKA's fashions on the runway at the 2015 Northwest Native Celebration.

Peter Boome, Coast Salish. [Araquin Designs](#). [Adaptation Serigraph Black and Color on White](#), 22 x 22 inches.

Jennifer Younger, Tlingit. [Jennifer's Copper and Silver](#). Sterling silver *Lovebirds* bracelets, custom order.

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About Tacoma Art Museum

Celebrating 80 years, Tacoma Art Museum is an anchor in the city's downtown and a gathering space for connecting people through art. TAM's collection contains more than 4,700 works, with an emphasis on the art and artists of the Northwest and broader American west. The collection includes the largest retrospective museum collection of glass art by Tacoma native Dale Chihuly on continued view; the most significant collection of jewelry by Northwest artists; key holdings in 19th century European and 20th century American art; and one of the finest collections of Japanese woodblock prints on the West Coast. In 2014, TAM welcomed a gift of 295 works of western American art in the Haub Family Collection, one of the premier collections in the nation and the first major western American art museum collection in the Northwest. The Haub gift also included \$20 M for new galleries and endowed funds. In January 2016, TAM announced the gift of the Benaroya Collection, including 225 works of art. The Benaroya gift also includes nearly \$14 M in funding for new gallery space to showcase the collection and an endowment for a dedicated curator and care of the collection. The Haub Family Galleries opened in 2014; the Benaroya addition is expected to open in fall 2018.

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HOURS – Tuesdays–Sundays 10 am–5 pm

ADMISSION – Adult \$14; Student, Military, Senior (65+) \$12; Family \$35 (2 adults and up to 4 children under 18).
Children 5 and under free. **Third Thursdays free from 5–8 pm.** Members always free.

CONTACT – 253-272-4258, <http://www.TacomaArtMuseum.org>