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Eiteljorg

Celebrating 35 Years

Storyteller

Eiteljorg Museum Magazine

Winner of the **Pinnacle Award** for Best Magazine from the Public Relations Society of America — Hoosier Chapter in 2021, 2022 and 2024, and winner of PRSA's **Best of Show Award** for public relations projects in 2023.

Volume 19, Number 3

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Editor's Note
Every effort is made to ensure that exhibition images published in *Storyteller* magazine accurately reflect the artworks on exhibit at the Eiteljorg Museum during the dates listed. Details of announced events, exhibitions and prices might change too late for the *Storyteller's* publication deadlines. For comments or questions, call 317.275.1315 or email bcorbin@eiteljorg.com.

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Monica Raphael, artist and curator, wins impressive award in Santa Fe

Join us in congratulating Monica Raphael (Anishinaabe / Sičąŋǰu Lakota), who is the Thomas G. and Susan C. Hoback curator of Great Lakes Native art, cultures and community engagement at the Eiteljorg. A longtime artist, Monica entered one of her works into the prestigious Santa Fe Indian Market Best of Show competition. On Aug. 16, her piece won Best in Classification in Beadwork and Quillwork. Monica's extraordinary piece draws inspiration from a beaded saddle in the Eiteljorg's collections of Native art.

Having won many awards for her beadwork and quillwork designs, Monica Raphael participated in the Eiteljorg Indian Market and Festival multiple times before joining the Eiteljorg staff as Hoback curator in 2023.

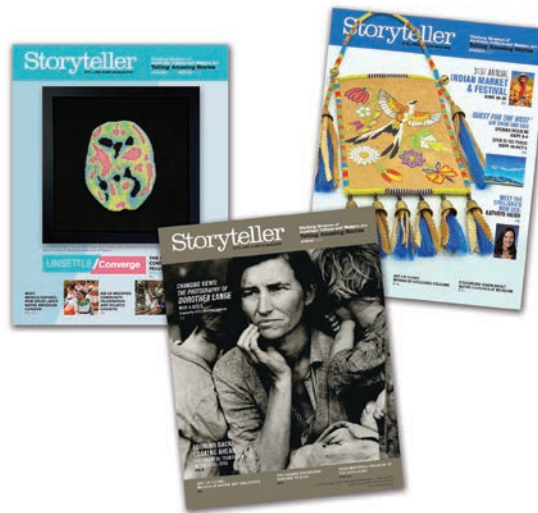


One of her previous beaded quillwork pieces, a bracelet titled *Nagamo "She Sings"* (2019), is currently on view in the Eiteljorg's exhibition *Expressions of Life: Native Art in North America*.

Top statewide PR award goes to Storyteller magazine

The magazine you are reading, the Eiteljorg's *Storyteller*, won a statewide award for best periodical for the fourth year in a row. The Public Relations Society of America-Hoosier Chapter held its annual Pinnacle Awards on June 12. PRSA awards are presented in several categories to recognize top achievements in the public relations industry in Indiana. Contest judges were from the PRSA chapter in Hawaii, and the Eiteljorg competed along with big PR firms, other nonprofits and universities. The three issues of *Storyteller* magazine from 2023 received the top honor in the periodicals category, the Pinnacle Award, which recognizes quality of writing and visuals, effectiveness in messaging and editorial judgment.

The *Storyteller* team recognized for the 2023 issues of the magazine included editor Bryan Corbin, graphic designer Mike Fasig of Honeymoon Image & Design and digital marketing manager Brooke Sullivan. Also recognized were several former employees: past vice president for advancement Nataly



Lowder, past director of marketing and communications Bert Beiswanger, past digital marketing manager Dani Vasquez, and past marketing intern Camryn Daniels. Receiving this prestigious award yet again is a reflection of the effort that goes into the *Storyteller* magazine, directly or indirectly, from staff throughout the museum.

Read the award-winning issues at this link: Eiteljorg.org/storyteller-magazine.

On the front cover:

- Preston Singletary (Tlingit, born 1963), *Raven Steals the Sun (Gagaan Awutáawu Yéil)*, 2008, blown, hot-sculpted, and sand-carved glass. TX.2018.4.51, [VA.2009.28] Collection of Museum of Glass, gift of the artist. Image courtesy of the artist and Museum of Glass, Tacoma.
- Music and dance groups will perform at the Eiteljorg Día de Muertos Community Celebration on Oct. 26.
- Families will be delighted by the Eiteljorg's holiday model railroad, the Fifth Third Bank *Jingle Rails: The Great Western Adventure*, running Nov. 16-Jan. 20. Image by Alec Gray
- John Vanausdall, former Eiteljorg Museum President and CEO. Image by Casey Cronin Photography

Embracing Fall at the Eiteljorg Museum: A Season of Renewal and Relevance

Dear Readers:

Autumn begins on a bitter-sweet note as we remember the Eiteljorg Museum's former president and CEO, John Vanausdall, who passed away Aug. 17. During his 27-year tenure, John was a driving force that made the Eiteljorg Museum what it is today. I am deeply grateful for my predecessor and his decades of service to the museum and the community. You can read about his indelible impact in the pages of this magazine.

Despite our sadness over losing him, John would want us to face the future resolutely and forge ahead. This fall the Eiteljorg Museum will share an array of beloved and innovative programs that reflect our commitment to remaining relevant and meaningful to our community. Guided by author Nina Simon's seminal work, *The Art of Relevance*, we are keenly aware of the necessity to adapt and evolve to serve our diverse audiences effectively.

One of our most anticipated exhibitions this fall is *Preston Singletary: Raven and the Box of Daylight*. This compelling exhibit offers a fresh interpretation of Tlingit oral tradition through the medium of glass art. Singletary's work showcases extraordinary artistry and honors and reimagines traditional narratives in a way that will resonate with new visitors and longtime supporters.

We also are deeply committed to enhancing our foundational programs by implementing thoughtful improvements. These changes are driven by valuable feedback from our dedicated staff, Board members, volunteers and community partners.

Our *Jingle Rails* Task Force has been busy crafting an even more enchanting holiday experience. This year, we're

excited to introduce new features during the annual holiday model railroad display, such as a Winter Market with local artists on the weekends leading up to the holidays, and beautifully illuminated trees outside to extend a warm invitation to all who pass by. We will also add a miniature of the historic Madam Walker Theatre, made from all-natural materials, to *Jingle Rails*. We will work with the task force to dream up new ways to enhance the experience in years to come.

The Eiteljorg Museum values the insights and guidance provided by our stakeholders. We have a long tradition of working with our Native American Advisory Council, whose members were involved with the reinstallation of the Native American Galleries. We continued this tradition with the recent *Acts of Faith* exhibition by building new relationships with community faith leaders to advise on the content of the show. Their contributions have been instrumental in refining our exhibitions, making them more inclusive and representative of the rich cultural tapestry we strive to reflect. This collaborative approach enriches our programming and deepens our connection with the communities we serve.

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce the formation of a new task force dedicated to developing a comprehensive community engagement strategy. This initiative will focus on actively participating in local events and building meaningful relationships throughout Indiana. Our goal is to forge stronger connections within our community, fostering a greater sense of involvement and belonging beginning in our own backyard.



During the 19th annual *Quest for the West*® Art Show and Sale, Sept. 6-7, a painting by Brett Allen Johnson, *Pueblo Shapes*, received the Harrison Eiteljorg Purchase Award. The Western Art Society gifted it to the museum. From left to right, *Quest* Chair Catherine Turner; artist Brett Allen Johnson of Lehi, Utah; David Found, president of the Western Art Society; and Kathryn Haigh, Eiteljorg President and CEO.

Image courtesy of Brittany Erwin Photography



Brett Allen Johnson (b. 1984)
Pueblo Shapes, 2024
Oil, 38 x 30 inches
2024 *Quest for the West*®
Harrison Eiteljorg Purchase Award
Gift of the Western Art Society

vice president for curatorial affairs and collections. This pivotal role will play a key part in shaping the future of our exhibitions and collections.

Join Us in This Journey

Your support is crucial as we navigate this exciting period of transformation. We look forward to engaging with you and hearing your feedback on our evolving initiatives and programs. Together, we can ensure that the Eiteljorg Museum remains a vibrant and relevant institution, dedicated to celebrating and exploring the diverse cultural heritage of our community, as our friend John Vanausdall would want and expect us to do. As the leaves change color and autumn settles in, we invite you to join us in embracing this season of transformation, renewal and relevance. We look forward to seeing you at the museum and sharing in the rich experiences that lie ahead.

Kathryn Haigh
President and CEO

Staff and Leadership Updates

We are thrilled to welcome Conner Richberg (Mohawk, Turtle Clan) as the museum's new festivals manager. Conner brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to our team, and we are confident her expertise will greatly enhance the offerings at *Jingle Rails* and the Indian Market and Festival. We also are in the process of recruiting a new

GLASS BLOWN. MIND BLOWN.

Tlingit glass sculptures, video and soundscape create an immersive experience opening Nov. 8

PRESTON SINGLETARY: RAVEN AND THE BOX OF DAYLIGHT



Raven Man (Yéil Káa), 2017

All artworks, unless otherwise specified, are by Preston Singletary (Tlingit, born 1963). Blown, hot-sculpted, and sand-carved glass. Courtesy of the artist

Preston Singletary: *Raven and the Box of Daylight*, a critically acclaimed exhibition by an internationally renowned Tlingit artist, opens Nov. 8 at the Eiteljorg Museum. In a departure from traditional exhibitions, *Raven and the Box of Daylight* is an immersive experience in which works of glass tell the story of how the Tlingit cultural hero Raven brought light to his people.

The Eiteljorg, home to one of the largest collections of contemporary Native art in the world, is the only Midwest destination this year for *Raven and the Box of Daylight*. In the exhibition, artist Preston Singletary (Tlingit) creates a “must-see-it-to-believe-it” experience. The smooth glowing sculptures of Raven and other central figures from Tlingit oral tradition have a fluid, lifelike quality. An ethereal soundscape and lighting effects fill the exhibit’s five sections.

“Preston Singletary is a prolific contemporary Native artist whom I have admired for a long time,” Eiteljorg President and CEO Kathryn Haigh said. “We are honored and excited to welcome this mesmerizing exhibition for



Fur Seal (Deenáa), 2010

our visitors to experience.”

Based in Seattle, Singletary blends European glassblowing with Northwest Native themes from his Tlingit culture, such as transformation, animals and shamanism. Having studied glass art at the Pilchuck Glass School co-founded by glass sculpture icon Dale Chihuly, Singletary was trained by Venetian glassmaking masters; he also studied Scandinavian design in Sweden. His artworks are in the collections of major museums worldwide.

“Preston Singletary is an extraordinarily important contemporary Native artist whose virtuosity we are thrilled to celebrate,” said Dorene Red Cloud (Oglala Lakota), Eiteljorg curator of Native American art. “Those who are not already familiar with his work will become his admirers after experiencing his adaptation of how Raven brought light to the Tlingit, and Singletary will gain much more recognition — recognition that he deserves.”

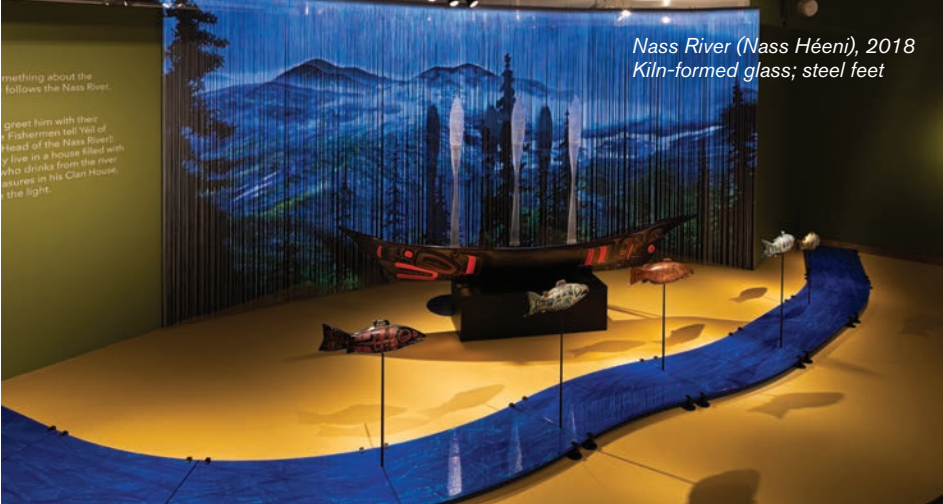
A modern retelling

The Tlingit people live primarily in Alaska. Singletary’s artistic vision uses



Feather Pulled Through Water (Héen Alts'ák), 2017

modern materials to retell a Tlingit story that has been passed down through countless generations, in which Raven — also named Yéil, a Trickster — used his clever abilities to bring the sun, moon and stars to his people who had been dwelling in darkness. The artist developed his glass sculptures of Raven and other key figures in the story while collaborating with a culture bearer, the late Walter Porter (Tlingit, 1944–2013). With approximately 63 glass sculptures, the immersive exhibition has appeared



Nass River (Nass Héeni), 2018
Kiln-formed glass; steel feet

The new exhibition *Raven and the Box of Daylight* tells Raven's story through beautiful blown glass, an ethereal soundscape and video projection.

PRESTON SINGLETARY RAVEN AND THE BOX OF DAYLIGHT

Special Exhibition Gallery
NOV. 8, 2024-MARCH 9, 2025

Sponsored at the Eiteljorg by:
Arthur Jordan Foundation



in six major art museums, with the Eiteljorg the first in this region to host it.

Longtime Eiteljorg Museum supporters will recognize Singletary's work and design style. One of his glass sculpture pieces, *Land Otter Encounter*, (2012), is now on view in the Eiteljorg's Native American Galleries. Singletary was one of the artists prominently featured in a 2017 TV documentary the Eiteljorg co-produced with WFYI in Indianapolis, *Native Art Now!*, about the Eiteljorg Contemporary Art Fellowship.

"I am honored that *Raven and the Box of Daylight* received extended interest by more museums in showing the work, beyond the initial scheduled venues. When it began in 2018 it was a monumental effort to create such a large body of work and synchronize

Continued on page 4



White Raven (Dleit Yéil), 2018



Salmon (Xáat), 2018

All artworks, unless otherwise specified, are by Preston Singletary (Tlingit, born 1963). Blown, hot-sculpted, and sand-carved glass. Courtesy of the artist



Hat (S'aaxw), 2018

Continued from page 3

all the elements," Singletary said. "I'm excited to be hosted by the Eiteljorg Museum. As a Native artist, I've known about their Contemporary Art Fellowship for 20 years, and I'm looking forward to seeing the museum and learning more about how they collect and support contemporary Native art."

Preston Singletary: Raven and the Box of Daylight is organized by the artist and Museum of Glass in Tacoma, Washington, and is guest curated by Miranda Belarde-Lewis (Zuni Pueblo / Tlingit), Ph.D. The multisensory visitor experience was designed by zoe | juniper.

The exhibition at the Eiteljorg is funded in part by the Arthur Jordan Foundation and Robert Lehman Foundation with additional support from numerous museum donors; Raymond James, Citizens Energy Group, Indiana Humanities and National Endowment for the Humanities are sponsors at the Eiteljorg.

Raven and the Box of Daylight is an ideal exhibition for repeat visits, as there is so much to experience and guests will want to return and bring friends to see it, too. Continuing from Nov. 8, 2024, through March 9, 2025, at the Eiteljorg, the exhibition is included with regular admission.



Thunderbird Man (Xe'itl Káa), 2018



Artist Preston Singletary (Tlingit) in his studio in Seattle
Photo by Jovelle Tamayo, courtesy of the American Craft Council Library and Archives

PRESTON SINGLETARY
RAVEN
AND THE BOX OF
DAYLIGHT

Don't miss Eiteljorg public programs related to the exhibition:

Thursday
NOV 7
7-9 p.m.

**Members-Only
Exhibition Opening
Preview Party**



Members can meet artist Preston Singletary (Tlingit) and curator Miranda Belarde-Lewis (Zuni Pueblo / Tlingit), Ph.D., and get a sneak preview during a celebration of the new exhibition. Registration is \$50 per person; contact membership@eiteljorg.com or use the QR code above.

Friday
NOV 8

Opening Day Public Events

Both are included with museum admission:

11 a.m.-Noon

Guided Tour of the Gallery

Explore the *Raven* exhibition with the artist and guest curator.

1:30 p.m.

**Continued Conversation with
Preston Singletary and Miranda
Belarde-Lewis**

Join the artist and curator in Clowes Sculpture Court as they discuss the exhibition, Tlingit culture, stories, artist collaborations and more.

Saturday
DEC. 7

9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Blown Glass Workshop

Create your own blown glass piece at a hot glass studio set up outside the museum. Registration: \$40 per person at Eiteljorg.org/Events.

1-5 p.m.

Blown Glass Demonstration

Watch artists from the local Hot Blown Glass studio create ornate blown glass objects. It's included with museum admission.

Saturday
MAR 8, 2025

The same blown glass programs will be offered March 8, with the workshop at 9 a.m. (registration required) and demonstration at 1 p.m. (included with admission).

See additional details, page 18.

Native cultures celebrated at unforgettable events Oct. 14 and Nov. 9

By Alisa Nordholt-Dean, vice president for public programs and Beeler family director of education

Dancing, singing, intricately carved masks and stunning regalia are just a few highlights of a not-to-be-missed Indigenous Peoples' Day program focused on the arts of Native peoples of the Northwest Coast on Monday, Oct. 14, when admission is free.

Longtime Eiteljorg enthusiasts may remember high-energy performances by the Git-Hoan Dancers (People of the Salmon), a group founded by Tsimshian carver, singer and dancer David Albert Boxley. Utilizing hand-carved masks, wood and skin drums, and handmade regalia, the Git-Hoan Dancers depict characters in the stories of the Tsimshian First Nations People. They first appeared at the Eiteljorg Indian Market and Festival in the 1990s, and have delighted audiences across the world, including at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington D.C.

David A. Boxley is an acclaimed artist, having carved more than 80 totem poles, countless bentwood



Git-Hoan Dancers
Image by Steve Quinn



Kandi McGilton (Tsimshian)

boxes, masks, drums, rattles and many other traditional Tsimshian pieces that can be found in museums and private collections. Under his teaching, his eldest son David Robert Boxley has also gone on to an illustrious career as an artist and culture bearer.

Well-known for his carvings and paintings, David R. Boxley works in the distinctive Formline design style unique to Pacific Northwest Native American art. He will conduct art demonstrations, sharing his remarkable talent during Indigenous Peoples' Day programming.

Tsimshian beadwork artist and weaver Kandi McGilton will demonstrate for audiences the Annette Island style of basket weaving, an endangered art form from the southern Alaskan coast. Kandi was a student of master weavers and is a self-taught beadwork artist. She is best known for her award-winning octopus or "devilfish" bags.

Indigenous Peoples' Day at the Eiteljorg is a great way to learn about the arts of Native peoples of the Pacific Northwest, ahead of the Nov. 8 opening of *Preston Singletary: Raven and the Box of Daylight*.

Dante Biss-Grayson Fashion Show Nov. 9.

Put on your most fashionable outfit and strut over to the Eiteljorg on Saturday Nov. 9 to experience the culmination of an artist residency with Native fashion designer Dante Biss-Grayson (Osage). This event will feature a stunning new collection from Biss-Grayson's Sky-Eagle Collection, along with select pieces from his archives. The mini-runway show will showcase the beauty and diversity of Native fashion, celebrating the resilience and creativity of Native communities.

An artist, poet, activist and U.S. Air Force veteran, Biss-Grayson turned to painting to work through traumas he experienced during multiple deployments and to bring attention to important issues impacting Native communities. His talents evolved and blossomed, and in collaboration with his wife Yanti, Sky-Eagle Collection Fashion House was born.

Biss-Grayson's designs have graced the red carpet on stars such as Amber Midthunder of *Prey* and Jillian Dion of *Killers of the Flower Moon*; and on runways in London, New York, Cannes and Santa Fe. His collection is contemporary, modern, and includes both men's and women's clothing, belts and accessories.

Don't miss this opportunity to see Native fashion first-



Dante Biss-Grayson (Osage)

hand and meet designer Dante Biss-Grayson. Visit [Eiteljorg.org/Events](https://www.eiteljorg.org/Events) for reservations. The mini-runway fashion show is a ticketed event. Partners and sponsors of the event are: Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis, Purdue Native American Educational and Cultural Center, and the Indiana Native American Indian Affairs Commission.

Artists in Residence

Two other artists in residence are at the Eiteljorg this fall: Richard Gabriel, Jr. from Oct. 22 to 26, and Bobby Silas (Hopi Tribe) from Nov. 12 to 23. During each artist's residency, museum visitors can ask questions, watch demonstrations and learn more during open studio sessions. See page 17 for details.

Artists in Residence program at the Eiteljorg sponsored by:



Drs. Susan and Robert Stephens
Artist in Residence Fund

Dante Biss-Grayson Fashion Show
also presented by our partners
and sponsors:



Día de Muertos Community Celebration: a free, festive mix of music, dance and art

By Elizabeth Bostelman, public programs manager, and Madison Hincks, public programs coordinator

Join us Oct. 26 for the Eiteljorg Museum's 12th annual Día de Muertos Community Celebration. What began as a partnership with Nopal Cultural more than a decade ago has grown exponentially into one of the biggest Day of the Dead celebrations locally. Thousands attend and enjoy the mariachi orchestra music, traditional dance and cultural vibes. Visitors are captivated by the Catrina parade of elaborately dressed models. Best of all, admission to the family-friendly event is free.



At the Día de Muertos Community Celebration, visitors enjoy performances by several music, dance and cultural groups.

At this year's event, organized in partnership with Arte Mexicano en Indiana, you can browse Mercado vendors, purchase delicious Pan de Muerto bread and colorful jewelry and accessories, and make art with Artist in Residence Richard Gabriel, Jr. During the celebration, take time to view the Community Art and Altar Exhibit, open Oct. 7-Nov. 3 inside the

museum's Ruth Lilly Theater. It features ofrendas, or intricately decorated altars, created by local community partners, including the Consulado de México en Indianápolis, the Indianapolis Central Library, Mujeres Conectadas en Indy, Christ Church Cathedral and more. At a community altar, you can add a note to honor the memory of a loved one. And, take in an exhibit of Día de Muertos artworks by Luis Fitch.

Traditions behind the celebration

With roots going back thousands of years to Indigenous traditions in Mexico, Día de Muertos gathers communities together to celebrate and remember loved ones who have passed on. The traditions have evolved and diversified over the centuries, and the holiday — also known as Day of the

Dead — is now celebrated across Mexico, the U.S. and in many other countries. Familiar motifs often associated with the holiday are calaveras, or sugar skulls, and cempasúchil, or marigold flowers — both of which have deep cultural meanings you can learn about Oct. 26.

In any modern Día de Muertos celebration, music is central — specifically performances by a mariachi orchestra. Mariachi instruments include the vihuela, a five-string guitar, the guitarrón, a large fretless six-string bass guitar, a standard six-string guitar, violins and trumpets.

As important as their instruments are the eye-catching outfits that mariachi orchestra musicians wear: the traje de charro, the attire of the cowboys of Jalisco. The musicians' matching outfits include white shirts, tight ornamented trousers, boots,



The Mariachi Sirenes of Chicago are among the music and dance performers at the Eiteljorg Día de Muertos Community Celebration, Oct. 26. Image courtesy of Mariachi Sirenes



The Catrina parade of performers in costume is one of the highlights of the Día de Muertos Community Celebration.

wide bow ties, sombreros and short jackets. Traditionally, mariachi ensembles are all male, but by the early 21st century, all-female mariachi groups have formed around the globe. Women's mariachi ensembles often have a slightly altered outfit, either a modified version of the traje de charro, or the china poblano, which includes an embroidered blouse, a long colorful skirt and a rebozo (shawl).

This year at the Eiteljorg's free celebration, we are incredibly excited to welcome Chicago-based Mariachi Sirenes to our celebration. This all-female mariachi group's mission is to bring together the women of their hometown for the art of mariachi. They play concerts all over Chicago and have performed the national anthem prior to a Chicago Bulls game. Join us at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. Oct. 26 to hear this amazing group of women! And don't miss the other music and dance performances of the Día de Muertos Community Celebration. Details about all the performers and vendors are at Eiteljorg.org/Dia-de-Muertos.

DÍA DE MUERTOS COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, OCT 26 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

FREE ADMISSION



COMMUNITY ART AND ALTAR EXHIBIT

OCT 7-NOV 3

SPONSORED BY



Celebración Comunitaria del Día de Muertos: una mezcla festiva y gratuita de música, danza y arte

Spanish translation by Felix Medina

Acompáñanos el 26 de oct. en la 12ª Celebración Comunitaria del Día de Muertos del Museo

Eiteljorg. Lo que comenzó como una asociación con Nopal Cultural hace más de una década ha crecido exponencialmente hasta convertirse en las mayores celebraciones locales del Día de los Muertos. Miles de personas asisten y disfrutan de la orquesta de música de mariachis, bailes tradicionales y notas culturales. Los visitantes quedan cautivados por el desfile de Catrinas. Lo mejor de todo es que la entrada es gratuita.

En el evento de este año, organizado en colaboración con Arte Mexicano en Indiana, podrás echar un vistazo a los vendedores del Mercado, comprar un delicioso Pan de Muerto y coloridas joyas y accesorios, y podrás hacer arte con el artista en residencia Richard Gabriel. Durante la celebración, tómate el tiempo para ver el Arte de la Comunidad y la exhibición de Altares, abierta del 7 de oct. al 3 de nov. en el Teatro Ruth Lilly del museo. En ella se exponen ofrendas o altares intrincadamente decorados, creados por aliados de la comunidad local, incluyendo el Consulado de México en Indianápolis, la Biblioteca Central de Indianápolis, Mujeres Conectadas en Indy, la Catedral Christ Church y más. En un altar comunitario se puede añadir una nota

para honrar la memoria de un ser querido. Y disfrute viendo una exhibición de obras de arte del Día de Muertos de Luis Fitch.

Tradiciones detrás de la celebración

Con raíces milenarias en las tradiciones indígenas de México, el Día de Muertos reúne a las comunidades para celebrar y recordar a los seres queridos que han fallecido. Las tradiciones han evolucionado y se han diversificado a lo largo de los siglos, se celebra en México, Estados Unidos y muchos otros países. Los adornos tradicionales asociados a la celebración son calaveras, calaveras de azúcar y las flores de cempasúchil, o caléndula — ambos con profundos significados culturales que puedes conocer el 26 de oct.

En cualquier celebración moderna del Día de Muertos, la música ocupa un lugar especial, especialmente con apariciones de una orquesta de mariachis. Los instrumentos del mariachi son la vihuela, una guitarra de cinco cuerdas, el guitarrón, un gran bajo de seis cuerdas sin trastes, una guitarra de seis cuerdas, violines y trompetas.

Tan importantes como sus instrumentos son los llamativos trajes que visten los músicos de las orquestas de mariachis: el traje de charro, el atuendo de los vaqueros de Jalisco. Los

trajes combinados de los músicos incluyen camisas blancas, pantalones ajustados con adornos, botas, moños, sombreros y chaquetas cortas. Tradicionalmente, los mariachis son hombres, pero a principios del siglo XXI se han formado grupos femeninos en todo el mundo. Las mariachis mujeres suelen llevar un atuendo ligeramente modificado, ya sea una versión modificada del traje de charro o la china poblana, que incluye una blusa bordada, una falda larga y colorida y un rebozo.



Performers at the Día de Muertos Community Celebration

Este año, en la celebración gratuita del Eiteljorg, estamos muy contentos de dar la bienvenida al Mariachi Sirenes de Chicago. La misión de este grupo femenino de mariachis es reunir a las mujeres de su ciudad natal en torno al arte del mariachi. Tocan en conciertos por todo Chicago y han interpretado el himno nacional antes de un partido de los Chicago Bulls. ¡Únete a nosotros a las 2 p.m. y a las 5 p.m. el 26 de oct. para escuchar a este increíble grupo de mujeres! Y no te pierdas las otras actuaciones de música y danza de la Celebración Comunitaria del Día de Muertos. Más información sobre todos los artistas y vendedores en Eiteljorg.org/Dia-de-Muertos.



Artists and vendors sell items in the Mercado during the Día de Muertos Community Celebration.



Several local community groups create elaborately decorated ofrendas, or altars, in observance of Día de Muertos that will be on view at the Eiteljorg Museum, Oct. 7-Nov. 3, 2024.

12ª CELEBRACIÓN ANUAL DEL DÍA DE MUERTOS EN EITELJORG

Presentado conjuntamente con Arte Mexicano en Indiana
sábado 26 de oct. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Entrada GRATUITA

EXPOSICIÓN DE ARTE COMUNITARIO Y ALTARES

Abierto todos los días, del 7 de oct. al 3 de nov.

Book the Eiteljorg as the venue for your next special occasion

By Holly Hill-Brooks, manager of catering, rentals and events, and Jessica Elliott, rental and events coordinator

Beyond its fascinating art exhibitions and engaging public programs, the Eiteljorg Museum is an impressive building with beautiful event spaces that you can rent for corporate events, weddings and other special occasions. Here are questions clients often ask in booking event spaces at the Eiteljorg:

We see downtown Indianapolis booming with corporate, medical and educational organizations. There are a lot of opportunities to host unique events for these groups. How does the Eiteljorg show its versatility in accommodating various groups?

Our location is key. With the Eiteljorg Museum located on the canal in the heart of downtown Indianapolis, we are surrounded by growing universities and other organizations within the White River State Park area. We are also within convenient walking distance of several downtown hotels.

Since the expansion of the museum's Clowes Sculpture Court ballroom, we can accommodate larger groups where we hold numerous conferences, seminars, retreats



Jessica Elliott, rental and events coordinator, left, and Holly Hill-Brooks, manager of catering, rentals and events, right, can arrange your next special event at the Eiteljorg Museum. The Allen Whitehill Clowes Sculpture Court is an outstanding space for wedding receptions and corporate events. Images courtesy of Brittany Erwin Photography

and receptions. We can easily handle groups from five to 1,000 and accommodate various room layouts such as classroom, theater and banquet styles — we do it all!

Planning a wedding can be overwhelming for couples when there are so many potential venues and options. What are the advantages of booking a wedding or reception at the Eiteljorg Museum with its in-house caterer, Kahn's Catering?

We are here to make your decision easy. The Eiteljorg not only has great indoor spaces, but also offers gorgeous — and private — outdoor spaces along the canal in our DeHaan Family Terrace and Gardens. This makes it fun and easy to add

on unique experiences such as paddle boat adventures or a gondola ride send-off. You can even add a pop of color to your outdoor event through uplifting The Sails above our terrace.

When you rent with the Eiteljorg, you will always work closely with one of us on the rentals team as well as a Kahn's catering specialist to help facilitate your planning along the way. As we help you bring your event to life, Kahn's will create menus for your specific needs. And when your special day arrives, we will be right there to help.

What special touches does the Eiteljorg offer to make for an outstanding occasion?

We are a museum, and we want you to explore and

experience our galleries. We offer self-guided or guided tours with the help of the museum's knowledgeable volunteer Guides. For you and your guests, the Eiteljorg is one of the few venues in the downtown area that offers free parking (on a first-come, first-serve basis).

What is the best way to learn about how the Eiteljorg could serve as the venue for someone's event?

We would be delighted to provide a personal tour of our rental spaces. To book a tour, or to learn more about what our spaces have to offer, please visit [Eiteljorg.org/Rental](https://www.eiteljorg.org/Rental). Follow us on Instagram @eiteljorg_events to stay posted on Eiteljorg Rentals.

REMEMBERING JOHN VANAUSDALL 1956-2024

A Memorial Tribute



Image by Casey Cronin Photography

Eiteljorg Museum mourns the passing of President Emeritus John Vanausdall, who left a lasting legacy

Memories came flooding back for many people in Indianapolis and beyond when they learned John Vanausdall had died Aug. 17 at age 68. They admired his decades of service and leadership as President and CEO of the Eiteljorg Museum and all he accomplished leading the institution through his business acumen, integrity and high ethical standards. Many of the stories about Vanausdall reflect his kindness, empathy, well-rounded personality and ability to get to know people, his enthusiasm for a wide range of subjects including art, design, music and the outdoors, and most of all his love of family and friends.

During nearly 27 years as Eiteljorg President and CEO until his retirement in June 2023, Vanausdall transformed the museum in downtown Indianapolis. He led the institution through unprecedented growth in its collections, exhibitions and public programming, enabled by expansion and renovation of the museum and growth of the operating endowment. Under his tenure, the Eiteljorg developed a national reputation for excellence in Native American art and art of the American West, with special emphasis on contemporary expressions of both. He helped the museum forge deep working relationships with

artists, scholars and Native leaders and culture bearers. And he cultivated the support of museum donors in central Indiana and across the nation.

An esteemed leader

Vanausdall joined the Eiteljorg as President and CEO in October 1996, after 18 years in the creative and management areas of The Children's Museum of Indianapolis. His people skills and deft diplomacy served him well at the Eiteljorg: in raising funds from donors for large projects, taking an interest in artists and their careers, working with the Board of Directors in developing and executing plans, leading staff, and making visitors feel welcome inside the museum. Vanausdall knew how to make strangers into friends, whether at a large museum gala or hosting a small gathering featuring his gourmet cooking. Always modest, he was quick to give all the credit to others, but his own accomplishments in leading a museum were substantial.

"This is a great loss for the Eiteljorg Museum and our entire community. John Vanausdall devoted decades to celebrating and uplifting the arts, histories and cultures of the Native

Continued on page 10

IN MEMORIAM



John Vanausdall in his office in 1997, shortly after he was named President and CEO of the Eiteljorg Museum.



John Vanausdall welcomed guests to the opening of the exhibition *Steel Ponies*, 2012.

John Vanausdall was accomplished musician who played guitar and other instruments. He led the museum during the popular 2013 exhibition, *Guitars*.



peoples of North America and all the diverse peoples of the American West," current Eiteljorg President and CEO Kathryn Haigh said. "His kindness and consideration towards others will long be remembered, and his strategic thinking that positioned the museum for the future will leave a lasting legacy. I feel fortunate to have known him, and I know all of us at the Eiteljorg will try to carry on his good work."

Vanausdall's tenure leading the Eiteljorg included four major multi-million-dollar capital/endowment campaigns, a four-fold increase in the museum's collections, reconstruction and reinstallation of the museum's Native and Western galleries, and new emphasis on diversity, equity, accessibility and inclusion. Through obtaining commitments from donors, he grew the museum's endowment.

Under his watch, the museum launched cultural initiatives such as the biennial Eiteljorg Contemporary Art Fellowship, the annual *Quest for the West*® Art Show and Sale, the annual Juneteenth and Jazz and Día de Muertos community celebrations, and the *Jingle Rails* holiday model train display. The Indian Market and Festival and Artist in Residence program also expanded greatly under his leadership. Known as a master of strategy and fundraising, he oversaw the doubling of the building's public spaces in 2005 that included the addition of a children's discovery area, outdoor performance space and Museum Café. And, he was an esteemed figure within the Indianapolis cultural arts community.

"John created an infrastructure that gave people opportunities. He wanted everyone to benefit. He was a good listener, a quiet person — it was never about him. It was about culture and the respect for it, about learning," said Eduardo Luna of Arte Mexicano en Indiana who co-created the Eiteljorg Día de Muertos Community Celebration. "John was a visionary and worked hard on establishing an equitable arts institution, an effort that had an impact inside and outside the Eiteljorg

Museum. The Mexican community in central Indiana and beyond benefited from this, and we are very grateful for his legacy. ¡Muchas gracias, John!"

Educator and influencer Tammy L. Cooper, Ph.D., approached the Eiteljorg in 2015 about starting a local Juneteenth event. It has grown and is now the Juneteenth and Jazz Community Celebration. "The Eiteljorg embraced me and welcomed me to celebrate this significant history of freedom," Cooper said. "After my years of working with the museum and celebrating history, John invited me to become a member of the Eiteljorg

Community Board of Advisors. I remember the virtual meeting, his humble demeanor and his great sense of humor. John expressed how pleased he was about the Juneteenth events that we have accomplished over the years."

Cooper added, "The celebration of Juneteenth continues to grow and become a signature event in the summer. I am grateful to have worked with John and to see the legacy of the Eiteljorg Museum family. As we mourn a compassionate and kind leader, I look forward to honoring his life and the great memories of his leadership. Well done, John Vanausdall."



John Vanausdall, left, with Ray Gonyea (Onondaga), former Eiteljorg curator of Native American art and culture, right, during Indian Market and Festival in the early 2000s at its prior location in Military Park.

A generalist, with empathy

Having grown up in Lebanon, Indiana, John Vanausdall was a skilled musician from an early age and played guitar

and other instruments. Graduating in 1978 from Indiana University-Bloomington with an education degree, John joined The Children's Museum of Indianapolis as a physical science educator. During 18 years at The Children's Museum, he advanced into leadership roles where he designed and developed exhibits and expansions and was involved in planning and fundraising. He earned his MBA in 1996 from IU Kelley School of Business, a few months before he was hired as the Eiteljorg Museum's President and CEO. At the time, the

For more about John Vanausdall's accomplishments at the Eiteljorg Museum, scan the QR code or visit this link:

<https://eiteljorg.org/honoring-the-legacy-of-john-vanausdall/>





John Vanausdall, left, community leader Ontay Johnson, center, and then-Board Chair Thomas Hoback, right, at the 2016 Eiteljorg Indian Market and Festival.

John Vanausdall, center, ran in the 2015 Mini-Marathon, along with Eiteljorg employees Mary Ann Clifford, left, and Molly Sass, right.



John Vanausdall enjoyed spending time in the outdoors, including hiking, visiting national parks, and in this photo, rappelling during a family vacation.



Eiteljorg was a relatively young museum, having opened only seven years earlier.

Vanausdall went on to serve nearly 27 years leading the Eiteljorg — a remarkably long tenure.

“From the day the search committee chose John to lead the museum, it has been years of progress for the museum in every way. It was John’s character and humanity that convinced the patrons to support the museum,” said Stan Hurt, a longtime Eiteljorg Board member and former Board chair.

During his time as CEO, one of Vanausdall’s friends and mentors was Mel Perelman, an Eli Lilly & Company executive and an Eiteljorg Board chair. As philanthropists, Mel (who died in 2021) and his wife Joan provided major support to the Eiteljorg and gifted many artworks to the museum.

“Mel was one of the kindest and biggest-hearted people I’ve ever known. But he was an exacting sort of person: Details mattered. Professionalism mattered. Ethics mattered,” Vanausdall recalled in a 2022 interview, noting how Perelman exemplified the qualities that Vanausdall sought to bring to the museum himself.

Vanausdall balanced his hard work as museum executive with many outside interests he was passionate about: Performing on guitar (occasionally with an impromptu rock band of Eiteljorg employees), photography, tennis, hiking in the grand landscapes of the American West (especially in Arizona where his grandchildren lived), designing and building woodworking projects, and improvising gourmet meals through what he called “creative cooking”.

“My personal nature to be interested in lots of things probably feeds into that notion: Generalists are good leaders,” Vanausdall said in the 2022 interview. “I think if I were overly interested in one thing, then I might not tend to delegate to those who are the experts. When you become a CEO or a senior executive, you’re no longer doing the work; your job is to motivate others to do the work and support them.”

His empathy for others shone through. Since his death, friends have independently shared anecdotes about Vanausdall unexpectedly visiting them in the hospital when they or their family members were undergoing treatment, or checking up on them when they were ill, or attending funeral visitations of their

loved ones to pay his respects.

“Of all the memories I have of working with John, the one of him visiting me in the hospital was a testament to his dedication to his patrons. He was a friend who I have had the pleasure to know for 27 years. I will miss his friendship and dedication to his career,” Hurt added.

An indelible impact

Vanausdall also made an impression with museum employees and volunteers. We remember his gentle humor, the hint of mischief in his eyes behind his owlish glasses when he’d said something amusing.

“John Vanausdall was an inspirational, yet down-to-earth leader. He was so genuine, positive, and kind. He lived his values with his open-door policy, collaborative decision-making, and participation in the Eiteljorg’s extracurricular softball team and our band, the Eiteljorg Misfits,” museum guest services manager Matt Askren recalled. “When I was in the hospital, John found out where I was and visited to see how I was doing. He genuinely cared about those around him, and that was shown through his actions and interactions. It’s just who he was.”

After he retired in June 2023, Vanausdall stayed in touch with his Eiteljorg colleagues. But the long retirement he’d worked hard

for lasted only 14 months, before his passing on Aug. 17. We remember the courage and dignity with which he faced his long final illness, and we are grateful for the indelible impact he left on the Eiteljorg Museum.

John Vanausdall is survived by his partner, Carrie Kirk, his adult daughters Emily McDuffie and Hannah Vanausdall, his four grandchildren, Carrie’s two sons William and George, his former wife Jeanette Vanausdall, his sisters Anne Breedlove and Rita Barber, and extended family. John’s wishes were that memorial contributions go to the John Vanausdall Capital Improvement Endowed Fund at the Eiteljorg. A complete obituary is at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/4atmxwj>

“He was a teammate, band mate, true hero, and my friend. Words cannot fully express what he meant to me and others who knew him. He is missed. My condolences to his family,” Askren said.



John Vanausdall, right, and longtime Eiteljorg Board member and then-Chair Stan Hurt, left, during the 2004-2005 construction of the museum’s expansion that doubled the public space of the museum, the Mel and Joan Perelman Wing.

Continued on page 12



Acclaimed actor Wes Studi (Cherokee), left, was keynote speaker at the 2021 Eiteljorg *Quest for the West*® Art Show and Sale. John Vanausdall, right, presented Studi with the Eiteljorg Museum Award for Excellence.

Image by Brittany Erwin Photography



On June 23, 2022, John Vanausdall, center, with scissors, was joined by Native leaders and members of the museum's Native American Advisory Council to ceremonially cut the blue ribbon and open the new Native American Galleries.

Image by Hadley Fruits Photography



Gayle Cox, Ph.D., right, a former Board member and Eiteljorg Guide, and Carl K. Cox, left, spoke with John Vanausdall at his retirement gala, May 13, 2023. John wore a medallion given by Chief Brian J. Buchanan of the Miami Nation of Indians of the State of Indiana.

Ed Stewart Photography

WHAT FRIENDS ARE SAYING

After John Vanausdall's passing Aug. 17, many friends and colleagues shared their online comments about and memories of him. Here are just a few of their comments, published with their permission:

"Indy lost an extraordinary leader whose gentle spirit and exceptional kindness left an indelible mark on all who had the privilege of knowing him. John Vanausdall wasn't just a museum director for one of the finest institutions in the country; he was a mentor, a friend, and a beacon of integrity. He led not by force but by example — showing us that true strength lies in patience, empathy, and a steadfast commitment to doing our best. Under his guidance, we didn't just work; we thrived, driven by his unwavering belief in our potential.

His kindness was a rare gift, one that brightened even the most challenging days. He had a unique ability to make everyone feel valued and heard, reminding us that success isn't just about results but about the people we become along the way. His legacy is one of compassion and excellence, a combination that made the Eiteljorg Museum exceptional and a place of growth and support (for staff and artists alike).

You will be deeply missed, but your spirit will continue to inspire me in all that I do."

— **Katie Linweaver Robinson**, *Eiteljorg corporate relations manager, 2011-2014, and member of the Eiteljorg Community Board of Advisors, 2022-2024*

"I feel truly blessed to have known John. I worked with him at The Children's Museum and for him at the Eiteljorg. He always made you feel valued and important, and was always available to lend an ear. His kindness and knowledge of Native and Western cultures drew people to him, and made the Eiteljorg the success that it is today. He will be terribly missed. My condolences to his entire family. John was a gem."

— **Sheila Jackson**, *former Eiteljorg membership manager 2011-2018*

"So sad to hear this news. John was one of nicest, kindest, smartest, human beings on this earth. And such a great leader. He will be so missed. I've served on quite a few boards and can say that serving on the Eiteljorg advisory board was such a positive experience because of John's leadership. I learned a lot about how an effective board meeting should be handled."

— **Lyn St. James**, *former auto racer and public speaker who was the Indianapolis 500 Rookie of the Year driver in 1992, and served on the Eiteljorg Community Board of Advisors*



In 2022, Eduardo Luna, left, and John Vanausdall, center, received the ARTI Award from Indy Arts Council President and CEO Julie Goodman, right, for their work on the Día de Muertos Community Celebration.

Image courtesy of KP's Photography and the Indy Arts Council

"I met John the first year of *Jingle Rails* as I was one of the lead volunteers, and over the years we became good friends. He made a walk-through every year, and we always talked about the display and model trains in general. He always greeted all the volunteers when he spotted us. He was a great supporter of *Jingle Rails* and the health of the Eiteljorg. We talked at his retirement event, and I am truly sorry he did not get to enjoy (retirement) for a long time. My sympathy goes out to his family."

— **Thomas Bromstrup**, *longtime "chief engineer" of the Eiteljorg's Jingle Rails holiday train display that started in 2010*

"John was a special leader. He embraced all cultures. He befriended me when he asked me to be on the Eiteljorg Museum Board of Directors. Together we worked on programs to include the Latino community and exhibit inclusivity. Rest in peace my Brother."

— **Charlie Garcia**, *former Board member*

"I first met John when he interviewed me for the executive assistant position at the museum. I knew during that interview that I wanted to work for this man. He was kind and patient and driven. He was *always* about the good: The good of the museum. The good of the artists. The good of the staff. The good of the community. For 15 years we were a wonderful team. I miss him."

— **Molly Sass**, *former Eiteljorg executive assistant, 2008-2023*

A note from Jamie

Endowment carries on inaugural director Michael Duty's legacy

"Learning was so important to Michael."
— Laura Duty



Michael Duty in 1989, around the time of the Eiteljorg's grand opening

When Michael Duty, founding director of the Eiteljorg Museum, passed away in April in Texas surrounded by family and friends, his wife, Laura, and daughter, Brynne, knew they wanted to honor his life and legacy. Their journey began with an email to our office. In speaking with Laura, we learned more about Michael than the museum's archival records could reveal.

Laura explained, "He loved nothing more than developing exhibitions, displays, literature, and programs that not only educate but provide opportunities for people to experience something that could be eye-opening and could expand their world."

Michael served as the inaugural executive director of the Eiteljorg Museum, overseeing its construction



The Eiteljorg's inaugural executive director Michael Duty, who served from 1987 to 1994, was remembered during *Quest for the West*® weekend, Sept. 6-7. From left to right, Eiteljorg President and CEO Kathryn Haigh, Michael's wife Laura Duty, Michael's daughter Brynne Duty, and Vice President for Advancement Jamie Simek, seen here in the Western Art Galleries with the 1938 Maynard Dixon painting, *No Trail*.

and grand opening. Based in Indianapolis, he co-founded MuseumsWest, a collaborative network of prominent American Western art and history museums across the United States and Canada. According to his family, his role in establishing the Eiteljorg was his most significant professional accomplishment. He played a pivotal role in shaping the museum's vision and laying its foundation. Michael maintained a deep sense of pride in the Eiteljorg's ongoing growth and success as it continued to expand its collections and present exceptional exhibitions of Indigenous and Western art and cultural belongings.

Eiteljorg President and CEO Katie Haigh and I had several conversations and email exchanges with Laura to learn more about Michael and their family, as well as her goals for a meaningful and useful tribute to Michael's life and legacy. After carefully considering several options, Laura decided to create the Michael Duty Founding Director Endowment Fund for Internships, which will support internship opportunities at the museum, particularly in the curatorial and collections departments. She and Brynne hope others will consider supporting profes-

sional learning experiences for students with additional contributions to the fund.

"We are happy knowing this gift supports future generations of museum professionals. Michael tried to give everybody a chance to learn and a chance to grow. In my opinion, this gift is a continuation of that legacy," Laura told me via email after making her \$250,000 gift in his memory.

If you want to donate to the Michael Duty Founding Director Internship Endowment Fund or learn more about opportunities to establish a legacy through memorial or estate gifts, please get in touch with me at 317.275.1365 or jsimek@eiteljorg.com. I would be honored to learn more about your giving aspirations and help you find the best match for your priorities.

Jamie
Jamie Simek
Vice President for
Advancement

317.275.1365
jsimek@eiteljorg.com

Eiteljorg Museum
500 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
www.eiteljorg.org

Eiteljorg.org/give-and-join/donate

Image courtesy of Britiany Erwin Photography



Eiteljorg Museum's Eagle Society Family Night

By Jennifer Hiatt, former director of development

Join us at the Eiteljorg on Dec. 13 for the annual Eagle Society Family Night. Exclusively for Eagle Society members, this complimentary event is an opportunity to show the museum's deep appreciation for this group's outstanding commitment. This special event is also an opportunity for families to come together during *Jingle Rails* and build long-lasting traditions with loved ones. *Jingle Rails*, the museum's beloved annual holiday exhibit, features an enchanting model train display that winds through beautifully crafted replicas of iconic landmarks of the American West. It's a magical experience for all ages and a perfect time to celebrate the holidays.

The event will feature hands-on activities for our youngest attendees, a delightful hot chocolate bar, delicious food, and holiday spirits for the adults, creating a festive atmosphere for everyone to enjoy. Families can also explore our newest exhibit, *Preston Singletary: Raven and the Box of Daylight*, that blends traditional Tlingit storytelling with contemporary glass art.

Whether you're a long-time member or new to the Eagle Society, this evening promises to be a memorable experience for everyone. Come and celebrate the season with us!

For more information or to register now, scan the QR code.





New at *Jingle Rails*: Historic Madam Walker Theatre enlivens Indiana holiday tradition, opening Nov. 16

By Conner Richberg (Mohawk, Turtle Clan), festivals manager, and Bert Beiswanger, former director of marketing and communications



New programs and family activities will delight visitors of all ages

Images by Alec Gray

As autumn slips into winter and our minds think of the holidays, it soon will be time for one of Indy's most beloved holiday traditions: Fifth Third Bank *Jingle Rails: The Great Western Adventure*.

Ranking among the best holiday attractions in Central Indiana, *Jingle Rails* is the Eiteljorg's annual holiday model train display. The 15th annual *Jingle Rails* brings more vibrant experiences for visitors and new features — including a model of the historic Madam Walker Theatre, a symbol of freedom, empowerment, entrepreneurship and creativity in Indianapolis.

Jingle Rails is a one-of-a-kind model railroad of G-scale electric trains that ramble over trestles and through tunnels along more than 1,200 feet of track. Trains pass artistic representations of the Indianapolis skyline and scenes of the American West. Come marvel at the beautiful detail of the displays, with all backdrops made from natural materials such as bark, twigs, leaves, nuts, pinecones and other woody components. The railroad and all the backdrops and miniatures are designed and built by Applied Imagination of Alexandria, Kentucky.



Step into an enchanting miniature world

As visitors begin their *Jingle Rails* experience, they encounter the sights and sounds of the iconic Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Race fans' eyes light up as they recognize the miniature IMS complete with mossy grandstands, the Pagoda, the Goodyear Blimp, and slot cars hurtling around the track.

Through the Eiteljorg's efforts to add more elements of the city's history, the Madam Walker Theatre building miniature is the newest addition to the layout. Alongside it are charming recreations of Monument Circle and its lights, Lucas Oil Stadium and other eye-catching landmarks.



Madam Walker Theatre exterior
Image by Gerald Encarnacion

"The historic Madam C. J. Walker Building is more than just a cultural landmark; it's a beacon of our community's

heritage," said Kristian Little Stricklen, president of the Madam Walker Legacy Center. "We are truly honored to see it featured alongside other iconic Downtown landmarks in *Jingle Rails*. Being part of this cherished holiday tradition is a gift that we deeply value."

Jingle Rails visitors then follow the model trains along the track on a journey out West, with stops featuring representations of national parks: Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, Yosemite, Glacier and Mesa Verde, plus other iconic destinations such as Las Vegas, the Hoover Dam, the Golden Gate Bridge and more.

New Winter Markets and expanded family activities

To enhance the visitor experience, the Eiteljorg is adding new family activities, including an indoor "build your own snowman" area where you can experience the fun and creativity of making a snowman without the winter chill.

While enjoying *Jingle Rails*, explore the Winter Market in Eagle Commons. Taking place on select Saturdays (Nov. 23 and 30, Dec. 7 and 14), the Winter Market will feature booths of Indiana artists and vendors selling unique and handmade pieces and products. See page 19 for a schedule of *Jingle Rails*-related events.



Trains small and large

Welcoming you to *Jingle Rails* again this year will be a large inflatable train on the Eiteljorg lawn. And in conjunction with *Jingle Rails*, the museum will host *After Promontory*, a traveling exhibition of historic photographs about the significance and lasting impact of the transcontinental railroads on the American West.

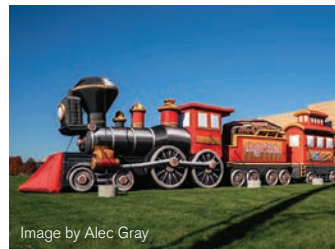


Image by Alec Gray

Know before you go

One of the most affordable holiday attractions around, *Jingle Rails* is included with regular museum admission.

For museum members, admission is free; and children ages 4 and under also are admitted free. For non-member advance sale tickets and discounts, visit Eiteljorg.org/JingleRails.

Late Hours: So more families can visit, the Eiteljorg and *Jingle Rails* will be open for later hours on certain weekend dates in December. Check Eiteljorg.org/JingleRails for details.

Volunteers needed: The Eiteljorg is grateful to the group of model railroad enthusiasts who work in the display — our "train guys" — and other volunteers who make *Jingle Rails* special and enjoy talking with visitors about trains. To volunteer to help with *Jingle Rails*, contact volunteers@eiteljorg.com. Spaces are still available.



"Our state is full of wonderful holiday attractions and experiences, and Jingle Rails continues to amaze as one of the very best Hoosier holiday traditions families enjoy each year. It's an iconic tourism attraction both locally and regionally—a true Indiana holiday experience for all ages."

—Amy Howell of Visit Indiana

Image by Alec Gray

**FIFTH THIRD BANK
JINGLE RAILS: THE GREAT
WESTERN ADVENTURE
NOV 16, 2024–JAN 20, 2025**



SPONSORED BY:



The Butler Family Foundation Endowed *Jingle Rails* Fund
Sunrise Foundation



WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FROM:

Stuart's Household Furniture Moving and Storage, Inc.

#JingleRails

Calendar

Calendar of Events compiled by Tori Satchwell

NOTE TO VISITORS: The events, dates, times and prices listed here were in effect at the time of publication. At different times, an individual gallery may be temporarily closed for reinstallation even as the museum remains open. Please check Eiteljorg.org before your visit for the most up-to-date information on exhibits and activities at the museum on the day of your visit and to register for programs.

Reproduction of U.S. postage stamps created by Luis Fitch
U.S. Postal Service website



Saturday

OCT 12

11 a.m.-4 p.m.

AHORA: Mexican and Latin American Art and Design Pop Up

Celebrate Mexican Heritage Month with the Eiteljorg and our partner, Arte Mexicano en Indiana. Shop from local art and design vendors. Luis Fitch, the artist who designed the Día de Muertos U.S. postage stamps, will discuss his art and process at noon and 3 p.m. Included with museum admission and free for members. Visit Eiteljorg.org/Events.

Saturday

OCT 12

Noon-3 p.m.

Estamos y Somos Mesoamerican Día de Muertos Workshop

An arts workshop in Spanish with activities for children ages 8-10. Registration required; visit tinyurl.com/EySInscripcion.



David R. Boxley (Tsimshian)

Monday

OCT 14

10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Indigenous Peoples' Day

In honor of Indigenous Peoples' Day, the Eiteljorg will offer FREE admission to all. Join us for cultural performances, art-making demonstrations and gallery tours. The Git-Hoan Dancers will perform, showcasing Tsimshian art and culture through movement and song. Artist David A. Boxley, founder of the group, will also participate in a book signing. Visit Eiteljorg.org/IndigenousPeoplesDay. See story on page 5.

DÍA DE MUERTOS



Saturday

OCT 26

10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Día de Muertos Community Celebration

Experience Day of the Dead at the Eiteljorg with FREE admission, jointly presented with Arte Mexicano en Indiana and Nopal Cultural. Learn the history behind the holiday, enjoy performances and demonstrations, meet and support local artists and create art yourself. Visit Eiteljorg.org/Dia-de-Muertos. See story on page 6.

OCT 7-NOV 3

Día de Muertos Community Art and Altar Exhibition featuring artwork by Luis Fitch

Designed by local organizations and artists, beautiful ofrendas (altars) are displayed to commemorate loved ones who have passed. Immerse yourself in the exhibit by adding photos and notes to the community ofrenda. This altar exhibit is free to visit during regular museum hours. Also included: an exhibit of art by Luis Fitch. Check Eiteljorg.org/Dia-de-Muertos.



ARTE
MEXICANO
EN INDIANA

MARIAN UNIVERSITY
Indianapolis
Latino Leadership Initiative

REGIONS BANK

citizens
energy group

We're adding new programs and events all the time. Visit Eiteljorg.org and sign up for our e-newsletter to stay up to date on museum happenings. To purchase online tickets, visit Eiteljorg.org. Call 317.636.9378 for more information. All events are included with general admission unless otherwise noted. General admission is \$20 for adults, \$16 for seniors 65 and over, and \$12 for youth ages 5 to 17. Students from Indiana colleges, universities and trade schools have free admission if they present student ID. Children ages 4 and under are free. Museum members enjoy free admission, unless otherwise noted. Native American or First Nations visitors with tribal ID or proof of enrollment have free admission.

ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

OCT 22-26

Artist in Residence: Richard Gabriel, Jr.
Based in Tijeras, New Mexico, Richard Gabriel creates traditional Spanish Colonial tinwork. Join Richard for a deep dive into the history of New Mexican tinwork. Also, visit Richard at the free Día de Muertos celebration Oct. 26. Visit Eiteljorg.org/Events.



NOV 6-9

Artist in Residence: Dante Biss-Grayson Fashion Residency
During this residency, Dante Biss-Grayson (Osage), a versatile artist, fashion designer and founder of the Sky-Eagle Collection of Native-inspired fashions, will meet with groups, with the residency culminating in a mini- fashion show at the Eiteljorg Museum. Visit Eiteljorg.org/Events for more details.



Saturday, 6:30-9 p.m.



NOV 9

Sky-Eagle Collection Fashion Show
The event showcases the beauty and diversity of Native fashion. Meet designer Dante Biss-Grayson, explore a pop-up shop featuring runway designs, and witness the talents of local models, makeup artists and hairstylists. This is a ticketed event; visit Eiteljorg.org/Events for more details. See page 5.

NOV 12-23

Artist in Residence: Bobby Silas
Bobby Silas (Hopi Tribe) is a creative potter reviving ancient designs for his contemporary pottery. Join Bobby for a workshop on Nov. 16 (fee, registration required) or pop in during his open studio on Nov. 23. For full details, visit Eiteljorg.org/Events.



Tuesday, 9-10 a.m.

NOV 19

Members-Only Coffee & Conversation with Artist in Residence Bobby Silas (Hopi Tribe)
Register to meet the artist at membership@eiteljorg.com



Saturday, 10 a.m.-11 a.m.

NOV 23

Eiteljorg Kids Workshop with Bobby Silas
Make pottery with the artist. Register at Eiteljorg.org/Events. Eiteljorg Kids attend for free; \$20 fee for the general public.

Artists in Residence programs at the Eiteljorg sponsored by:
 Drs. Susan and Robert Stephens Artist in Residence Fund

CONTINUING EXHIBITIONS

THROUGH JUN 26, 2025

Alfred Jacob Miller: Revisiting the Rendezvous in Scotland and Today

Experience the Rocky Mountain Rendezvous of 1837 through the eyes of Alfred Jacob Miller, the sole European-American artist to witness this historic event. Explore the American West through breathtaking paintings, watercolors, drawings and cultural items. For more details, visit Eiteljorg.org/Alfred-Jacob-Miller.



ONGOING EXHIBITIONS



DAILY

Expressions of Life: Native Art in North America

The museum's reimagined Native American galleries tell Native stories in a new way, organized around themes of Relation, Continuation, and Innovation, and feature works recently rotated into the exhibition.



DAILY

Attitudes: The West in American Art

The museum's Western art galleries explore works by the diverse artists of the American West. Experience works by Frederic Remington, Georgia O'Keeffe, Mian Situ and several *Quest for the West*[®] artists.

UPCOMING EXHIBITION

OPENING FEB 22, 2025

Voices from the Arctic: Contemporary Inuit Art

Intriguing works from the northernmost regions of the continent, including prints and carved works by Inuit artists, will delight and inspire during this yearlong exhibition.



Davidialuk Alasua Amittu (Inuit [Povungnituk / Puvirnituq], 1910-1976) *Inuit Hunting Geese with Harpoons in the Time before They Had Guns*, 1976
Stonecut print on paper, 2016.1.8
Gift of James and Patricia Kellar

Continued on page 18

Continued from page 17



PRESTON SINGLETARY RAVEN AND THE BOX OF DAYLIGHT

NOV 8, 2024-MAR 9, 2025

Immerse yourself in this multi-sensory exhibit where art, storytelling, sound and light converge, bringing to life the Tlingit story of Raven and his quest to bring light to his people. See story on page 2.

Thursday

NOV 7

7-9 p.m.

Members-Only Exhibition Opening Preview Party

Museum members can meet artist Preston Singletary (Tlingit) and independent curator Miranda Belarde-Lewis (Zuni Pueblo / Tlingit), Ph.D., during a celebration of the new exhibition. Registration is \$50 per person; contact membership@eiteljorg.com to register or use the QR code at right.

Friday

NOV 8

Public Events with Preston Singletary

Both are included with museum admission:

11 a.m.-Noon, Friday Nov. 8

Public Gallery Tour

Explore the exhibition with Singletary and guest curator Miranda Belarde-Lewis during a guided gallery tour. The artist will discuss his inspiration, artistic process and future projects.

1:30 p.m., Friday Nov. 8

Continued Conversation with Preston Singletary and Miranda Belarde-Lewis

Join the artist and guest curator as they discuss the exhibition, Tlingit culture, stories, artist collaborations and more in the Clowes Sculpture Court.

Preston Singletary (Tlingit, born 1963)
Raven Steals the Sun (Gagaan Awutáawu Yéil), 2008, blown, hot-sculpted, and sand-carved glass. TX.2018.4.51, [VA.2009.28]
Collection of Museum of Glass, gift of the artist

Sponsored at the Eiteljorg by:
Arthur Jordan Foundation



RAYMOND JAMES®



Artist Preston Singletary (Tlingit) in his studio in Seattle. Photo by Jovelle Tamayo, courtesy of the American Craft Council Library and Archives

Saturday

DEC 7

9 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday Dec. 7

Blown Glass Workshop

Get hands-on experience creating your own blown glass piece at a hot glass studio set up outside the museum. Registration is required and is \$40 per person. More details at Eiteljorg.org/Events.

1-5 p.m., Saturday Dec. 7

Blown Glass Demonstration

Watch glass artists from Hot Blown Glass create ornate blown glass creations. Ask questions about their creative design and process. Included with admission.

Preston Singletary (Tlingit, born 1963)
Basket (Kákw), 2016, blown and sand-carved glass
Courtesy of the artist



THANKSGIVING WEEKEND EVENTS

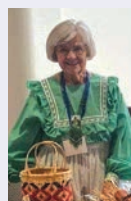
Friday and Saturday

NOV 29 & 30



Friday Nov. 29 and Saturday Nov. 30

Beadwork artists Katrina Mitten (Miami Tribe of Oklahoma) and her granddaughter Josey will meet visitors and demonstrate their work in Eagle Commons.



11 a.m. Saturday Nov. 30

Basketry artist Susan Charlesworth (Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma) will lead a beginner elbow basket-making workshop. Register for the workshop at Eiteljorg.org/Events.

Parking: The museum can validate parking in the White River State Park underground garage, while spaces are available, for visitors to the museum, café or museum store.



Jingle Rails

NOV 16, 2024-JAN 20, 2025

The Eiteljorg's holiday model train experience returns for its 15th year. Join us at *Jingle Rails* for late hours on select weekend dates. Visit Eiteljorg.org/JingleRails for dates and discount advance tickets. This year, a model of the Madam Walker Theatre building joins the downtown miniature scene in the festive model railroad. See story, page 14.

Saturday

NOV 16

8:30-10 a.m.

Members-Only First Look at *Jingle Rails*

Be among the first to see this year's model train layout, including the Madam Walker Theatre model. Register at Eiteljorg.org/Events or use the QR code above.



Sunday

DEC 8

10 a.m.-Noon

Jingle Rails Sensory Morning

For visitors who prefer to experience *Jingle Rails* with some sound and light features reduced, the Eiteljorg is hosting a sensory morning without crowds. Visitors can also enjoy the R.B. Annis Western Family Experience and art-making activities. Registration required. Details at Eiteljorg.org/Events.

Saturdays

DEC 14 & 21

11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Jingle Rails Workshops

Can't get enough of *Jingle Rails*? Join us for two different hands-on workshops. Topics are different each weekend. These are ticketed events; visit Eiteljorg.org/Events for more details.

Saturdays

NOV 23 & 30

DEC 7 & 14

10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Jingle Rails Winter Markets

Local artists will show and sell their handmade art from booths in Eagle Commons at the Eiteljorg. As you are shopping for holiday gifts, find unique artwork, and experience *Jingle Rails*. Included with price of admission. Visit Eiteljorg.org/Events.

Thursday

DEC 5

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Members-Only Adults Night Out at *Jingle Rails*

Enjoy tastings of fine spirits by Payless Liquors at this adults-only event. Registration is \$30 per person; register at Eiteljorg.org/Events or use the QR code above.



Friday

DEC 13

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Eagle Society Family Night

Eagle Society members and their families are invited to explore and share the magic of *Jingle Rails*. See story, page 13. Use the QR code above.



NOV 23, 2024-JAN 20, 2025

After Promontory Exhibit

On view concurrently with *Jingle Rails*, this traveling exhibition of historic photographs highlights the significance and lasting impact of the trans-continental railroads on the American West. Travel through 150 years of history with dynamic photographs and artwork. *After Promontory* is organized by the Center for Railroad Photography & Art. Visit Eiteljorg.org/Exhibits.



Andrew J. Russell
Side cut Green R., Chesebro & Magee #184, c. 1869 Union Pacific Railroad
Oakland Museum of California, H69.459.453

The Center for Railroad Photography & Art (www.railphoto-art.org) and the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art have collaborated to present this exhibition

Saturday

JAN 4

Día de Los Reyes Programming

Celebrate Día de Los Reyes, also known as Three Kings Day, at the Eiteljorg. For more details, visit Eiteljorg.org/Events.

Monday

JAN 20

10 a.m.-5 p.m.

MLK Day Programming

In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, enjoy FREE admission to the Eiteljorg museum. Join the Eiteljorg for a community drum circle performance and art-making activities. This will also be the final date this season to experience the Fifth Third Bank *Jingle Rails: The Great Western Adventure*. For more details, visit Eiteljorg.org/Events.



Sister Stella is scheduled to lead a drum circle performance on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day at the Eiteljorg, Jan. 20, 2025.

LOOKING AHEAD TO FEBRUARY 2025:

Leon Jett Memorial Lecture

Each year during Black History Month, the Leon Jett Memorial Lecture features a noted author or scholar who discusses important people and events in African American history. Check Eiteljorg.org/Events for details about the speaker and the date and time.



Membership information:
Contact membership@eiteljorg.com
or scan this QR code.

Thank you to the following donors for memberships and gifts received from April 1–July 31, 2024.

Due to space limitations, only contributions of \$100 or more are listed, with the exception of gifts in honor or in memory. If your name is not listed as you would like it, please accept our apologies and call 317.275.1360.

Membership gifts

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Cumulative 2024 annual giving \$25,000 and above

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Steve Cagle
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FIND PRESTON SINGLETARY ART AND GIFTS

After you experience *Preston Singletary: Raven and the Box of Daylight*, visit the Museum Store. Glass pieces created by Singletary will be available, including his distinctive berry baskets, as well as his bronze sculpture, *Wolf of the Sea*. Grab your own copy of the exhibition book for a deep dive into Singletary's art, and don't miss his memoir, *Fusion Notes*. Load up on other Singletary and Eiteljorg-themed gifts, including tees, tote bags, coasters and magnets, plus our great selection of books about Native and Western art. Find something for that hard-to-shop-for person on your holiday gift list.



Preston Singletary
Wolf of the Sea
Bronze
Image courtesy
Gordon Johnson



Image courtesy of Minor Matters



Tlingit Berry Baskets,
Preston Singletary

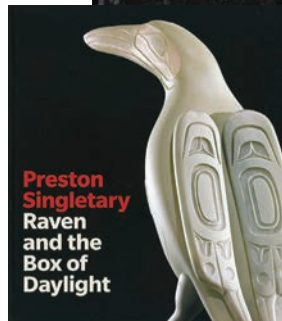


Image courtesy University of Washington Press



Eiteljorg
FRANK AND KATRINA BASILE
Museum Store

STORE HOURS
MON-SAT: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
SUN: Noon to 5 p.m.
317.275.1300
800.878.7978

store@eiteljorg.com
[@Eiteljorg.Store](https://www.eiteljorg.com)

IN MEMORIAM

Robert and Barbetta True
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Patrice and John Waidner
Frank and Jane Walker
Leslie and Marty Wessler
David and Joann Wehlage
Brian West
Ken Wherry
Margaret Wiley
Prof. Marianne S. Wokeck
Dennis and Patti Wright
H. David and Jane Wright
Dr. Donald J. Zimmerman
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All memorial and honorarium gifts are listed. Gifts in other categories are for \$100 or more.

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Gifts in Honor and Memory

In honor of Pat Anker in support of Indian Market
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Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Reilly, Jr.
In honor of Fred Green in support of Preston Singletary: Raven and the Box of Daylight
Cripe Charitable Foundation, a fund of CICF

*In honor of John Vanausdall**
Tim and Cathy Wright
*In honor of John Vanausdall in support of the John Vanausdall Capital Improvement Endowed Fund**
Pat Anker
Karen and Joseph Glaser
Fredrick and Angie Green
William E. Stanley
Catherine Turner
**Editor's Note: Contributions in memory of John Vanausdall will be listed in the February 2025 issue of Storyteller magazine.*

In memory of Michael Duty
Michael and Amy Meadows
In memory of H. Jean Kyle
Marcia Inselberg
In memory of Howard Maxwell
Kay Hinds
Nataly and Jonathan Lowder
In memory of Jim Morris
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In memory of Narcisso G. Povinelli
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Jim Morris, 81

Much has been written about the accomplishments of civic leader, businessman, public servant and philanthropist James T. "Jim" Morris, who died July 12. You probably know that Morris was vice chair of Pacers Sports & Entertainment and did much over the past 50 years to raise Indianapolis' profile as a sports and convention capital. He was former president of Lilly Endowment Inc., and later worked with the UN World Food Programme to fight hunger and poverty in southern Africa and around the globe.



Jim Morris

What you might not know is that Morris was a major supporter of the Eiteljorg Museum.

Jim Morris was one of the civic leaders who in the 1980s enabled the establishment of the Eiteljorg and the surrounding White River State Park. He supported efforts that brought a wide array of sporting events to downtown Indianapolis and helped launch Unigov and IUPUI. A member of the Eiteljorg Board of Directors from 2007-2013, Jim offered wisdom and insights to Eiteljorg committees.

An avid collector of art of the American West, he developed many personal friendships with Western artists. Jim and his wife Jackie supported the Eiteljorg from its start and frequently opened their home for museum events. Members since 1990 and Eagle Society donors, the Morrises supported Indian Market and Festival, the museum's annual fund, the *Project New Moon* capital campaign, the 20th and 25th Eiteljorg anniversary celebrations, the James Nottage Endowment Fund and the *Quest for the West*® Art Show and Sale.

Jim Morris spent a lifetime working to improve our community. The museum staff, Board and volunteers extend their deepest sympathy to Jackie and the Morris family. Read more about him here: <https://tinyurl.com/ypnfwua6>

Exhibitions and Special Events

*Editor's Note: Generous supporters of the new exhibition **Preston Singletary: Raven and the Box of Daylight** will be recognized in the February 2025 issue of Storyteller magazine.*

Jingle Rails: The Great Western Adventure

Title Sponsor
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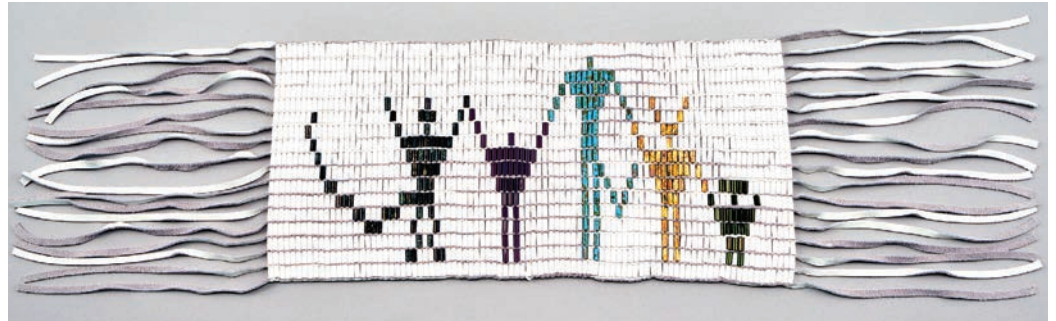
With additional support from:
Stuart's Household Furniture Moving and Storage, Inc.



Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art

White River State Park • 500 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
www.eiteljorg.org

COMING IN THE FEBRUARY 2025 ISSUE



RADICAL STITCH **APRIL 12-AUG. 3, 2025**

A landmark exhibition celebrating Native American and First Nations bead art comes to the Eiteljorg in 2025. *Radical Stitch* is the largest exhibition of contemporary Native beadwork ever presented in North America. Bringing together more than 100 works by Native artists of the U.S. and Canada, *Radical Stitch* presents many techniques and designs that tell stories and address contemporary issues. It is organized by the MacKenzie Art Gallery in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Left: Kathrine Boyer (Métis),
The Sky Vest, 2021.
Collection of the Artist.
Photo: Don Hall.

Above: Skawennati, *Intergalactic Empowerment Wampum Belt (Xenomorph, Onkwehón:we, Na'vi, Twi'lek)*, 2019, leather, sinew, beads.
Indigenous Art Collection, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada.
Photo: Don Hall, courtesy of the MacKenzie Art Gallery.

Your support as a member, donor or corporate sponsor is instrumental to the Eiteljorg presenting *Radical Stitch*, as well as *Preston Singletary: Raven and the Box of Daylight* and other exhibits and programs. To learn about the benefits of supporting them, contact Jamie Simek at jsimek@eiteljorg.com or 317.275.1365.

Celebrating 35 Years



Stay connected with the Eiteljorg on social media and at Eiteljorg.org. You can also sign up for our weekly e-newsletter at Eiteljorg.org.

For general information about the Eiteljorg Museum, call **317.636.9378**.

