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Contact: Brandon Reintjes
Phone: 406.728.0447
Email: brandon@missoulaartmuseum.org

The Missoula Art Museum to Open on Indigenous Peoples Day

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In keeping with MAM's mission and recognition of its location on tribal lands, MAM will be open Monday, October 14 to honor Indigenous Peoples Day. This is a rare treat, as museums are not typically open on Mondays. This year, the museum celebrates the exhibitions of Native artists Rick Bartow and Lillian Pitt.

Rick Bartow (1946–2016), a member of the Mad River Band Wiyot, is one of the nation's most important contemporary Native artists. Bartow's nationally traveling exhibition, *Things You Know But Cannot Explain*, represents more than 40 years of work. This is the first major retrospective of Bartow's work and features a broad selection of sculptures, paintings, drawings, and prints from public and private collections and the artist's studio, on exhibit at MAM through February 15, 2020.

Drawing upon 10,000 years of Native American history, Lillian Pitt weaves tradition and tribute to honor the legacy of her ancestors in her solo exhibition *Honoring My Ancestors*. Pitt is celebrated nationwide for making contemporary artwork in the deep tradition of Pacific Northwest Native American artists. Her new work includes prints, masks, and a new series of Sally bags, on exhibit at MAM through February 22, 2020.

MAM will also offer an adult art class on Indigenous Peoples Day:

Sense of Place Through an Indigenous Lens

Monday, October 14 // 10 AM–12 PM

Co Carew discusses her Indigenous arts-based research focused on understanding a 'sense of place.' Carew, a descendant of Mescalero Apache, shares her methods and findings from research that she conducted with faculty, alumni, and students from the Salish Kootenai College. Participants are guided through an art-making experience to highlight and solicit their understanding of 'place.' Students will use paint and collage during this mixed-media art-making experience. No prior art experience is needed, and the class is open to all abilities. The class is \$18 for members and \$20 for non-members.

About MAM: Founded in 1975 and accredited by the American Association of Museums since 1987, MAM is emerging as the leading contemporary art museum in the Intermountain West. MAM is a fully accessible, free public museum boasting eight exhibition spaces, a library, and education center in the heart of Missoula's historic downtown.

If you would like more information about this topic, please call Brandon Reintjes at 406.728.0447 or email brandon@missoulaartmuseum.org.

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335 n. pattee // missoula, mt 59802 // p: 406.728.0447 // missoulaartmuseum.org