



AKTÁ LAKOTA

Museum & Cultural Center

- an outreach of St. Joseph's Indian School -



NATIONALLY RENOWNED CENTER OF AMERICAN INDIAN ART

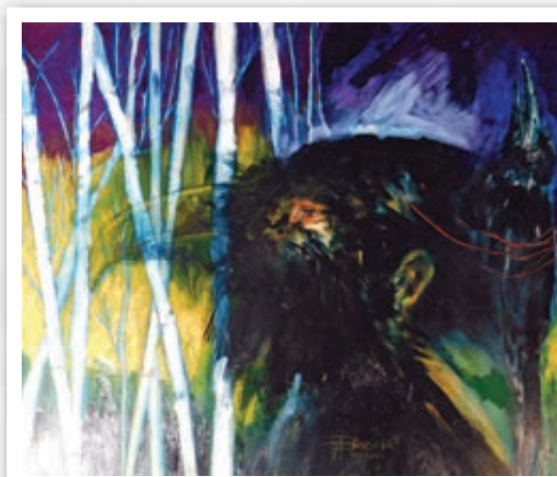
NEW ACQUISITIONS AT THE AKTÁ LAKOTA MUSEUM

BUILDING OUR COLLECTION

For those who love American Indian art, discovering The Aktá Lakota Museum is like discovering a hidden gem. Located in the heart of South Dakota on the campus of St. Joseph's Indian School the Aktá Lakota holds one of the largest Northern Plains Indian collections of historic and contemporary American Indian art. Now at nearly 3,000 pieces, the permanent collection continues to grow year by year.

Honoring American Indian artists who are working today—and creating opportunities for their evolving work to be seen by new audiences—is a major part of museum's mission.

When the museum's collections staff and Advisory Committee selects new pieces, they focus on new work by emerging contemporary Native artists who are not yet represented in the collection or finding work that reflects the creative development of those artists who are already part of the collection. Ultimately, the goal is to grow the collection in a way that



Paying Attention, 2021
Oil on Linen
Roger Broer, Oglala Lakota

exhibits the talent of American Indian artists by the diversity of their skill and perspective.

Pieces recently added to our collection include works by emerging artists Nate Ruleaux and Renelle White Buffalo, as well as works by established artists Roger Borer, Gerald Cournoyer Sr. and the late Donald D. Ruleaux.



Lakhótiya Wóglaka Po, 2021

Mixed Media on Canvas

Nathaniel Ruleaux, Oglala Lakota



Chief Gall, 2021

Acrylic on Canvas

Gerald Cournoyer Sr., Oglala Lakota



Eagle Horse, 1997

Silverpoint

Donald D. Ruleaux, Oglala Lakota
(1931-2020)

RECENT ACQUISITIONS THANKS TO GENEROUS DONORS!



Beaded Horse Blanket ca. 1880s

Collected in the South Dakota area in the early 1900s
Given in memory of Louise R. Smith (1923-2021)
by K. Smith



Pipestone Pipe Bowl, ca. 1890s

Found in the Fort Hale area on the Lower Brule
Reservation in 1927

Given in memory of
Amy Ferry (Pilker) Chrans (1922-2012)
by the Pilker-Chrans Family

COLLECTIONS RESEARCH - A VISIT FROM DR. BOL

Dr. Marsha Bol Ph.D. Emerita, Museum of International Folk Art of Santa Fe visited the Aḱtá Lakota Museum collections in October as part of research for her forthcoming book entitled “Lakota Women’s Arts of Quillwork and Beadwork 1820-2021”.

Dr. Bol’s purpose was to study collections of Lakota quillwork and beadwork that she had not seen before. Even though she has visited the collections of large museums and institutions around the country, she finds that the collections closer to the Lakota homelands have more information about where, when, and by whom objects have been made. A main motive for her research is to attach more names of women artists’ to their work to give them the credit their work deserves.



“I have been studying, researching, and interviewing Lakota women artists for the past 35 years, so it seemed about time (now that I am retired from 35 years of museum work) to put all of this information into a book form.” said Dr. Bol.

A Franklin Research Grant from the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia generously funded Dr. Bol’s research trip. In addition to visiting the Aḱtá Lakota Museum’s collections, Dr. Bol visited collections across South Dakota, from the Sioux Indian Museum in Rapid City, to the SD State Historical Society Museum and Archives in Pierre, to the W.H. Over Museum in Vermillion. She also visited with women artists from Rosebud and Pine Ridge communities.



MUSEUM HAPPENINGS

WÍCHÓZANI — 30 YEARS OF HONORING THE CULTURE

Over the decades, the museum's collective memory has provided exceptional research, exhibit and educational services to the students of St. Joseph's Indian School and all those interested in learning more about the rich culture and heritage of the

Northern Plains Indian people. As we commemorate our milestone anniversary we continue to share video tributes that lead visitors through the evolutionary moments that built our collection and educational programs. [Learn More: 30-Years Together!](#)



LAKOTA MOON CALENDAR

Ptanyétu — The Moons of Change (Autumn)

As summer gave way to fall, the Lakota got ready for winter. Food was gathered to last the winter season. Women prepared meat from the buffalo that the men hunted. Underground storage caches were filled with dried meat and fruit, and large quantities of firewood were stocked.

Canwápegi Wi — Moon When the Leaves Turn Brown

Canwapekasna Wi — Moon When the Wind Shakes off Leaves

Waníyetu Wi — Moon of the Rutting Deer

American Indians treasured nature and earth. The people's close connection to nature is seen in their calendars. Based on the moon cycles, the American Indian year was divided in to 13 moons with each moon being 28 days long.



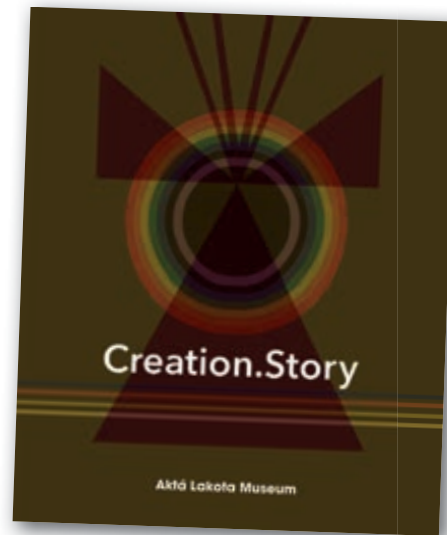
THE BEST GIFT SHOP AROUND!



The Museum's Gift Shop supports local and regional American Indian artist. The store features unique original art from handmade jewelry to colorful pottery and more. Star quilts, American Indian history books, cards, artistically designed t-shirts . . . all make this a shopping destination on site and [online](#).

CREATION.STORY OPENS IN DECEMBER

The words and images we use to communicate differ between cultures and change from generation to generation. Creation.Story explores how a culture's most important messages find a way to endure. This show is a contemporary version of the (Lakota) creation story, a collaborative exhibit featuring the MFA thesis work of Oglala Lakota artist Keith Braveheart. The exhibit is co-curated by Keith Braveheart and David A Meyer II – together they have expanded the exhibit to include the work of nine additional Lakota artists, Dyani White Hawk, Randi Lynn Boucher, Jhon Goes In Center, Inkpa Mani, Marlena Myles, Mikayla Patton, James Star Comes Out, Dwayne Wilcox, and Talon Ducheneaux. The exhibit is set to open at the Aktá Lakota on December 20, 2021 and runs through May 15, 2022.



GROUP TOURS & FUN-FILLED FIELD TRIPS

The Aktá Lakota Museum promotes learning for children of all ages and abilities through interactive, informal, hands-on exhibits and programming.

The museum is a welcoming, fun and enjoyable environment that honors the rich, beautiful history of the Lakota people. Exhibits, both inside and outside, are designed to include subjects in art, literature, culture, and history. The Museum is a place that provides children and adults a living lesson on the American Indian way of life — both past and present.

Plan your visit today!



CAMPUS TOURS

The Aktá Lakota Museum welcomes visitors and group tours.

Guided tours of St. Joseph's campus or the museum are available in a variety of ways:

- Self-guided audio tours: Drive or walk; for those who like to explore on their own, an audio tour is available anytime by dialing 1-877-342-0829. Campus maps are available at the front entrance of the museum.
- Private tours: Year round, by appointment only.



To schedule an appointment for a guided tour or request transportation for a tour, e-mail aktalakota@stjo.org or call 1-800-798-3452. [Need More Information?](#)

Visits are free — with donations encouraged — and the lessons last forever. Learn more about Lakota traditions and more things to do at the museum at aktalakota.org.

GENERAL MUSEUM INFORMATION

Aktá Lakota Museum & Cultural Center

St. Joseph's Indian School

1301 North Main Street

Chamberlain, SD 57325

Phone: 1-605-234-3452

Toll Free: 1-800-798-3452

E-Mail: aktalakota@stjo.org

Online: www.aktalakota.org

Memberships and Affiliations

ABA – American Bus Association

NTA – National Tour Association

ASDM – Association of South Dakota Museums

SDSHS – South Dakota State Historical Society

AAM – American Association of Museums

IACA – Indian Arts & Crafts Association

MPMA – Mountain Plains Museum Association

AASLH – American Assoc. for State &
Local History

Summer Hours

May – October

8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.; Monday - Saturday

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Sunday

Winter Hours

November – April

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; Monday - Friday

Closed weekends and National Holidays

- Interactive Displays
- Medicine Wheel Garden
- After Hours Tours by Appointment
- Bus/RV Parking
- Handicap-Accessible
- Guided Tours Available Upon Request

FREE ADMISSION

Donations Welcome

