

PRESS RELEASE

OUR PEOPLE OUR STORIES
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AUTUMN CELEBRATION OF ABORIGINAL CREATIVITY

Montreal, October 21, 2013 – The McCord Museum is highlighting Aboriginal art and cultures in the months of October and November, with many new features added to its regular programming. There will be screenings of short films, creative workshops, new contemporary Aboriginal works and a contest open to the general public. We invite visitors to discover the complex heritage of Canada's First Peoples!

Film screenings in collaboration with Wapikoni Mobile

Wapikoni Mobile is a creative audiovisual and music studio offering First Nations young people a chance to express themselves through short films. In collaboration with Wapikoni Mobile, the McCord Museum is holding four screenings at the Théâtre J.A Bombardier, starting October 30. These short films provide an opportunity to look at the unique, contemporary film creation of Aboriginal young people in Quebec. To enhance the experience, honoured guests will take part in the evenings and discuss themes with the public.

Overview of the program:

Wednesday, October 30, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Wapikoni. Stopover at Kitcisakik

Invited guest: Manon Barbeau, founder of Wapikoni Mobile

Shown in French with English sub-titles. A bilingual question period will follow.

Wednesday, November 6, 2013

Wapikoni Mobile. Selection 2012

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Status of Native Women in Quebec

Invited guest: MéliSSa Mollen Dupuis, cofounder of *Idle No More Québec*

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

The Work of First Nations

On November 6, 13 and 20, there will be two screenings (in French at 6:30 p.m. and in English at 7:30 p.m.) A bilingual question period will follow each of them.

Family activity: History in its Sunday best for First Peoples

Every Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. until November 10, 2013, families are invited to take part in a hands-on workshop highlighting ancestral vitality and know-how. Participants will learn how to string and weave beads to create a bracelet! This activity, free-of-charge, will be presented in French and English. Designed for children from 3 to 12 years of age, it will also allow parents to

appreciate the richness of First Peoples cultures and identity and learn about one of their art forms.

Contemporary art work by Maria Hupfield

In November, the McCord Museum will present the work of contemporary artist Maria Hupfield as part of the new permanent exhibition *Wearing our Identity – The First Peoples Collection*. This exhibition invites the public to learn about the importance of dress in the development, preservation and communication of social, cultural, political and spiritual identities for First Nations, Inuit and Métis people.

Contemporary works, selected twice a year by guest artist and curator Nadia Myre, explore the notion of identity and complete the exhibition. After Terrance Houle, Maria Hupfield will be the second artist to show her work.

The exhibition *Wearing our Identity – The First Peoples Collection* was produced through a financial contribution from the program *Aide aux projets – Appel de projets pour le soutien des expositions permanentes, volet 4* of the Quebec Cultural Heritage Fund of the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec. The restoration of artefacts in this exhibition was made possible through the generosity of The Molson Foundation. The Museum would also like to thank Tourisme Montréal, major sponsor of the exhibition.

Public contest

As part of the exhibition, the Museum invites visitors to take part in a contest offering an authentic experience. The grand prize is a package for two providing accommodation and a gourmet meal at the **Hôtel-Musée Premières Nations** in Wendake (valued at \$1400). It will also include:

-Two-night stay at the *Hôtel-Musée Premières Nations* in Wendake, breakfast included;

-A four-course gourmet menu inspired by First Nations cuisine at the renowned *La Traite* Restaurant;

-Two passes to discover the history and knowledge of the Wendat people;

-Montreal-Quebec City return train tickets for two with lunch included, travel in *Business* class, offered by **VIA Rail Canada**.

Two packages, *Traditional Huron Site*, for two people (worth \$749 each), and a Montreal-Quebec City return trip by train, *Business* class, offered by VIA Rail Canada, overnight stay and breakfast at the *Hôtel-Musée Premières Nations* in Wendake, entry to the traditional Huron site, *Onhoüa Chetek8e*, and a guided tour of the Huron-Wendat Museum will be offered as second prizes. The public can register online until November 20, 2013.

About the McCord Museum

The McCord Museum is dedicated to the preservation, study and appreciation of Montreal's history, as recounted by its people, artists and communities living in the city's past and present. The McCord Museum is home to one of the largest historical collections in North America, consisting of First Peoples objects, costumes and textiles, photographs, decorative and visual artworks, and textual archives, totalling more than 1.44 million artefacts. The McCord Museum produces exciting exhibitions that engage visitors from Montreal, Canada, and

beyond by offering them a contemporary look at the world. The McCord Museum also offers educational and cultural activities, as well as innovative projects on the Internet. ***McCord Museum: Our People, Our Stories.***

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Photographs available on request. We would be pleased to arrange interviews with Dominique Trudeau, Head, Education Programs and Sylvie Durand, Director, Programs.

Source and information:

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