

## 24th Annual Harvest Moon and Naturefest

Sunday, September 24  
from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

### Press release

Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum and Little Nature Museum celebrates the fall harvest with a day of Nature and Native American-themed craft demonstrations, nature presentations, hands-on activities, drumming and Native American foods. Visitors can watch as Native artisans demonstrate traditional crafts. Join in as we demonstrate how to burn a dugout canoe, ash-log pounding, flint knapping, twining a turkey mantle and basket making. This year Richard Brewster will share his wealth of knowledge on beekeeping, demonstrate a live observation hive and hold hourly raffles. Linda "Wampum Woman" and Sagamo (Chief) Roger Longtoe Sheehan of the Elnu Abenaki Tribe are returning this year. Roger is a cultural educator and both are members of The Vermont Abenaki Artists Association. You will be thrilled with the Franklin-Pierce University Anthropology Club Atlatl team! Take a nature walk in the Medicine Woods with Karin Tuininga and join Chris Bullock for the Eastern Woodland Encampment! Trustees, Volunteers and Staff will make delicious and nutritious Native American stews and desserts for sale in the food tent.

Harvest Moon and NatureFest is held on the museum grounds at 18 Highlawn Road on Mt. Kearsarge in Warner. Visitors can stroll through the arboretum, explore a teepee and wigwam, and tour two museums! Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum and the Little Nature Museum will provide free tours with paid Harvest Moon admission.

Special scheduled presentations include Wildlife Encounters with an opportunity for our visitors to see and learn about some of the smaller wildlife in a hands-on presentation. Storyteller, Debra Ballou, will bring her flute and drum to accent her repertoire of Native stories; guaranteed to entertain the youngest and the most sophisticated story palettes. Visitors can get up-close and personal with New Hampshire Audubon's Raptor Rapture as the biology and lifestyle of these great birds of prey are examined. The presenter will compare and contrast their remarkable features as live raptors are introduced to the group.

General Admission is \$10 for ages 12 through adult; \$5 for seniors and children ages 6 to 12 (Under 6 are FREE!); \$5 for members, \$30 Family rate and Free for Native Americans (Non-members who choose to become members that day will receive complimentary admission at Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum!).

Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum was founded in 1991 by Charles "Bud" and Nancy Thompson as an educational and cultural center to connect visitors with Native American culture, past and present, and to encourage respect for our environment. The Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum seeks to challenge all of us to improve the quality of our lives and our world. The museum is open daily May 1 – October 31, Monday – Saturday 10am-5pm, Sunday noon-5pm and on weekends in November.

For more information, please call 603-456-2600, e-mail [info@indianmuseum.com](mailto:info@indianmuseum.com), visit our Facebook page or see our Web site for a complete listing of upcoming events: [www.indianmuseum.org](http://www.indianmuseum.org).

## Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum Announces New Exhibit

Featuring Abenaki garments and accessories

### Press release

The Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum announces another new exhibit opening in September. Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum, Education and Cultural Center, connects people of today with 20,000 years of ongoing Native American cultural expression. The Museum embraces cultural diversity and encourages responsible environmental action based on respect for nature. Through these exhibitions and programs, the Museum seeks to challenge and inspire all of us to improve the quality of our lives and our world.

What does it mean to be an Abenaki person in the modern world? What does it mean to be an Indigenous artist? Native identity finds expression in different ways with each generation. Join Guest Curator Vera Longtoe Sheehan and MKIM curator Nancy Jo Chabot and as we explore the inspiration for Alnobak: Wearing Our Heritage and how this traveling exhibit has emerged from a decade-long collaboration between Lake Champlain Maritime Museum and Vermont's Abenaki artists, community members and tribal leaders.

Wearing Our Heritage brings before audiences in New England a group of objects and images that document the way in which garments and accessories that reflect Abenaki heritage have been and still are made and used to express Native identity. These objects are made and worn for self-affirmation, to affirm connections with family, clan, band and tribe, and to express identity within the geographical locale co-occupied with mainstream culture. We hope that this exhibition will encourage public engagement and understanding of some of the issues associated with Native identity and recognition, and evolving creative expression by members of a traditional culture.

"Identity is a negotiation between what others expect of you and what you expect of yourself," says Frederick M. Wiseman, Ph. D., Abenaki scholar and activist, who has spent several decades gathering, interpreting, and reconstructing artwork, artifacts, images and traditions of the Abenaki throughout the Northeast.

This special traveling exhibition developed through a partnership of the Vermont Abenaki Arts Association and the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum will be displayed in the contemporary art gallery from September through November.

Vera Longtoe Sheehan is an Abenaki teaching artist, activist and Director of the Vermont Abenaki Artists Association. She offers educational programs on Native American culture, traditions and crafts, which are appropriate for audiences of all ages. She has been doing lectures and demonstrations at tribal events, schools, museums and historic sites for almost twenty years. She is a citizen of the Elnu Abenaki Tribe and member of the Woodland Confederacy, a living history organization.

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Check out our Facebook page to stay connected to our events. For more information, please call 603-456-2600, visit our Web site at [www.indianmuseum.org](http://www.indianmuseum.org) or e-mail us at [info@indianmuseum.org](mailto:info@indianmuseum.org).

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