Five Oaks Museum Monthly E-Newsletter

November 2022

Issue 34

1 This IS Kalapuyan Land at Tran Library in Forest Grove

View the exhibition in person during November

The original panels of our exhibition, *This IS Kalapuyan Land,* will be on view for Native American History Month this month at the Tran Library on the Pacific University campus. As the campus was originally the first Indian Boarding School on the West coast and played a crucial role in the colonial oppression of Native people, it is a poignant location for this exhibition about Kalapuya peoples and history.

The display is presented through partnership with Forest Grove City Library and the Pacific University Student Multicultural Center. Our thanks to Dr. Jean Garcia Chitwood, Bob Abbey, and Eva Guggemos for supporting this partnership. Guggemos, who is on the museum's Cultural Resources Committee, has a video interview that shares some of her research about Indian boarding schools and Forest Grove's part in that history. Visit the exhibition during library hours at 2043 College Way, Forest Grove.

2 Introducing Tanya Ledford

Bringing Fresh Eyes to Grant Opportunities

We are excited to welcome Tanya Ledford to the Five Oaks support team! Tanya is an independent grant writer based in rural North Carolina who is helping the Museum research new grant opportunities and bringing more focus and experience to our grants management efforts.

Tanya will use her expertise to help increase our available funds to pay guest curators and other community members who support our content. Also, with her help, the Museum can continue improving the care level we give to the objects in our collection!

"I'm excited about the opportunity to work with the Five Oaks Museum because it will allow me to be part of a team that is dedicated to the five values of Body, Land, Truth, Justice, and Community and to ensure that all priorities and funding are aligned with those values," Tanya says, adding "it is a wonderful opportunity for me to expand my own education about and appreciation for those values."

3 Opening Update

Balancing Care and Responsibility

Those of you who follow us closely may have noticed that we have been planning to reopen with a new exhibition on November 5th. But as we already know, the pandemic has taught us a thing or two about the best laid plans. In the past year the museum has faced staffing changes, contractor and supply shortages, and perhaps a touch of overly-optimistic timeline drafting. We really miss you and we had hoped to be ready to open by now. At the same time, we want to approach reopening with our values front and center, as we do in all of our museum work. We know that when we give ourselves grace and dig deep for honesty--when we move at the speed of care--that's when we succeed.

We are working on an adjusted reopening plan and will continue to communicate where we're at with transparency and care. We sincerely hope that this shift in opening plans doesn't damage your trust in the organization. We take our responsibility to the public very seriously and are doing our best to create an exhibition that reflects the value of this community within the constraints created by these challenging times. We know that you are eager to be back in the building, but we also know that you deserve a museum ready to welcome you safely and thoughtfully. Thank you for being with us on this journey, and you'll hear more from us soon with an updated opening date! We can hardly wait until then.

Featured need:
Antique Top Hat - Don't Touch!

We're back with another unique need this month and graciously ask for your support to help us meet our goal.

In order to safely display this beaver top hat in the new exhibition, we must have a secure case made. In the past, milliners used toxic materials like mercury and arsenic to cure

animal hides. Given its fragile nature, it must be sealed to protect the object—and you!

French-Canadian, Native Hawaiian, and local Indigenous fur trappers met under the Five Oaks to exchange goods and tales. The story of the Five Oaks as a meeting place emerged from these economic and cultural exchanges.

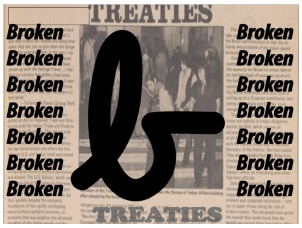
Top hat, made from beaver fur
circa 1864–1910
Five Oaks Museum Collection

A custom case and vitrine costs around $1800.
If just six of you dedicated history buffs become $25 monthly donors, we can include this fascinating item in our new exhibition!

Become a recurring donor at $5+ and get a free membership!

The Gathering Place

Museum & Community Updates



Nov 3–Dec 14: What Your White Mama Didn't Teach You About Indians

The Portland Community College's North View Gallery presents a new exhibition by Rochelle Kulei Nielsen, an artist and member of the Northwest band of the Shoshone Nation. Nielsen's work embraces her Native identity, honoring the craftsmanship, storytelling, and materials that are integral to Indigenous cultures. *More info here*

Nov 18: History Roundtable

The quarterly gathering to discuss local history projects will be hosted at the museum in person this month! Meeting from 1:30-3pm with a collection tour and refreshments. Contact molly@fiveoaksmuseum.org to RSVP or for more details.

Dec 3: This IS Kalapuyan Land Virtual Course

Join us online December 3rd at for an hour of Kalapuyan history with Steph Littlebird! Group bookings are closed for the winter, but this session is open for individuals on a sliding scale. *Register here*

Resource: Interpreting Transgender Stories guide is NOW LIVE!

The Task Force for Transgender Inclusion developed a guide on Interpreting Transgender Stories to recognize and address the

marginalization of transgender identities throughout history, and the politicization of trans identity in the twenty-first century. *Read more here*

Go See: Five Oaks Geocache

Visit the *"Meet Me At Five Oaks"* virtual geocache! This Virtual Cache is part of a limited release of Virtuals created between August 24, 2017 and August 24, 2018. Only 4,000 cache owners were given the opportunity to hide a Virtual Cache. *Learn more here*

Thanks for being part of our journey.
Join our community on social media:

Five Oaks Museum | 17677 NW Springville Rd, Portland Community College Rock Creek Campus, on Kalapuyan land, Portland, OR 97229

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