



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NATIVE TREASURES NAMES TAMMY GARCIA 2013 FEATURED ARTIST

Santa Fe, N.M. – The organizers of *Native Treasures: Indian Arts Festival* are pleased to announce the 2013 recipient of the *Native Treasures Living Treasure award*: noted potter and sculptor Tammy Garcia (Santa Clara Pueblo). The *Native Treasures Living Treasure Award* acknowledges both the body of work by an artist and the participation of that artist in the community at large. Garcia is renowned for her innovation, imaginative design, and flawless execution across a variety of media. She is an artistic mentor to younger artists and in 2012 funded the Tammy Garcia Award for Excellence at SWAIA's Indian Market.

"We are thrilled to have Tammy as our 2013 Museum of Indian Arts & Culture Living Treasure," explains Jane Buchsbaum, Artist Chairman for *Native Treasures*. "She is truly a gifted artist whose work incorporates traditional designs and modern iconography. Her forays into other media, such as bronze and glass, have been groundbreaking, while her pottery is always exceptional." Garcia is represented locally by Blue Rain Gallery, which carries her work in all media.

Raised at Santa Clara Pueblo, Garcia was born to a long line of talented and notable potters, not least of whom was Margaret Tafoya, her great-great-aunt. So it was reasonable that Tammy began with traditional, coil-built pottery. But even as a teenager, she began pushing the boundaries to experiment with different designs, three-dimensionality, and, eventually, symmetrical and asymmetrical shapes.

In 1999, she applied her skills to bronze. "I love working in bronze because I'm able to create on a much larger scale than I can with pottery," says Tammy. "It gives me a sense of freedom, allowing me to experiment. I also love the variety of colors and patinas available to me – I'm always looking for new ways to use them."

Tammy also works in glass, both blown and etched, and has collaborated with Preston Singletary and Shelley Muzylowski Allen. Garcia says that she relishes the way the colors work together and how the play of light changes the pieces.



Garcia's works have been exhibited extensively, including a *Tammy Garcia Retrospective* at the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art in Indianapolis in 2005 and *Beyond Tradition: The Pueblo Pottery of Tammy Garcia* at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C. Garcia's work is carried exclusively at Blue Rain Gallery, Santa Fe, NM, and Scottsdale, AZ.

"Being named the MIAC Living Treasure is a special honor for me," says Tammy. "The Museum of Indian Art and Culture's collections are an important trove of historic and ancient designs, which provide inspiration for so many artists, especially when they start out. I am honored that the Museum not only includes my art in their collections, but that the pieces are on continuous display."

Native Treasures has become one of the important Indian art shows in the country since its inception in 2005. More than 200 museum-quality artists from over 40 tribes and pueblos will showcase and sell their pottery, jewelry, glass, painting, sculpture, carvings, textiles and other art on Saturday, May 25 and Sunday, May 26 at the Santa Fe Convention Center. Artists are invited to participate, and show organizers work to bring in new talent each year. Selected demonstrations by artists, an eclectic mix of music, and delicious food will add to the festive atmosphere.

Proceeds from *Native Treasures* provide the primary funding for exhibits at MIAC. While the museum receives state funds for operating expenses, all exhibit funding must be raised privately. Sponsors of *Native Treasures* will also be recognized as exhibit supporters for all of the exhibits mounted at MIAC in 2013. Artists generously donate a portion of their sales to MIAC.

Friday Night Benefit

The honoring ceremony for Garcia will take place at a special benefit cocktail party on Friday, May 24, from 5:30-7:30 p.m., also at the Convention Center. Each year, the award for the Living Treasure artist is an original piece of art made and presented by the previous year's Living Treasure honoree. Last year's award recipient was Diné painter, Tony Abeyta.

Also that evening is a special sale of art created around the theme "rain." Guests have the opportunity to mingle with many of the *Native Treasures* artists. Hors d'oeuvres, wine and champagne will be served. Tickets for the Friday party are \$100 and are also available as part of *Native Treasures* sponsorships.

Breakfast with Tammy Garcia

Continuing a tradition begun three years ago, Tammy will also speak at a special breakfast on Wednesday, May 22, 9-11 a.m. called "Breakfast with the Artist." The breakfast at the Museum Hill Café and presentation at the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture are an opportunity for attendees to hear Tammy speak about her art and to ask questions.

www.nativetreasures.org

NATIVE TREASURES: INDIAN ARTS FESTIVAL

WHAT: Native Treasures, now in its ninth year, is an invitational art show and sale featuring the best Native art in the U.S. Proceeds provide exhibition funding for the Museum of Indian Arts & Culture.

Featuring:

- More than 200 museum-quality artists from over 40 tribes and pueblos
- Best and brightest of the Indian art world
- Santa Fe's only museum-quality Indian art show

WHEN: Saturday, May 25 & Sunday, May 26, 2013

Saturday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, \$10; Sunday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, Free
(Early Birds Saturday 9-10 am, \$20)
Festival tickets available at entrance

Friday, May 24, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Benefit Pre-Sale Party, offering unique “rain”-themed pieces created by artists just for this evening
2013 MIAC Living Treasure will be honored with a gift from the 2012 MIAC Living Treasure, Tony Abeyta

Attendees will meet and mingle with the artists
Hors d'oeuvres and wine/champagne will be served
\$100 (includes an Early Bird ticket for Saturday)
Tickets: www.ticketsantafe.org, 505-988-1234, or visit the Lensic Box Office

WHERE: Santa Fe Convention Center at the corner of Marcy and Grant Streets; Santa Fe, New Mexico

INFO: 505-476-1250, www.nativetreasures.org

FOR IMAGES, INTERVIEWS, PRESS PASSES & OTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT Jennifer Marshall, 505-231-1776, Jennifer@jmarshallplan.com