



MEDIA RELEASE

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HEARD MUSEUM TO BEGIN WORK TO EXPAND AMERICAN INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOLS EXHIBIT WITH \$60,445 PLANNING GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

‘Remembering Our Indian School Days’ will ultimately be expanded and add traveling exhibitions for national and local use and a catalogue documenting the experiences of Native youth

PHOENIX – The Heard Museum will begin planning to expand a long-term exhibit that documents the experiences of tens of thousands of American Indian youth in federal boarding schools with a \$60,445 planning grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Remembering Our Indian School Days: The Boarding School Experience, which opened in 2000 in the East Gallery of the museum, 2301 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, will be ultimately expanded and reinterpreted. The funding will also pay the cost of setting forth plans for creating a traveling exhibition which will be sent to other museums around the country, two smaller traveling panels exhibits to be used locally, and publication of a catalogue that would study the experience of those attending boarding and tribal schools between the late 19th century and today.

The grant was one of 212 the NEH announced July 28 and one of only two in Arizona.

The exhibit, originally planned as a three-year exhibit, has remained popular with audiences since it opened 15 years ago and continues to surprise the museum’s visitors and news media with its content and impact. Many have said after viewing it they were unaware of this chapter in American history.

“Our boarding school exhibit has been receiving a powerfully emotional response from our visitors for many years,” said John Bulla, the Heard Museum’s interim director and CEO. “This grant will give us the opportunity to plan the expansion of exhibit content enabling future audiences to learn more about this important episode in American history.”

“The grant projects announced today represent the very best of humanities scholarship and

programming,” said NEH Chairman William Adams. “NEH is proud to support programs that illuminate the great ideas and events of our past, broaden access to our nation’s many cultural resources, and open up for us new ways of understanding the world in which we live.”

The NEH said that its support this year will benefit institutions and independent scholars in 42 states and the District of Columbia.

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About the Heard

Since 1929, the Heard Museum, a private non-profit organization, has enchanted visitors from around the world with the art, culture and history of indigenous peoples of the Americas with an emphasis on tribes and other cultures of the Southwest. With more than 40,000 fine artworks and cultural artifacts in its permanent collection, 12 long-term and changing exhibit galleries, an education center, an award-winning Shop, the Books & More boutique bookstore, Coffee Cantina and Courtyard Café, the Heard Museum is a place of learning, discovery and unforgettable experiences.

Exhibit, event and program funding are provided in part by the Arizona Commission on the Arts, the Arizona Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture.

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