

**HEARD MUSEUM BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TRIBAL RELATIONS INITIATIVE
BOARD RESOLUTION 2013-04**

WHEREAS, the Heard Museum, Arizona's longest standing cultural museum, was founded in 1929 with a mission to educate people about the arts, heritage, and life ways of the Indigenous peoples of the Americas, with an emphasis on American Indian tribes of the Southwest, and

WHEREAS, the Heard Museum has a unique role in promoting cultural understanding and appreciation of diversity and the values inherent in American Indian culture to a broader audience, and

WHEREAS, it is vital to the success of the Heard Museum to maintain and cultivate close relationships with the Indigenous peoples represented through its collections, exhibitions, programming, and activities, and

WHEREAS, the Heard Museum leadership recognizes that improvements can be made with regard to communication and collaboration with local and regional Native leadership, governments, organizations, associations, and individuals, and

WHEREAS, a tribal relations task force is initiated by the Board Chairman to recognize and address concerns, and strengthen relationships between American Indian tribes and the Heard Museum, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Heard Museum, its Trustees, staff, and volunteers are committed to the following objectives:

1. Communication

Review current communications efforts, and redesign as necessary to issue regular written and face-to-face communication as to relationship, strategy and pertinent operations with tribal leaders, focusing first on Southwest regional tribes within the year, and thence to surrounding states.

2. Engagement

Develop, issue, and pursue an internal policy, applicable throughout the Heard, requiring focus and collaboration on tribal relations.

3. Collaboration

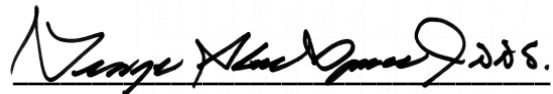
Starting with Southwest regional tribes and associations, prioritize collaborative opportunities per tribe (or as a whole) in any area – education, exhibits, programming, advocacy, retail, facility use, etc. – assign it as appropriate and complete as many as practicable within one year.

4. Assessment

Assess (measure) tribal participation in, and satisfaction with, Heard Museum activities.

NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees establishes the American Indian Advisory Committee (AIAC), a standing committee as described by the Heard Museum Bylaws, to ensure the fulfillment of the commitments set forth herein and to facilitate continued dialog and engagement with the Museum's American Indian constituencies in consultation with the Museum Director and key Museum staff.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on September 12, 2013:



Dr. George Blue Spruce, Jr.
Secretary, Board of Trustees