



PRESS RELEASE

Heard Museum Announces John Coggins as New Board of Trustees Chair

PHOENIX (Oct. 3, 2023) – [The Heard Museum](https://heard.org/) announced today the appointment of John Coggins as the new chair of its board of trustees. Coggins is the first Indigenous board chair in the organization's 95-year history and succeeds John F. Lomax, who began his tenure in 2021.

Coggins has been a longtime supporter of the Heard and has served on the board since January 2019. During that time he has been active on several committees, including Finance, Human Resources and the American Indian Advisory Committee, and he just completed a two-year tenure as board vice-chair. Coggins is a member of the Choctaw Nation, and his wife is a member of the Navajo Nation.

“John’s dedication to the Heard’s mission of advancing American Indian art and his support of Indigenous communities, especially in Arizona, has been an inspiration to all of us,” said Heard Museum Dickey Family Director and CEO David M. Roche. “The trustees, staff and volunteers look forward to working with him on successfully implementing on our new strategic plan that will guide us into our Centennial year in 2029.”

Coggins, who has more than 38 years of experience in the energy industry, is the associate general manager and chief power system executive for Salt River Project. SRP provides sustainable, reliable and affordable water and power to more than 2 million people in central Arizona with nearly \$4 billion in annual operating revenues. Coggins is responsible for the operation of SRP’s power system, including renewable, hydro, nuclear and fossil-fuel power generation, a high-voltage transmission system and an extensive electrical distribution network.

Duties that Coggins will be responsible for in his new role include representing the board, overseeing board affairs, ensuring compliance of the board bylaws in collaboration with the museum director and CEO, overseeing partnerships with other institutions and more.

“It’s an honor to serve the Heard Museum, a community and national treasure. This position has special meaning for my family and me based on our family heritage,” Coggins said. “There is a deep connection to the art that is so thoughtfully displayed in the galleries and the outdoor sculpture gardens. I am humbled to serve alongside so many talented and committed individuals.”

For more information on the Heard Museum, visit <https://heard.org/>.

Notes to Editors:

The Heard Museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. It is closed on Easter, Independence Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Ticket prices for the museum are as follows: adults are \$25 at the door, \$22.50 online; seniors (65+) are \$20 at the door, \$18 online; students with a valid ID are \$10 at the door, \$9 online; children (6-17) are \$10 at the door, \$9 online; all children 5 years and under, American Indians (with Tribal ID or CIB) and Heard Museum members are free.

Photography of any kind may not be used for publication without written permission from the museum and/or artists.

Credentialed members of the media may contact a member of the marketing staff for more information concerning photography of public events or museum galleries.

About The Heard Museum:

Since its founding in 1929, the Heard Museum, a private nonprofit organization, has grown in size and stature to become recognized internationally for the quality of its collections, world class exhibitions, educational programming and unmatched festivals. Dedicated to the advancement of American Indian art, the Heard successfully presents the stories of American Indian people from a first-person perspective as well as exhibitions that showcase the beauty and vitality of traditional and contemporary art. The Heard Museum is supported, in part, by the generosity of Heard Museum members and donors, the Arizona Commission on the Arts, and the City of Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture. In association with the Smithsonian, the Heard Museum is part of a select group of museums and cultural, educational and arts organizations that share the Smithsonian's resources with the nation. For more information, please visit heard.org.



To follow updates on the museum via Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, use @heardmuseum.

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A full media kit with logos, high-resolution images, past announcements and more can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3yVh8ho>.