

PRESS RELEASE

Heard Museum Earns Reaccreditation Award from American Alliance of Museums

The Heard Only One of 1,103 Currently Accredited Museums

PHOENIX – <u>The Heard Museum</u> is proud to announce it has been selected as one of 40 museums across the country to receive the reaccreditation award from <u>The American Alliance of Museums</u>, the only organization representing the entire scope of the museum community. Of the nation's estimated 33,000 museums, only 1,103 are currently accredited. Accreditation is achieved through a rigorous process of self-assessment and careful review by peer organizations. A full list of museums that were accredited or reaccredited can be found <u>here</u>.

Recognized as the field's gold standard for museum excellence for over 50 years, AAM accreditation signifies a museum's quality and credibility to the entire museum community, to governments and outside agencies, and to the museum-going public. The Accreditation Program helps ensure the integrity and accessibility of museum collections, reinforces the educational and public service roles of museums, and promotes good governance practices and ethical behavior.

"To again achieve accreditation from The American Alliance of Museums is a thrilling affirmation for the Heard Museum," said David M. Roche, Dickey Family Director and Heard Museum CEO. "I want to congratulate the Board of Trustees and staff whose years of dedication and consistent hard work to meet the highest professional standards is reflected in this honor."

The Heard Museum's mission is to be the world's preeminent museum for the presentation, interpretation, and advancement of American Indian art, emphasizing its intersection with broader artistic and cultural themes. Founded in 1929, the museum is one of the largest and oldest cultural organizations in Arizona. The Heard seeks to inspire and educate visitors about Indigenous art and culture through original exhibitions, scholarly publications, our library and archival resource collection, educational initiatives, and public programs.

The Heard welcomes ~145,000 visitors annually to its 8-acre Phoenix downtown campus and stewards a permanent collection of more than 44,000 works of Indigenous creation. The New York Times, Condé Nast Traveler, and USA Today have ranked the Heard among the best museums in the U.S. and a top tourist stop when visiting Phoenix. The Heard is a member of the Association of Art Museum Directors and accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.

The museum is committed to thoughtfully, respectfully, and accurately presenting works of Indigenous creation. This requires the ongoing involvement of Indigenous scholars, artists, and community members who serve on the museum's board and staff and also as guest curators, consultants, and advisors for the development of exhibitions and programs.

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

Notes to Editors:

The museum is open Monday to Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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 five 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.

About the American Alliance of Museums:

The American Alliance of Museums (AAM) is the only organization representing the entire museum field, from art and history museums to science centers and zoos. Since 1906, we have been championing museums through advocacy and providing museum professionals with the resources, knowledge, inspiration, and connections they need to move the field forward.



Follow updates on the exhibition via Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

Heard Museum Media Contact: Ivana Morales 973-864-4523 ivana@evolveprandmarketing.com

American Alliance of Museums Press Contact: Natanya Khashan media@aam-us.org

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