



NATIONAL CENTER FOR GREAT LAKES NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE, INC.
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2008 NCGLNAC Lectures Series

Portland, IN – March 4, 2008. Learn about Great Lakes Native American culture and history by attending the three-part lecture series sponsored by National Center for Great Lakes Native American Culture, Inc. (NCGLNAC) and hosted by the Jay County Historical Society. All three lectures begin at 5 p.m. and are free and open to the public. The Jay County Historical Society Museum is located at 903 East Main Street in Portland.

March 8 - NCGLNAC Lecture Series – Session 1. Robin McBride Scott, Cherokee descent, will discuss the fur trade era and its impact on the material culture of the Great Lakes Native peoples. The fur trade brought more than guns, pots and knives to the Native Peoples of the Great Lakes region. It brought with it new materials, ideas, styles and ways of thinking that were not found in traditional culture. This lecture will discuss the traditional arts of Great Lakes Native peoples and how the advent of the Fur Trade affected the development of styles, designs, and materials used in the material culture and the ways of viewing the world around them. Mrs. Scott is a nationally-recognized artist and lecturer. In addition, her research into river cane basketry has resulted in her being chosen by the Smithsonian Museum in their 40th Annual Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington, DC. The Festival featured *Carriers of Culture: Living Native Basket Traditions*. The Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian honored Mrs. Scott again by naming her one of 6 visiting artists selected to participate in their 2008 Native Arts Program.

April 5 – NCGLNAC Lecture Series – Session 2. Sara Wagar, tribal elder and former principal chief of the Piqua Shawnee tribe, will discuss the impact of the ever-advancing white invasion of the Shawnee homeland during the latter half of the 1700's on the Shawnee people, their way of life, and the struggles they went through as they tried to determine the best path to take to preserve their way of life and their very life itself. Her talk will draw correlations to modern-day events. This lecture coincides with the NCGLNAC Cultural Arts Classes April 5 and 6.

May 17 – NCGLNAC Lecture Series – Session 3. John Dunnagan, Vice-Chief of the Miami Indians of the State of Indiana and tribal historian, will discuss the history and struggles of the Miami people in Indiana, their homeland.

National Center for Great Lakes Native American Culture, Inc. was formed as a not-for-profit 501(c)3 educational organization. The Center is composed of Native and non-Native members whose mission is to continue and preserve traditional Great Lakes Native American art, history and culture by helping pass those traditions on to Native People and by educating the general public about the importance of

Great Lakes Native peoples, their art, history and culture. NCGLNAC now owns nearly 30 acres (generously donated by the Jay County Fair Board) of beautiful, wooded land, complete with pond and wetlands, located just north of the Jay County Fairgrounds in Portland. The first ethno-botanical hiking trail is nearing completion and will be open to the public in 2008.

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