



**NATIONAL CENTER FOR GREAT LAKES NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE, INC.**  
**PO Box 1063, Portland, IN 47371 [www.ncglnac.org](http://www.ncglnac.org)**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: For more information contact Kay Neumayr, NCGLNAC  
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### **Great Lakes Native American Classes Planned**

**Portland, Indiana** - National Center for Great Lakes Native American Culture, Inc. will offer traditional Great Lakes Native American cultural arts classes at the Women's Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland, Indiana, March 24 and 25, 2012. The classes explore the arts, crafts, traditions, culture and history of Great Lakes Native Americans through hands-on workshop classes and presentations by Native American tradition bearers, talented artisans and experts on Native American culture. Four classes are open to everyone age 12 and up and one class is for children age 6 and up. All classes are 10 hours long. *These cultural arts classes are made possible in part by the Indiana Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts.*

**Children's Class – "Remembering American Indian History" – Pat Ruhlander, Cherokee and Metis, Mulberry, Indiana.** Children ages 6 and up. Oral history is very important to Native peoples. Children will learn oral history of many tribes and will make their own Winter Count or family history on a rabbit hide, using pictographs and other symbols. Children will make a 4 strand bone choker, make a game of sticks and a bag to carry them in. They will also learn about the four sacred plants and make a pouch for keeping them. Class fee of \$12 includes all materials.

**Fingerweaving – George Wieske, Royal Oak, Michigan.** George Wieske is well-known for his beautiful and intricate fingerwoven sashes, armbands and other items. We believe he is one of the greatest fingerweavers. In this class he will teach the basics of fingerweaving, weaving yarn into patterns without a loom. With youth, parents may observe the class but not participate in the class activities. Materials Fee: \$10.

**Scrimshaw – George Trendle.** George has been doing scrimshaw on antler, horn, bone and old ivory for 18 years, although he is a lifelong artist with his media of choice charcoal, pastels, wood burning and scrimshaw. He has scrimshaw pieces all over this country (even Kenny Rogers owns some of his scrimshaw!), Germany, Ireland and Switzerland. Beginning with corian, participants will learn the basic techniques of carving into the material, coloring, polishing and making it ready to wear. Participants may bring their own antler, bone, horn or shell and George will show how to prepare it for carving. George will supply all tools and the corian. Material fee: \$10.

**Floral Bead Embroidery Barrette – Katrina Mitten, Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, Huntington, IN.** Katrina is well-known for her beautiful, award-winning bead work, including an Eiteljorg Purchase Award. She has exhibited in many venues. Students in this class will make small floral bead embroidery hair barrette. Katrina will supply a kit that includes the beads in different hues, the pattern already applied to the fabric, backing, thread, needles and barrette. Material Fee: \$20. Class Limit is 15 students.

**Arrow Making – Rex Marshall, Wilmington, Ohio.** Students will remember Rex as the hard-working teacher of last summer's bow making class. In this class students will process their own arrow shaft, feathers, nock and broadhead from raw materials to make a finished Native American style arrow. Multiple arrows can be made, time permitting. Rex will provide all materials and tools, but students are encouraged to bring their own files and a sharp knife. Bring a bow to test your arrows. Material Fee: \$25.

Class sizes are limited. Pre-registration is requested by March 16, 2012. Adult class fee is \$55 for NCGLNAC members and \$80 for non-members. The children's class is \$12, including all materials. A very limited number of scholarships are available. Contact Linda Andrews at 765-427-9324 or [linda.andrews@ncglnac.com](mailto:linda.andrews@ncglnac.com) for scholarship information. Contact Kay Neumayr at 765-426-3022 or [kay.neumayr@ncglnac.com](mailto:kay.neumayr@ncglnac.com) for general information.

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 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 was opened to the public in 2008.



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