

# SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA

# AH-TAH-THI-KI

## M U S E U M

A PLACE TO LEARN, A PLACE TO REMEMBER.

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For Immediate Release

## **Seminole Museum Hosts 18<sup>th</sup> Annual American Indian Arts Celebration (AIAC) in Big Cypress November 6-7, 2015**

### **Indigenous Cultural Explosion in the Everglades to Feature Native American Arts, Crafts, and Live Entertainment**

**Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation, Fla.** (October 12, 2015) - The Seminole Tribe of Florida's Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum is pleased to announce our most anticipated American Indian Arts Celebration (AIAC) to date! This year's AIAC will be held on November 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Now in its 18<sup>th</sup> year, the AIAC is one of the top festivals in the Southeast.

The event will feature an exciting array of artisans, Seminole food vendors, food trucks, children's craft activities, musical performances, dance demonstrations, wildlife presentations, alligator wrestling and storytelling. This year's festival also features the NYC critically acclaimed exhibition *Seminole Spirit* by Russell James and Nomad Two Worlds, with both indoor and outdoor displays. The Indian market will showcase some of the finest Native American craftsmen from around the country including prize-winning Seminole artisans. Daily performances will include an opening ceremony by Seminole Tribal elder Bobby Henry, the Warriors of AniKituhwa Cherokee Dancers, alligator wrestling by Billy Walker, and musical acts including Rita Youngman and folk singer Jerry Mincey. In addition, our daily roster includes archery demonstrations and Wilse Bruisedhead with the Florida cow whip. On Saturday, enjoy a Seminole patchwork fashion show and martial arts presentation. The Museum's very own Van Samuels will emcee the festivities. Festival goers can also enjoy giveaways, free craft activities, and traditional food samples. Our featured Museum exhibits include: *It's Not a Costume-Modern Seminole Patchwork*, *Guy LaBree: Painted Stories of the Seminoles*, and *Seminole Spirit*. New to this year enjoy docents throughout the Museum galleries to enhance the experience.

The event will take place on the festival grounds across from the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum on the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation.

Admission is \$10 for adults; \$7.50 for seniors and students. Children four years and under and Museum members are free. Admission includes entrance to the event and the Museum. Parking is ample and free. There will also be a special shuttle to Billie Swamp Safari for event attendees to view the animal exhibits and enjoy half price airboat and swamp buggy rides. Event hours are 10am-5pm both days.

For more information on the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual AIAC please visit [www.ahtahthiki.com](http://www.ahtahthiki.com) or contact Carrie Dilley at 863-902-1113 extension 12211 or [carriedilley@semtribe.com](mailto:carriedilley@semtribe.com). For Group Rates (10+) please contact Rebecca Petrie at extension 12209 or [rebeccapetrie@semtribe.com](mailto:rebeccapetrie@semtribe.com).

#### **About the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum**

The Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum is owned and operated by the Seminole Tribe of Florida. Situated in the Everglades on a 66-acre cypress dome on the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation, the Museum offers more than 8,000 square feet of gallery space. Exhibits feature rare artifacts and lifelike dioramas that depict Seminole life at the turn of the century. In 2009, the Museum became the first tribally governed museum to be accredited by the American Association of Museums. Open seven days a week from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., the Museum is located 17 miles north of Interstate 75 at Exit 49. For more information, visit [www.ahtahthiki.com](http://www.ahtahthiki.com) or call 877-902-1113.

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