

SEMINOLE WARS EXHIBIT OPENS AT TRIBAL MUSEUM

Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum Hosts Opening Events for Tools of War Exhibit

BIG CYPRESS, FLA. (Feb. 17, 2011) – With weaponry and other items from its extensive collection, the Seminole Tribe of Florida’s Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum has opened its highly anticipated Tools of War exhibit. Special events are planned March 11 for tribal and museum members and March 12 for the general public. Event features will include the living history of the Seminole with U.S. military encampments, re-enactors and speakers, and exhibit discussions and tours. Traditional Seminole foods also will be available.

Tools of War explores weaponry advancements between 1817 and 1858, how the Seminole incorporated the advancements into their style of warfare and the effect on the three Seminole Wars. The objects on display are presented with the story of the Seminole Tribe of Florida during the wars. In their struggle to overcome oppressive governmental regulations, the Seminole Tribe of Florida persevered against great odds by using guerrilla warfare, along with an ability to adapt to new technology.

“This fascinating exhibit will appeal to historical re-enactors, weaponry enthusiasts and history buffs. By showcasing items from the Seminole Wars, we are able to tell our story in our voice,” says Tina Osceola, chief historic resources officer for the tribe and executive director of the museum. “The exhibit’s opening events are must-attend for anyone interested in Seminole history and its living culture.”

From 1- 4 p.m. March 11, tribal and museum members may attend an opening event at the museum, on the Big Cypress Indian Reservation in the Everglades. A members-only, behind-the-scenes tour will start at 3 p.m., and reservations must be made by March 7 by calling Mary Birch-Hanson at 954-364-5205 or by e-mailing her at marybirch-hanson@semtribe.com. The general public is invited to opening events 10 a.m.-4 p.m. March 12, with a behind-the-scenes tour at 3 p.m. Space is limited. To reserve a spot, call Sarah Whitehead at 877-902-1113, or e-mail her at sarahwhitehead@semtribe.com.

About the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum

The Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum is the tribally owned and operated museum of 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 5,000 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 daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m., the museum is located north of Interstate 75 at Exit 49. For more information, visit www.ahtahthiki.com or call 877-902-1113.