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### **Events scheduled for Great Sioux Horse Effigy Return Celebration**

PIERRE, S.D. -- The South Dakota State Historical Society will host a series of events in October celebrating the return of the Great Sioux Horse Effigy from its international tour.

The Great Sioux Horse Effigy Return Celebration will be held in several locations in Pierre beginning Saturday, Oct. 10, and culminating in a special ceremony on Monday, Oct. 12, during observance of Native American Day. There is no fee to attend any of the programs or events (with the exception of the Sunday evening banquet), but donations will be accepted and appreciated.

“We wanted to do something special to mark the return of the effigy to South Dakota,” said Jay Smith, museum director for the South Dakota State Historical Society at the Cultural Heritage Center. “We wanted to make certain that we honored our American Indian heritage with events, programs and special guests who would join us in welcoming back one of the most iconic artifacts in Plains Indian culture. The diverse events and activities should appeal to the entire family.”

Saturday’s events include cultural programs by Larry and Doris Beltz at the Capitol Lake Visitor Center; presentations at the Cultural Heritage Center by Daniel Brosz and Jay Smith, Jozelle Gingway Godfrey and Verna K. Boyd; and American Indian arts demonstrations at the CHC by Mike Marshall, Alanna Blackbird, Mary and Francis Country, Amber Landreau and Jen Carter from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. CST.

Sunday’s events include Indian hoop dancer Dallas Chief Eagle in the Capitol Rotunda at 1 p.m. American Indian arts demonstrations by Mike Marshall, Alanna Blackbird, Mary and Francis Country, Amber Landreau and Jen Carter will be at the CHC from 1-4 p.m.; and a special American Indian crafts make-n-take will be available for all ages. There is no fee for the make-n-take activity, and each participant will be able to take their creation home.

A Sunday evening banquet at the Ramkota Hotel features speakers Kevin Gover, director of the National Museum of the American Indian, and Gaylord Torrence, senior curator of American Indian Art at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art. South Dakota Public Broadcasting will record the banquet for future programming use.

The weekend culminates Monday with a ceremony at the CHC welcoming the Great Sioux Horse Effigy back to South Dakota. Special guests will be on hand to make comments and join in ceremonies surrounding Native American Day and the importance of the return of the effigy to its home state.

The Great Sioux Horse Effigy will be on display in the primary gallery of the museum beginning Saturday, Oct. 10, at 9 a.m., along with two other dance sticks borrowed from the State Historical Society of North Dakota and the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of the American Indian. The new display of the three dance sticks will be on view for two years.

This is the first time since the South Dakota State Historical Society became a Smithsonian Affiliate in 2013 that the society has exercised its privilege to borrow an artifact from one of the Smithsonian museums.

The return event follows the effigy's display as part of the international touring exhibition, "The Plains Indians: Artists of Earth and Sky." The exhibition of Plains Indian masterworks, which featured the iconic effigy, was on display beginning April 2014 in Paris, Kansas City and New York City. Over 500,000 people viewed the exhibition at its three venues.

For more information, visit the society's website at [history.sd.gov](http://history.sd.gov) or call (605) 773-3458.

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***About the South Dakota State Historical Society***

*The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Education. The State Historical Society, an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is headquartered at the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. The center houses the society's world-class museum, the archives, and the historic preservation, publishing and administrative/development offices. Call (605) 773-3458 or visit [www.history.sd.gov](http://www.history.sd.gov) for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.*