



TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION  
OFFICE OF THE  
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O'ODHAM HA-WE:HEJED  
"For the People"



## PRESS RELEASE

Friday, June 16, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION CULTURAL CENTER & MUSEUM CELEBRATES ITS 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ON JUNE 17

SELLS, Ariz. – On Saturday, June 17, 2017, the Tohono O'odham Nation Cultural Center & Museum – *Himdag Ki: Hekihu, Hemu, Im B I-Ha'ap* – will celebrate ten years of serving the community. This all-day event is open to the public and will feature artist and food vendors, workshops, a book fest, contest and dancing presentations, a Toka tournament, Waila music, and more. Media interested in attending is asked to call Matt Smith at 520-907-1234 in advance to coordinate.

The day will start with an early morning run from Baboquivari Park to the Cultural Center & Museum from 5:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m., followed by a Toka tournament and a Wuicuda tournament at 7:00 a.m. The official opening of the celebration gets underway at 9:00 a.m. in the museum patio.

Workshops and a Book Fest will run from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and include:

- Adobe Brick Making with Amy Juan
- Crochet Desert Animal with Cheryl Francisco
- Flintknapping with Allen Denoyer
- O'odham Women's Community Art Project
- Pottery with the Potters
- Seashell Etching with Jacob Butler

At 1:00 p.m., contests and Waila dance lessons will take place on the museum patio. Contests include Beautiful Baby, Men's Sewing, Nail Driving, and Watermelon Eating. The O'odham Women's Community Art Project will be presented at 4:30 p.m.

Dinner will be provided at 6:00 p.m. in the amphitheater, along with traditional singing and dancing. The celebration will conclude with a Waila performance by South Image in the amphitheater at 8:00 p.m.

For ten years, the Cultural Center& Museum has worked to promote understanding and respect of O'odham himdag through educational programs and public outreach. The Cultural Center& Museum is located in Topawa, AZ. For more information on the Cultural Center& Museum, please call (520) 383-0200.

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