

New gallery part of a larger vision

Gorge casino to spearhead promotion of tribal art in the Pacific Northwest

By Shannon Keaveny
Spilyay Tymoo

Apolonia Santos made a promise to her elders that one day she would return to the reservation and do something to help her people.

That obligation largely inspired talks that began last fall to create a means for tribal member artists and artisans to develop an economy and market for tribal arts and crafts.

Jeff Ford, general manager of Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort and Casino, Rudy Clements, chairman of the board of directors, and Santos, now curator of the new gallery, began dreaming up a vision.

"Our vision is to purchase Warm Springs tribal art for marketing purposes to help the artist or artisan promote their local artwork," explained Santos.

In preparation for a new casino being built somewhere in the Columbia Gorge by 2005, the three decided to start establishing a strong core of tribal member art for a larger gallery at the gorge.

The new gallery spaces at Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort and Casino, which recently opened, are just the first step.

The goal is to provide additional outlets for display of local artwork on tribal lands. Until recently, the annual tribal exhibit at the Museum at Warm Springs was the only opportunity.

"This is really advance work to establish who the tribal artists and artisans are so we can establish a system to market their work at Kah-Nee-Ta, eventually at the gorge, and for an international tribal website," explained Santos.

"But at the gorge, the gallery would be on a much larger scale," she added.

Many tribal artists and artisans have never sold their work. By starting now, said Santos, we can help educate them on how to market their art and have a



Above, Apolonia Santos at her home studio working on an oil painting. The painting, most of which she did with a toothpick, will be a part of the Maryhill Museum's "Reflecting Lewis and Clark: Contemporary American Indian viewpoints" exhibit from July 12 to Nov. 15. The painting depicts a woman from each tribe, from east to west, that Lewis and Clark encountered on their journey. Some of the tribes are extinct today. Below, Santos puts finishing touches on artwork.

strong core group by 2005.

The gallery can also help develop a larger market for artisans, such as bead-workers.

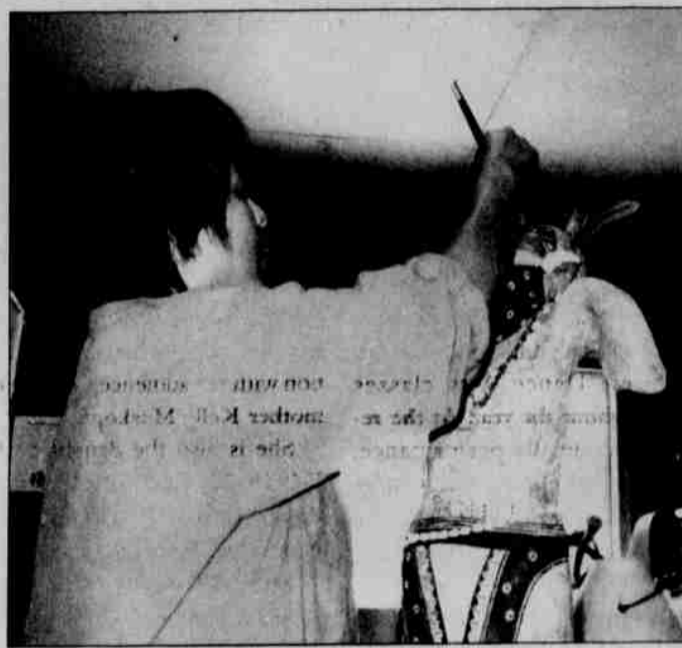
Eventually the new casino will spearhead the promotion of tribal art throughout the Pacific Northwest. We hope the art will be dispersed between the Museum at Warm Springs, Kah-Nee-Ta, and the gorge casino, said Santos.

Santos hopes to create a movement that could match the Southwest Native American art movement.

"I believe if we can develop art and support our artisans that we will eventually be up to par with the Southwest Indians, in a relatively reasonable time," said Santos.

Dedicated to the cause

Santos was educated in fine art at the San Francisco Art Institute and the Oregon College of Arts and Crafts in Portland.



From a traditional fishing family, she grew up at Tlxni, or Sherars Falls. She is a painter and sculptor.

As curator, she looks at the art or craft and chooses who will be exhibited. The repertoire for the gallery includes painting,

envisions having a venue for the Warm Springs performing arts.

For the first exhibit at Kah-Nee-Ta several hundred artisans received an invitation to apply.

Santos meets with individuals who apply and critiques their work. She gives them advice on how to move towards their goal. Santos encourages local artists and artisans to go to art shows and galleries and see who their competition is.

Sometimes she tells them to go to school.

Her goal is to train, prepare, encourage, and support the artists so when the tribes develop a gallery at the new casino they will have recruits that are ready.

"Some tell me to stuff it, and others come back. But my goal is to help make them a success," explained Santos.

Still, word is getting around about her expertise.

"I've worked with guys straight out of prison," said

"I want us to be a success so we can just live as Indians and artisans."

Apolonia Santos

Santos.

She's also been invited to work with inmates at the Warm Springs jail.

Culturally, she explains, my people are used to giving their work away.

"I am proud of that but many do not know how to price their work," said Santos.

Santos feels that proper support of the local artisan could have a positive effect on the community and culture as a whole. Many artisans are mothers with children.

"I've had mothers sell me beadwork just so they can buy a gallon of milk," said Santos.

She feels the social conditions for these mothers could change by supporting their craft. In turn, artisans who are women with children and need the income so they can give their children a more stable home, resulting in happier children, said Santos.

"This is important to me as a curator and human being," said Santos.

Some of Santos' efforts fall into the category of volunteer work.

"I want us to be a success so we can just live as Indians and artisans. We can create a system that will support this," she said.

As many hope, a new casino will help resolve some of the financial issues for the tribes.

"With economic success, there isn't any reason we can't realize our dreams. I've asked my artists to tighten their belts and hang on for the next few years," said Santos.

"With the money from the new casino, we could utilize our money to support our artisans. As a result, we will be able to positively show cultural development from the casino money," said Santos.

Interested artists who wish to contact Santos should call (541) 553-0465.

In the Tribal Court for the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon

McMahan's Furniture, petitioner, vs. Nellie Sam, respondent. Case No. IN124-02. To Nellie Sam:

You are hereby notified that a petition for Overdue Account has been filed with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for 11 a.m. on July 30, 2003, at the Warm Springs Tribal Court. All of the facts of the case will be heard at this hearing, including evidence you wish to present. You must appear to present your argument or the other side will automatically win. The petitioner, McMahan's Furniture, may then be given all that is asked for in the petition for Overdue Account.

Dated at Warm Springs, Oregon, June 18, 2003. Judge Wilma Smith, Warm Springs Tribal Court.

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, petitioner, vs. Trina Lucei, respondent. Case No. JV63-03 To Edward Lucei/Trina Lucei:

You are hereby notified that a petition Juvenile Arraignment has been filed with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for 2 p.m. on July 31, 2003, at the Warm Springs Tribal Court. All of the facts of the case will be heard at this hearing, including evidence you wish to present.

You must appear to present your argument or the other side will automatically win. The petitioner, the Confederated Tribes, may then be given all that is asked for in the petition for Juvenile Arraignment. The petitioner will be present at the hearing. If you desire to personally argue

your side of the case, you may then have a legal aide, spokesperson or attorney appear on your behalf at your expense. If you have any questions, you should seek legal advice immediately.

Dated at Warm Springs, Oregon, June 30, 2003. Judge Lola Sohapp, Warm Springs Tribal Court.

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, petitioner, vs. Sonja Madrid, respondent. Case No. JV114-03. To Sonja Madrid:

You are hereby notified that a petition for Preliminary Hearing - Barbara Madrid, has been filed in the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for 11 a.m. on July 31, 2003, at the Warm Springs Tribal Court. All of the facts of the case will be heard at this hearing, including evidence you wish to present.

You must appear to present your argument or the other side will automatically win. The petitioner, the Confederated Tribes, may then be given all that is asked for in the petition for Preliminary Hearing.

If you have any questions, you should seek legal advice immediately.

Dated at Warm Springs, Oregon, June 23, 2003. Judge Lola Sohapp, Warm Springs Tribal Court.

Hannah Crowe, petitioner, vs. Vernon Smith Jr., respondent. Case No. DO131-03. To Hannah Crowe/Vernon Smith Jr.: You are hereby notified that a petition for Support has been filed

with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for 9 a.m. on July 28, 2003, at the Warm Springs Tribal Court. All of the facts of the case will be heard at this hearing, including evidence you wish to present.

You must appear to present your argument or the other side will automatically win. The petitioner, Hannah Crowe, may then be given all that is asked for in the petition for Support. The petitioner will be present at the hearing. If you desire to personally argue your side of the case, you may then have a legal aide, spokesperson or attorney appear on your behalf at your expense. If you have any questions, you should seek legal advice immediately.

Dated at Warm Springs, Oregon, June 4, 2003. Judge Lola Sohapp, Warm Springs Tribal Court.

your expense. If you have any questions, you should seek legal advice immediately.

Dated at Warm Springs, Oregon, on June 11, 2003. Judge Lola Smith, Warm Springs Tribal Court.

Warm Springs Utilities, petitioner, vs. Pat Allen, respondent. Case No. CV67-03. To Pat Allen:

You are hereby notified that a petition for Civil Complaint has been filed with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for 11 a.m. on July 14, 2003, at the Warm Springs Tribal Court. All of the facts of the case will be heard at this hearing, including evidence you wish to present.

You must appear to present your argument or the other side will automatically win. The WS Utilities, may then be given all that is asked for in the petition for Civil Complaint.

Dated at Warm Springs, Oregon, on June 10, 2003. Judge Wilma Smith, Warm Springs Tribal Court.

Warm Springs Utilities, petitioner, vs. Frank Brunoe, respondent. Case No. CV69-03. To Frank Brunoe: You are hereby notified that a petition for Civil Complaint has been filed with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for 11:30 a.m. on July 14, 2003, at the Warm Springs Tribal Court. All of the facts of the case will be heard at this hearing, including evidence you wish to present. You must appear to present your argument or the other side will automatically win. The petitioner, Warm Springs Utilities, may then be given all that is asked for in the petition for Civil Complaint.

Dated at Warm Springs, Oregon, on June 10, 2003. Judge Wilma Smith, Warm Springs Tribal Court.

Victoria Gerba, petitioner, vs. Kerrick Gerba, respondent. Case No. DO135-02. To Victoria/ Kerrick Gerba:

You are hereby notified that a petition for Dissolution of Marriage has been filed with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for 9 a.m. on July 15, 2003, at the Warm Springs Tribal Court. All of the facts of the case will be heard at this hearing, including evidence you wish to present.

You must appear to present your argument or the other side will automatically win. The petitioner, Victoria Gerba, may then be given all that is asked for in the petition for Dissolution of Marriage.

The petitioner will be present at the hearing.

If you desire to personally argue your side of the case, you may then have a legal aide, spokesperson or attorney appear on your behalf at your expense.

If you have any questions, you should seek legal advice immediately.

Dated at Warm Springs, Oregon, June 11, 2003. Judge Lola Sohapp, Warm Springs Tribal Court.

Story idea?

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Spilyay Tymoo

553-3274

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