

# Museum celebrating Twenty-Fifth Anniversary

It was March 13, 1993 when the tribes celebrated the opening of the Museum at Warm Springs. The day marked the fulfillment of a vision decades in the making:

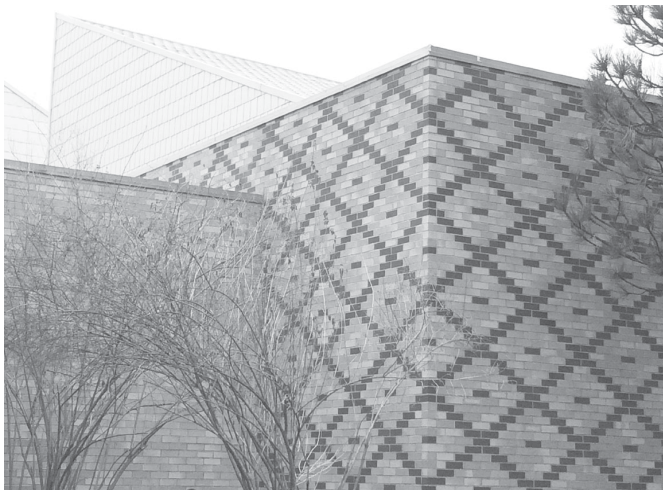
“Way back in the 1960s, we could see that the old ways were disappearing,” Warm Springs Chief Delvis Heath said at the time.

“The old languages were disappearing, and pretty soon none of our young people would know where they came from or who they were. That’s when we decided to build a museum.”

Tribal Council passed resolution 4084—the Museum Project—in 1974.

The resolution included the first museum charter, and established the first board, at the time called the Middle Oregon Indian Historical Society.

The ensuing years involved the intensive fundraising needed for the



ambitious museum project.

The board hired the first executive director in 1987, and in 1988 Tribal Council put a referendum before the membership:

The question was whether to appropriate \$2.5 million for construction of the Museum at Warm Springs.

At the time, the funding was the most ever for a tribal museum. The Museum at Warm Springs was also the first tribal museum

in the state of Oregon.

After hiring the first executive director, it took only a few short months to raise another \$3.1 million from grant foundations, corporations and individuals.

Benefiting from these monies was the construction, Education program and an endowment, bringing the total cost of the museum project to \$7,628,900.

Construction began in the spring of 1991 by SM Andersen Construction

Company of Portland.

The building designer was Stastny & Burke Architecture of Portland. The exhibits were designed by the Formations Co.

From the day of its opening in 1993, the museum has been under the leadership of the board of directors, who created the mission statement, and a Board of Regents. The mission:

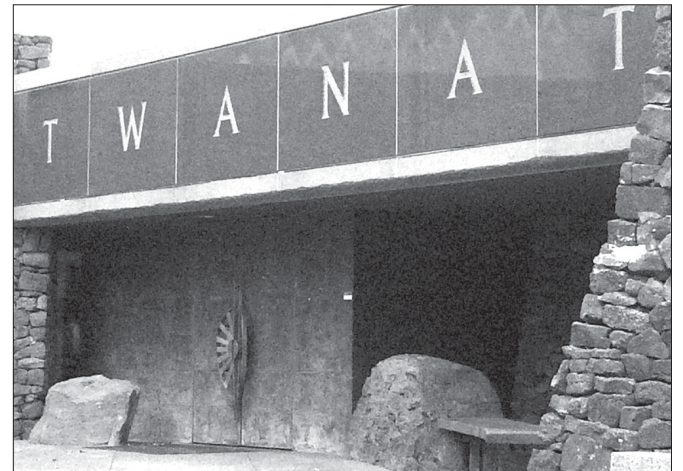
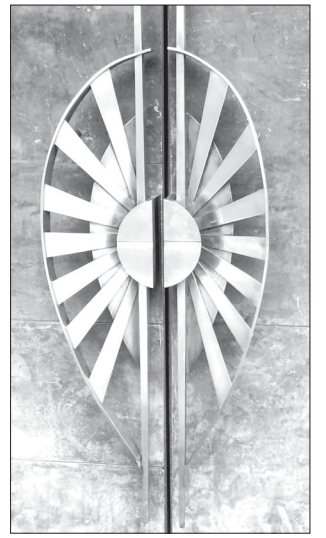
“The Museum At Warm Springs exists to preserve the culture, history and traditions of the three tribes that comprise the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. The Museum was designed to provide a welcoming sight to the public as well as a safe conservatory for the traditional treasures of the tribes.”

### The design

The architects invited tribal members to participate in the designing and in-

tegration of any tribal traditions. Elders of each tribe were invited to meetings to give their ideas.

The exterior is arranged to resemble a traditional encampment among the cottonwood. Construction materials—local stone, timber and brick—reflect the surroundings and traditions of the tribes. There is a stream outside, continuing as a floor design through the lobby. The columns are made of tall reservation trees.



## The year ahead at the museum

This is a calendar of events coming up in 2018 at the Museum at Warm Springs.

**January 25:** Grand opening of the Annual Tribal Youth Art Exhibit. This show will be on display through early March.

**March 17:** Warm Springs community celebration of the opening of the Museum at Warm Springs.

**March 17 - May 26:** New exhibit, *TWANAT - Celebrating Our Legacy*.

**April 14:** Honor Dinner at the World Forestry Center. Presentation of the Twanat, and the Lifetime Achievement awards.

**May 11:** Seeds of Discovery Science Field Day for local fourth-grade students, supported by Oregon State University and NASA.

**June 7 - September 29:** Reception hall exhibit, *Patriot Nations*, a banner exhibit



from the National Museum of the American Indian.

**June 21 - November 3:** Exhibit, *Memory of the Land*, art from the museum’s collection, other museums and private collections.

**August 18:** The Huckleberry Harvest annual banquet and auction.

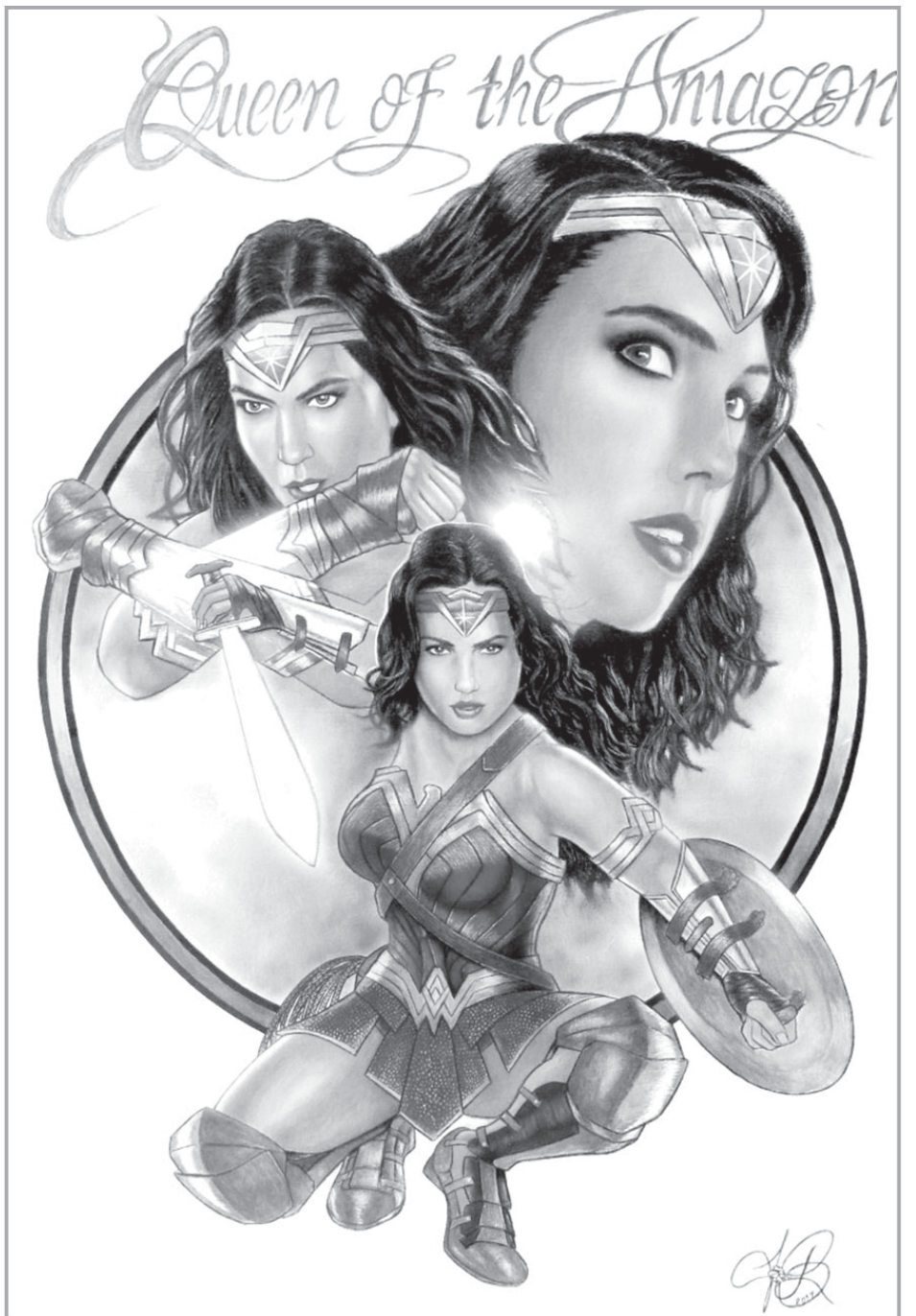
**October:** Middle Oregon Treaty of 1855 display.

**October 25-27:** Treaty symposium at Kah-Nee-Ta Resort.

**November - January 2019:** Twenty-Fifth Annual Tribal Member Art Exhibit.

**November 17:** Native American Art Market.

### Still time to check out the Member Art Show



There are few days left to see the Tribal Member Art Show at the Museum at Warm Springs. The Twenty-Fourth Annual member show will be on display through this Saturday, January 6. *Queen of the Amazon*—an oil and air brush on gesso board piece by Travis Bobb—won the Judges Choice Award.

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