

Saddle Up: culture and history of tribal rodeo

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This spring the museum was awarded \$7,500 from the Oregon State Capitol Foundation for the development of a digital version of *Saddle Up* that will be showcased on the foundation’s website: oregoncapitol.com

The funding also allows for a *Saddle Up* physical exhibit that will be on display at Oregon State Capital in Salem. Some funding is also going toward a video, currently in production under the direction of filmmaker, director, cinematographer and storyteller LaRonn Katchia.

Saddle Up will be on view at the Museum at Warm Springs through Saturday, September 27.

Some background

The museum opened its doors to the public on March 14, 1993 and celebrated its Thirtieth Anniversary in 2023. Built to Smithsonian Institution professional standards, the museum’s mission is to preserve, advance and share the traditions, cultural and artistic heritage of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

Regular museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. Admission: Museum members, free. Adults, \$7. Senior citizens over 60, \$6. Students 13-18 with student body card, \$4.50. Children 5-12, \$3.50, and Children 4 and younger, free.

There are several levels of annual museum membership, which begin at \$25 for elders and students. All members receive these benefits: free admission for one year, 10-percent discount in the museum Gift Shop and special invitations to exhibits and programs. Members have access to the Oregon Historical Society Reciprocal Membership program and free admission to a different Oregon museum each



Exhibit items at *Saddle Up*.

month. Join by visiting: museumatwarmsprings.org

Click ‘Join’ to see membership levels and online payment information. Or send a check to: The Museum at Warm Springs, P.O. Box 909, Warm Springs, OR 97761 (Attn: Membership).

The Museum is located at 2189 Highway 26 in Warm Springs. Phone, 541-553-3331.



Language Bowl 2025 —

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Janaya Adams says, “It’s hard, we have to study every night,” but as Marie Tom adds, “It’s important for our younger kids, so we have to pass it down.”

Sharon Katchia, parent, believes learning the language helps kids to be humble and gives respect for culture and community traditions. Young people become more compassionate, and when they gather for feast they are starting to understand what the songs mean, which is all very powerful and a blessing.

Illante Smith knows from her heart that when our kids know who they are, they don’t get lost, and that’s a strong message to others because some

of our kids and adults become lost, some are sick and are broken. The Culture and Heritage Language program teaches young people not only language, but who they are: Beautiful, smart, valued and strong. Placings are as follows:

Second-to-Fourth grades: First place, Team Kw’ayawi. Second place, fourth grade, Team Nusuz. Third place, third grade, Team Xwaiyama. Fourth place, third grade, Team Tsekena. Fifth place, third grade, Team Yaamash.

Fifth-to Eighth grades: First place, Team SuBm. Second place, Team Plas. Third place, Team Xwashxway. Fourth place, Team Xalish. Fifth place, Team Pongaze, the only Numu speaking team in this division.

Ongoing fisheries access dispute at Willamette Falls

The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon has urged Gov. Tina Kotek to slow walk a request from Willamette Falls Trust for up to \$75 million in state funding to buy land near the falls.

In a June 9 letter, Grand Ronde tribal chair Cheryle Kennedy wrote to Kotek that her tribe had “serious concerns about the proposal.”

Earlier in the legislative session, Willamette Falls Trust, a nonprofit with four tribal members on its board, circulated a document in the Capitol seeking funding for the acquisition of 60 acres of property near the falls, including Moores Island and nearby uplands on the Willamette River between West Linn and Oregon City. The property is available due to the clo-

sure of West Linn Paper Company.

The trust members include the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, the Siletz Indians, the Umatilla Indian tribes and the Yakama Nation. The trust is seeking \$50 million to \$75 million in initial state funding, according to the document the trust circulated. Former Gov. Kate Brown serves as the trust’s president.

Willamette Falls Trust envisions “an easily accessible public space developed alongside Tribal leaders that includes viewing platforms, pathways, facilities for educational and cultural events, and gift shop featuring local makers.” The document also alludes to the central role Willamette Falls has played for tribes over the centuries or more.

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