

# Native American Artist-in-Residence program

## Theory of change

The Native American Artist-in-Residence (NAAIR) program was created for the purpose of exposing Native American artists working within traditional art forms to Minnesota Historical Society (MNHS) collections in order to: 1) advance their understanding of the traditional form of art and 2) bring this advanced understanding to their communities in a way designed by the artist.

WHO IS INVOLVED IN THE NAAIR PROGRAM?	WHAT DOES MNHS DO THROUGH THE NAAIR PROGRAM?	HOW ARE NAAIR STAKEHOLDERS IMPACTED?
<p><b>Wider community</b></p>	<p><b>SHARES</b> Native American art and cultural practice</p> <p>Hosts 1-5 events and workshops for each artist to share their work and their apprentices' work with their tribal community, other Native American communities, and Midwest residents in general</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased awareness of and appreciation for art and cultural practice</li> </ul> <p>For Native American audiences, this refers to an increased awareness of their cultural strengths and an increased appreciation for their artistic heritage. For other audiences, this refers to an increased awareness of and appreciation for tribally specific art and cultural practice.</p>
<p><b>Artists-in-residence</b></p> <p><b>Apprentices</b></p> <p><b>Encouragement grantees</b></p>	<p><b>SUPPORTS</b> Native American artists at multiple career stages</p> <p>Provides artists and apprentices with access to MNHS collections and shares knowledge about objects in collections via MNHS collections staff</p> <p>Connects artists and apprentices with staff at other museums in the Midwest so that they have access to and can gain knowledge about objects in other collections as well</p> <p>Provides business, marketing, and event coordination support in order to promote and showcase artists' and apprentices' work in the Midwest</p> <p>Provides artists \$25,000 to support their learning and growth as well as provides encouragement grantees \$2,500 to support their learning and growth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved arts knowledge and skills</li> <li>Improved business knowledge and skills</li> <li>Increased audience base</li> <li>Increased credibility in arts world</li> <li>Improved knowledge of MNHS</li> </ul> <p>Artists-in-residence improve their knowledge and skills related to their art form. This improvement stems from hands-on access to objects in MNHS's and other museums' collections. In addition, participating in MNHS's business, marketing, and event coordination provides experiential learning in regards to business knowledge and skills for artists. Artists-in-residence are connected to many potential audiences through residency events and workshops. Lastly, artists-in-residence experience greater credibility, increasing their capability to obtain future grants, residencies, or other desired career outcomes.</p> <p>Apprentices experience many of the same impacts as artists-in-residence, with the addition of improving their knowledge about possible directions for their arts career. Similarly, encouragement grantees experience improved arts knowledge and skills as well as increased credibility. Lastly, each of these stakeholders improve their knowledge about MNHS and the NAAIR program.</p>
<p><b>Applicants</b></p>	<p><b>ENGAGES</b> Native American artists throughout the Midwest</p> <p>Recruits and assists Native American artists to apply for the residency, offering hands-on advice and guidance about application requirements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved knowledge and skills for future application processes</li> <li>Improved knowledge of MNHS</li> </ul> <p>All applicants, regardless if they are selected as an artist-in-residence or encouragement grantee, improve their knowledge and skills for applying to residencies. This is due to the guidance that applicants receive from MNHS staff during the application process. Applicants also improve their knowledge of MNHS and the NAAIR program through the application process.</p>
<p><b>MNHS staff</b></p>	<p><b>BUILDS</b> relationships and shared knowledge among MNHS staff and Native American artists</p> <p>Facilitates intentional development of relationships among MNHS staff and Native American artists through culturally responsive hosting practices and mutual and reciprocal knowledge-sharing opportunities for MNHS staff and artists</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased knowledge, skills, and relationships</li> <li>Improved collections</li> </ul> <p>The NAAIR program results in increased staff capacities - knowledge, skills, and relationships - for MNHS to fulfill the MNHS value of "Inclusion and collaboration" in respect to Native American artists and the tribally specific art forms they practice. Additionally, NAAIR improves MNHS collections by increasing culturally specific knowledge of Native American objects as well as by adding contemporary Native American objects.</p>