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Fort Pitt Museum Program to Explore Region's Native Heritage
- In honor of Native American Heritage Month, the program will include a presentation by Jeremy Johnson of the Delaware Tribe of Indians and gallery talk by Seneca photographer DJ Huff -

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 21, 2025 – In observance of Native American Heritage Month this November, the Fort Pitt Museum will host “Native Allegheny, Past and Present” on Saturday, Nov. 8 from 3-7 p.m. The special program will feature a presentation, guided exhibition tours, and a small reception celebrating the enduring cultures of the region's first peoples.

Three centuries ago, Delawares, Shawnees, Senecas, and other Native peoples settled the region around present-day Pittsburgh, a place they referred to as “Allegheny.” Far from the pressures of colonial settlement and rival Native nations, it became a sanctuary of sorts in an increasingly turbulent world.

Though the land and its inhabitants have changed greatly, the Native nations who once lived here have survived and thrived to the present day.

Visitors can hear from members of two of these historic, living cultures as they explore the rich tribal history of this region and detail the ways Native people are adding to our collective understanding while preserving their cultures for future generations.

The Native Allegheny, Past and Present program includes a presentation by Jeremy Johnson, cultural education director for the Delaware Tribe of Indians and a gallery talk led by Seneca photographer DJ Huff, whose work is featured in the museum's first-floor exhibition **Across**. The evening will also include a small reception and a guided tour of the museum's temporary exhibition, **Homelands: Native Nations of Allegheny**.

Created in collaboration with federally recognized Delaware, Seneca, Seneca-Cayuga, and Shawnee tribes, the **Homelands: Native Nations of Allegheny** exhibition illuminates the past, present, and future of the region's Native tribes with rare artifacts and new scholarship. The **Across** exhibition features the photography of Seneca cultural interpreter DJ Huff, both here in Pittsburgh and closer to his home in western New York.

The “Native Allegheny, Past and Present” program included with regular museum admission.

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit heinzhistorycenter.org/events.

The **Fort Pitt Museum**, built in a recreated bastion of the British fort originally constructed in 1759, focuses on the critical role that Western Pennsylvania played during the French & Indian War, the American Revolution, and the founding of Pittsburgh. The Fort Pitt Museum, located in Point State Park in downtown Pittsburgh, is always free for kids, supported by the Kamin “Free for Kids” Initiative. The Senator John Heinz History Center, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, operates the Fort Pitt Museum in partnership with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC). For more information, please visit heinzhistorycenter.org/fort-pitt.



The Fort Pitt Museum will host the “Native Allegheny, Past and Present” program on Saturday, Nov. 8 from 3-7 p.m. Image: “The Good Hunter,” a prominent warrior of the Iroquoian community on the Sandusky River in the early 19th century. The mixed Iroquoian band was removed to Oklahoma in the 1830s where they merged with other Iroquoian speakers, later forming the Seneca-Cayuga Nation of today.

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