

The Virtual Coe *Being together while being apart...*

June 26, 2020

Let's celebrate!



We are excited to announce that the Coe is the recipient of a \$20,000 [National Endowment for Arts Art Works grant](#) to support the first solo exhibition of the Inupiaq artist [James Kivatoruk Moses](#) (1903-1981). This is one of 1015 grants nationwide, and one of twelve in the state of New Mexico.

James Kivatoruk Moses: Master Artist exhibition, opening summer 2021, includes paintings and drawing by Kivatoruk Moses (Inupiaq)—a self-taught artist whose works vibrantly portray the lives of Indigenous people in early 20th-century Alaska.

Kivatoruk Moses created incredibly evocative and detailed images of Alaskan landscapes, wildlife, and the daily life of his Inupiaq community.

The works in the exhibition will be enriched by the inclusion interviews from community members and current Inupiaq artists regarding Kivatoruk Moses' imagery and influence

To learn more about Kivatoruk Moses and our exhibition plans please [click here](#)

James Kivatoruk Moses (Inupiaq), *Untitled*, n.d., Colored pencil, water color, and ink, 11.5 x 8 in. Private Collection

A little 'play' with function...

These two examples of Northeastern Pack Baskets reflect both function and play. These packs have been made with black ash by many Northeastern tribes for centuries for hunting, fishing, and harvesting.

The design of these baskets, with the wide-mouth opening; supportive, weight-bearing straps; and form that molds to the wearer's back has become widely appropriated—so



much so that they are now widely marketed as Adirondack Pack Baskets by non-Native companies small and large, yet the original power of these Indigenous baskets remains strong as Native basket-makers continue to maintain production and use.

Leslie Nicholas (Wabanaki Confederacy Maliseet attrib.), [Pack Basket](#), c.1895. Oak splint, 25 x 18 x 18 in. NA0016
Artist Unknown (Mohawk), [Miniature Pack Basket](#), early 20th C. Brown ash, fabric, commercial buckle and brads, 5.75 x 4.75 x 4 in. NA0088

Collection Spotlight with Tahnee Ahtoneharjo- Growingthunder



[Collections Spotlight](#), a program developed in partnership with [First American Art Magazine](#), is a free interactive, online discussion that brings together the public, scholars, and Native artists who select artworks from the Coe's collection to interpret and discuss.

The next Collections Spotlight event is Tuesday, June 30, 2020, at 3 pm MDT with Tahnee Ahtoneharjo-Growingthunder.

[Tahnee Ahtoneharjo-Growingthunder](#) (Kiowa/Mvskoki/Seminole) is the director of the Kiowa Tribal Museum and a beadwork and textile artist based in Oklahoma. Previously she served as a curator for the Oklahoma History Center. She is an alumna of Harvard Extension School and the Institute of American Indian Arts.

This event is free.
To register, [click here](#).

Photo by Jason S. Ordaz

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