

Donate now



The Virtual Coe

Being together while being apart...

November 26, 2021

When the echoing ancestral lands call you...



When the echoing ancestral lands call you, and when there is a need for connection, sometimes there is a relationship through plants that is not explainable. The



mystifying plant world is a mysterious concoction of truths, whispers, medicines, and knowledge, so powerful that it existed for generations in the Zulu Kingdom accessible by gifted, extraordinary individuals.

This portable snuff container is noted to have been made by the original owner, Ndzaleni Dlamini when he was still a young man—although there is no further information on when it was created or by whom it was used. It became part of the Coe collection in 2010.



Decorative brass and copper wire snuff containers such as this were carried around everywhere with the user and made to store and access powdered plant snuff. Usually made for tobacco snuff, it was used for hundreds of years in South Africa after the Europeans **introduced** tobacco in the 16th century. It was both used as a pastime, but more accurately, linked to the practice of traditional medicine.

Learn more [HERE](#).

Artist Unknown (Zulu), **Snuff Container**, c. 1945-50. Brass and copper wire, 3.5 x 2 in. (8.9 x 5 cm). AF 0052

***I found myself rethinking
my next steps...***



Notes from a fall internship...

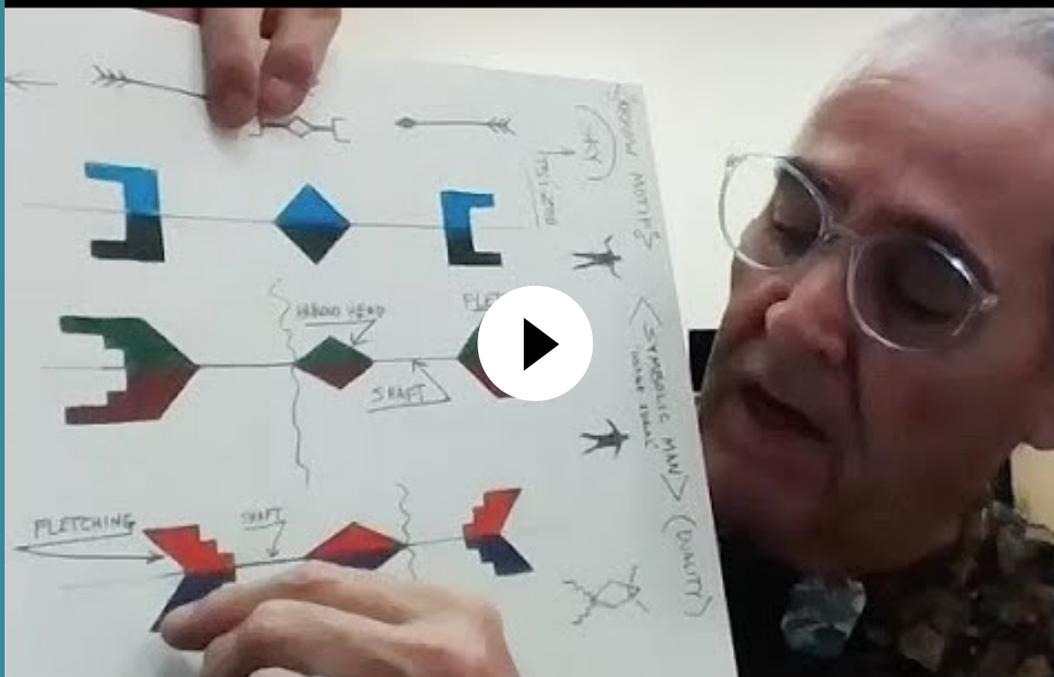
These past few months I've had the wonderful opportunity to hold an Internship at the Coe Center for the Arts. As someone who's been trying to make decisions about my education, I came to appreciate my time here. I was attending an art school in Florida as an illustration major before COVID. Like many, my plans were put on pause, and I found myself rethinking my next steps. I had decided to take a few years off of school. I came to New Mexico to visit my aunt for the fall. When she suggested I do this internship,

I was happy to be reintroduced into the arts. I have always enjoyed the process of creating art. The way the images seem to float within your head, translating those ideas to paper and putting in the careful decisions to bring about a creation that reflects a small part of you. Walking amongst the objects of the Coe Center, I asked myself, what has the artist reflected by these creations that have lasted for years, perhaps centuries? Each piece has its personality, its own story to tell. I began to appreciate the careful work it takes to steward these creations from all across the world so they can be shared and appreciated...

—Tess Smith

Read more about Tess's experience [HERE](#).

Did you miss it?



Experience artist **Sean Standing Bear** as he hosts COLLECTIONS SPOTLIGHT on November 16, 2021

Sean Standing Bear is an oral historian and well-respected consultant on Osage history and traditions. Standing Bear is the son of George Eugene Standing Bear and a descendant of Chief Fred Lookout, the last hereditary chief of the Osage. He is from an esteemed family of political and cultural leaders. His cultural understanding comes from a unique perspective shaped by long conversations with his grandmother Mary Nora Lookout Standing Bear. Standing Bear has spent years studying the Osage Nation Museum collection and is knowledgeable about the donor collections and early inventories conducted by the Stovall Museum, Norman, OK, during the 1960s. He studied at the Institute of American Indian Arts, Santa Fe, NM, during the 1970s and earned an A.A. at Rogers State College, Claremore. He was a primary consultant for the *Art of the Osage* exhibition at the St. Louis Art Museum.

COLLECTIONS SPOTLIGHT a program developed in partnership with **First American Art Magazine** is an interactive, online monthly experience that brings together diverse scholars and Native artists who select artworks from the Coe's collection to interpret and discuss. The virtual Zoom format also brings together attendees from diverse regions. Attendee questions are accepted throughout the experience via chat, and at the end opened to audio.

These events are free and open to the general public. Watch past Collection Spotlight events, on the Coe Center YouTube channel [HERE](#).

Save the date...!



Ring in the joy—celebrate this Holiday Season!

Where? at the Coe Center Holiday Open House
It's free!

Tour the collection inside. Bring your warm coat for outside festive hot cider and holiday cookies, and experience Nani Chacon's completed mural.

Saturday, December 11, from 1-4 pm

See you there with masks on!

Masks and proof of vaccination are required.



The Virtual Coe

To view past The Virtual Coe issues, please click [HERE](#).

Please donate now

|NPO_NAME|
|NPO_ADDRESS|
Email not displaying correctly?
[View it in your browser](#)
[Unsubscribe](#)

