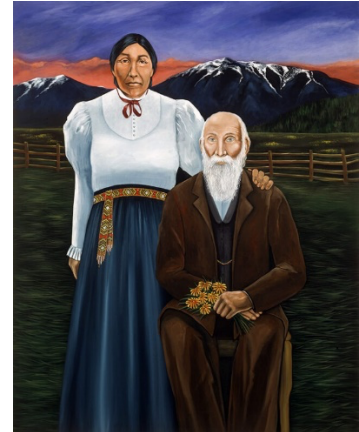


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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

NEVADA MUSEUM OF ART ANNOUNCES TWO MAJOR INDIGENOUS EXHIBITIONS: *THE ART OF JUDITH LOWRY* AND *THE LOWRY & CROUL COLLECTION OF NATIVE AMERICAN ART*

Reno, Nev. (January 31, 2025) – Explore Native American creation stories and the legends, traditions and complexities of Indigenous ancestry through the eyes of renowned painter Judith Lowry (Mountain Maidu/Pit River/Washoe). *The Art of Judith Lowry* and *The Lowry & Croul Collection of Contemporary Native American Art*, are two groundbreaking exhibitions that celebrate the artistic contributions and community legacy of the accomplished Native American artist.

The Art of Judith Lowry is a retrospective exhibition that highlights Lowry’s large-scale colorful storytelling paintings. Her vivid narrative works draw on family stories and communal Indigenous histories to explore themes of identity, resilience, and spirituality.

A longtime resident of the western Sierra Nevada foothills, Lowry traces her family’s paternal Indigenous ancestry to the forests, lakes, mountains, and valleys of northern California. The stories in her paintings unfold in her ancestral homelands near Greenville, Susanville, and Honey Lake Valley, located in California’s northern Sierra Nevada and Cascade Range, just north of Reno, Nevada. She considers her paintings a modern extension of storytelling and a way of recording the oral histories of her family and community.

Complementing her retrospective exhibition is the debut of the *Lowry & Croul Collection of Contemporary Native American Art*, which includes 125 artworks assembled by Lowry and her husband Brad Croul, which are a major gift to the Museum. The collection features artworks by some of the West Coast’s most notable Native American artists including Harry Fonseca (Nisenan Maidu/Hawaiian/Portuguese), Frank LaPena (Nomtipon Wintu), Frank Day (Konkow Maidu), Dalbert Castro (Maidu), Jean LaMarr (Northern Paiute/Pit River), and Lowry’s cousin Dugan Agular (Northern

Paiute/Maidu/Pit River). Together, these exhibitions create a dialogue between past, present, and future Indigenous perspectives.

Lowry said she selected the art in the *Lowry & Croul Collection* based on personal stories that reflect contemporary Native experiences, “I like to be inspired, and I marvel sometimes at art and artists. Sometimes I can’t imagine myself doing it, but say, ‘wow,’ that’s something.” The donated collection is a celebration of the stories that matter most to Lowry—those that come from her cultural heritage and reflective of the present-day experiences of Native communities.

Through her donation to the Museum, Lowry hopes to share these important works with a wider audience, particularly in an art museum located near her ancestral homelands. The *Lowry & Croul Collection* stands as a testament to the strength and creativity of Indigenous artists and serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of preserving and honoring these stories. Lowry’s own paintings are included in major museum collections across the United States, including the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian, the Peabody Essex Museum, the Crocker Art Museum, the Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian, the Denver Art Museum, and the Nevada Museum of Art.

These exhibitions are co-curated by Melissa Melero-Moose (Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe) and Ann M. Wolfe, the Museum’s Andrea and John C. Deane Family Chief Curator and Associate Director.

THE BOOK:

The exhibition is accompanied by the publication of *The Art of Judith Lowry*, a major, 151-page book, published by the Nevada Museum of Art. Preface by Ann M. Wolfe with essays by: Melissa Melero-Moose, Lucy R. Lippard, Rebecca Dobkins, Anya Montiel, Anastasia Kinigopoulo, Lara M. Evans, and Theresa Harlan. Additional contributions: Wanda Enos Batchelor, Peggy Berryhill, Suzan Shown Harjo, Karen Kramer, Jean LaMarr, Stacey Montooth, and Scott Shields.

ABOUT JUDITH LOWRY

Judith Lowry (born 1948, Washington, D.C.) is an artist of Mountain Maidu, Pit River, Washoe, and Euro-Australian descent, and is renowned for her vibrant, large-scale paintings that weave together the legends, traditions, and complexities of her Indigenous ancestry. Lowry earned her B.A. in fine art from Humboldt State University, followed by an M.A. in painting and drawing from Chico State University. A resident of both Nevada City and Susanville, CA, she is an enrolled member of the federally recognized Pit River Tribe.

For more information about the book, exhibition and upcoming events, visit www.nevadaart.org.

ABOUT THE NEVADA MUSEUM OF ART

The **Nevada Museum of Art** is the only art museum in Nevada accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM). A private, nonprofit organization founded in 1931, the statewide institution was designed by architect Will Bruder. The four-level, 120,000 square foot building is inspired by geological formations in Northern Nevada and is a visual metaphor for the institution’s scholarly focus on art and environment. The Museum’s permanent collections are divided into thematic focus areas including the Art of the Greater West, the Altered Landscape, contemporary art, and work ethic in American art.

The Museum’s **Center for Art + Environment** is an internationally recognized research center that supports the practice, study, and awareness of creative interactions between people and their natural, built, and virtual environments. The Center houses significant archive materials from more than 1,000 artists working on all seven continents.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Nevada Museum of Art acknowledges the traditional homelands of the Wašfšiw (Washoe), Numu (Northern Paiute), Newe (Western Shoshone), and Nuwu (Southern Paiute) people of the Great Basin. This includes the 28 tribal nations that exist as sovereign nations and continue as stewards of this land. We appreciate the opportunity to live and learn on these Indigenous homelands.

Image Captions

Judith Lowry (Hammawi Band Pit River/Mountain Maidu/Washoe), *Edna at Honey Lake*, 1999/2012; Collection of the Nevada Museum of Art, gift of Judith Lowry © Judith Lowry

Judith Lowry (Hammawi Band Pit River/Mountain Maidu/Washoe), *Welgatim's Song*, 2001; Crocker Art Museum, gift of the artist, 2009.113 © Judith Lowry

Judith Lowry (Hammawi Band Pit River/Mountain Maidu/Washoe), *The Good Marriage*, 1997, Private Collection © Judith Lowry