

Okaloosa County News Release

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Museum to Host Native American Artist and Visionary at OWC *Vision Bear on Communication through Art: A Native American Perspective*

On Thursday, June 5, at 12:00 p.m. the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida will host Vision Bear, a fourth generation Native American visionary and artist from Marietta, Georgia.

Using paintings, masks and other objects, Vision Bear will discuss the transformative power of art and its role in cross cultural communications. The presentation will include a unique insight into Native American culture and art that by-passes spoken language to a spiritual language - one that transcends the barriers of spoken language and culture.

A self-taught and spirit-guided artist, Vision Bear has been painting and teaching for more than thirty-five years. His work with people from all walks of life, all education levels and social status in Northwest Florida and around the world illustrates the potential of art to heal, illuminate and transform lives.

This lecture is part of the *Florida: Then and Now* lecture series supported in part with a grant from the Florida Humanities Council, a partnership series Okaloosa Walton College, the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida and the American Association of University Women (Niceville-Valparaiso Branch).

Admission is free. The event will be held at Okaloosa Walton College in Room J304 (Adjacent to the Mattie Kelly Art Center). Seating is limited; call (850) 678-2615 to reserve a seat. The Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, serves to preserve and promote our area's rich history. The museum is located at 115 Westview Avenue in Valparaiso. Admission is free. Hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. For more information, visit www.heritage-museum.org.

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