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OHS Indigenous History Award Recognizes Lake of the Woods Museum and Partners' Shiibaashka'Igan Honouring the Sacred Jingle Dress

The Ontario Historical Society is pleased to present the Indigenous History Award to Lake of the Woods Museum and Partners' Shiibaashka'Igan Honouring the Sacred Jingle Dress. The Indigenous History Award recognizes significant contributions towards the promotion or preservation of Indigenous history or heritage in Ontario.



catalogue—with interesting stories about the dancers and their dresses—made the submission come alive. The Lake of the Woods Museum and their partners have engaged their community, and have made a major contribution to historical and cultural understanding in the Treaty Three area.

The Lake of the Woods Museum produced the exhibit in full partnership with Indigenous organizations, communities, and individuals. Although the five-month long run (July to October 2019) has now ended, the sound track, video and book allow the exhibit to have a continuing impact in Kenora and the surrounding area. The exhibit itself attracted 6,500 visitors, which in terms of the relatively small population of Northwestern Ontario—compared to say Southern Ontario—is a huge number.

The OHS Honours and Awards Committee is pleased to recognize this fantastic exhibit with the OHS Indigenous History Award.

Founded in 1888, the Ontario Historical Society is a not-for-profit corporation and registered charity dedicated to the preservation and celebration of Ontario's history for people of all ages and cultural backgrounds. To learn more about the OHS's Honours and Awards Program, or to submit a nomination, please visit <https://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/index.php/categories> or contact the Society's offices by telephone or e-mail.

The Lake of the Woods Museum and Partners' Shiibaashka'Igan Honouring the Sacred Jingle Dress is extremely innovative. Exciting and captivating, the use of sound and movement, with the exhibit and performances organized around the now century old jingle dance, which originated in the Lake of the Woods area. In their dresses, with shining cones jingling against each other, women dance in a circle around the drum in a clockwise direction following the direction of the sun. The circle itself representing the cycle of life.

The participation of dozens of committed dancers and jingle dress owners is impressive. The sound track, the video of the story of the jingle or healing dress, and the exhibition catalogue—

Watch Here: A Video Response from the Project Partners



-The Ontario Historical Society-

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