

For Immediate Release Date: March 17, 2021 Contact: Kathy Bell <u>development@everhart-museum.org</u> Photos attached: Frank Littlebear, Greentown & Windsor, Wayne & York Counties, is of Cree Nation ancestry. A renowned lecturer of Native American Culture, he is also a Musician, Artist, and Author. Leo Schott, Jr., Jermyn, Lackawanna County, world-renowned musicologist, teacher, and performer of traditional Gaelic music.

Everhart Museum Begins Second Sunday Folk Arts Series

*Honor our region's traditional folk artists *Experience community traditions

Scranton, PA - In partnership with the PA Council on the Arts Folk & Traditional Initiative, the Everhart Museum is working to sustain cultural and artistic practices rooted in people's histories, traditions, and everyday lives in Lackawanna, Luzerne, Pike, Susquehanna, Wayne, and Wyoming counties.

To share and educate the community on the creative practices rooted in our region's traditions, the Museum has introduced the **Second Sunday Folk Arts Series**. The series will feature a different Folk or Traditional Artist each month. **The Second Sundays Folk Art Series begins at 2:00 pm on Sunday, March 14th and is an online presentation.**

"The Second Sunday Folk Art Series allows us to honor and highlight some of our region's amazing artists who have spent their lives practicing, performing, and preserving traditional arts," said Stefanie Colarusso, the Museum's Director of Programs and Events. "We have an amazing line-up for 2021. Some of the artists we'll feature may be familiar to you, and some you'll be learning about for the first time. Each one of them has incredible stories to share about their journey within their own art form."

The folk and traditional arts often come from a specific ethnic, religious, linguistic, occupational, or regional group. Folk and traditional arts practices are shaped and shared within families, neighborhoods, and communities and are passed down from one generation to another.

"It is a program celebrating not only each artist's art form but, more specifically, it is an exploration of their own journey within that art. Stories of the artists' upbringing, their personal inspirations and teachers, their own artistic processes, and the way they have shared this art with others are also highlighted in the programs," said **Kimberly Crafton, host of the Second Sundays Series**.

Those who will be presenting are <u>Maxwell Kofi Donkor</u>, <u>Gaston (Bonga) Jean-Baptiste</u>, <u>Nina</u> <u>Kouznetsov</u>, <u>Frank LittleBear</u>, <u>Peg McDade</u>, <u>Sujata Nair-Mulloth</u>, <u>Mona Pande</u>, <u>Leo</u> <u>Schott</u>, Jr., <u>Doug Smith</u>, and <u>Dr. Kathy Wang</u>.

The initiative seeks to identify and document traditional artists in the NEPA region, assist those artists in keeping their traditions and create community access to folk arts through presentations, performances, workshops, and other programs.

A full schedule of the Second Sundays Folk Art Series is available on the Museum's website <u>https://everhart-museum.org/second-sunday-folk-art-series-virtual-ongoing/</u>

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The Museum is open 10:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturdays and noon to 5:00 pm on Sundays. For more information, contact the Museum at 570-346-7186 or email general.information@everhartmuseum.org. ####

About the Everhart Museum: Founded in 1908, the Everhart Museum of Natural History, Science & Art, is the largest general Museum in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The Everhart Museum is dedicated to the collection, care, and display of a diverse array of objects and specimens, including natural history, science, and fine arts. Through its exhibitions and programs, the Museum has become an invaluable regional resource for educational and cultural opportunities. General support for the Museum is received from the Lackawanna County Office of Education & Culture, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and the City of Scranton. For more information on the Museum, visit our website at www.everhart-museum.org or contact us at 570-346-7186.

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This Folk and Traditional Arts Partnership was supported in part by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. The mission of the PCA is to strengthen the cultural, educational, and economic vitality of Pennsylvania's communities through the arts.