National Museum of the American Indian Welcomes Seven New Board of Trustee Members

The Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian announces the appointment of seven new members to its Board of Trustees:

- Kim Baird (Tsawwassen First Nation)
- danah boyd, New York, N.Y.
- Kristopher Easton, Mountain View, Calif.
- Sven Haakanson (Alutiiq)
- Richard Luarkie (Pueblo of Laguna)
- Loretta Tuell (Nez Perce)
- Darreld “Deacon” Turner II (Cherokee)

“We are extremely happy with this new group of board members. They will bring the maturity and experience with Native constituents and communities, as well as experiences that will guide the future of the museum in its outreach and direction,” said museum director Kevin Gover (Pawnee).

Kim Baird Strategic Consulting offers services in relations to First Nation policy, governance and economic development, as well as First Nation consultation, communication and engagement issues. Kim was the first woman in British Columbia history to address the British Columbia Legislature on Oct. 15, 2007 when the British Columbia Treaty Legislation process was initiated. Baird has received a number of prestigious awards, including a honorary doctorate degree from Simon Fraser University, Kwantlen Polytechnic University Distinguished Alumni Award, Canada’s Top 40 Under 40 Award, the National Aboriginal Women in Leadership Distinction Award, Vancouver Magazine’s Power 50 Award and Canada’s Most Powerful Women Top 100 Award. She is also a member of British Columbia Hydro, the Aboriginal Skills Group, UBS Vancouver President’s Advisory Committee on Aboriginal Affairs, Chief Joe Mathias Scholarship Foundation, Canadian Electoral Democracy Association and the British Columbia Agenda for Shared Prosperity Advisory Council.

danah boyd is a Principal Researcher at Microsoft Research, a Researcher Assistant Professor in Media, Culture and Communications at New York University, and a Fellow at Harvard’s Berkman Center for Internet and Society. boyd’s research focuses on the intersection of technology, society and policy.
2011, she was selected as a Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum; she is on the Social Media Global Agenda Council for the World Economic Forum. She is a director of the Crisis Text Line and sits on the Electronic Privacy Information Center’s board of advisors. In 2010, boyd won the CITASA Award for Public Sociology. Her work has been profiled by numerous publications, including the New York Times, Fast Company, the Boston Globe and Forbes Magazine. boyd received a bachelor’s degree in computer science from Brown University, a master’s degree in social media from MIT Media Lab and a Ph.D. in Information from the University of California, Berkeley in 2008.

**Kristopher Easton** is a Financial Operations Senior Analyst in Google’s Finance Operations Group. Easton also serves as chair of the Google American Indian Network employee resource group, where he builds and leads projects aimed at increasing the usage of Google tools in Indian Country, attracting and retaining American Indian talent, and increasing the diversity of Google’s supplier base. Kris holds an MBA in finance from 2010 and BBA in economics in 2006 from the University of Texas at San Antonio. His awards include Google FinOps Gladiator Award, Google Finance Leadership Award and two Quarterly Citistar Awards.

**Sven Haakanson** is an American anthropologist who has specialized in documenting and preserving the language and culture of the Alutiit. Since 2000, he has served as the executive director of the Alutiiq Museum in Kodiak, Alaska and received a MacArthur Fellowship. He is also an adjunct member of the faculty at the Kodiak College campus of the University of Alaska in Anchorage and the former chair of the Alaska State Council in the Arts. Dr. Haakanson is a member of the Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor in rural Kodiak Island, Alaska. He has been a driving force in the revitalization of indigenous language, culture and customs in the Kodiak area. Under his leadership, the museum brought innovative exhibitions, educational programming and field research to the landlocked villages throughout the island. Haakanson received a B.A. in 1992 from University of Alaska in Fairbanks and an M.A. in 1996 and Ph.D. in 2000 from Harvard University.

**Richard Luarkie** is from the Pueblo of Laguna and is currently serving his fourth year as Governor. Most recently, he served as the Pueblo’s 1st Lieutenant Governor. The majority of Governor Luarkie’s professional career has been in the areas of technology, strategy and economic development. Governor Luarkie has a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of New Mexico, a Master of Business Administration from New Mexico State University and is currently a Ph.D. candidate at Arizona State University-School of Social Transformation.

**Loretta Tuell** focuses her practice on American Indian law, governmental law and policy and gaming matters. In Congress, she served as the Majority Staff Director and Chief Counsel for the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs to Senator Daniel K. Akaka and Counsel to the late Senator Daniel K. Inouye. Tuell has developed legislation with a focus on trust lands, Indian gaming/Internet gaming, the
environment, education, housing, energy, federal recognition, religious freedom and repatriation, fish and wildlife, trust lands, water, subsistence issues, climate change, emergence response/disaster relief, economic development, taxation and other related issues. Tuell was recognized in 2009 as one of five women – and the first American Indian woman in history – to receive the prestigious Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award from the American Bar Association.

Darreld “Deacon” Turner II is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and a board member of Cherokee Nation Business. He is actively involved in his tribal community, as well as charitable activities. Turner was a long-time member of the Cherokee Nation Foundation, which supports the tribe’s education and language programs. He is a member of the Gilcrease Museum National Board, in Tulsa Okla., former Chair of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, in Austin, Texas and is a Trustee of the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence. Turner earned an AB, cum laude, from Harvard University and he attended Oxford University on a U.S. Rhodes Scholarship, graduating with a master’s degree in prehistoric archaeology.

About the Board

The museum is governed by a 25-member board of trustees, which meets three times a year. Each appointment is three years. The chair of the board is Marshall McKay (Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation) of Brooks, Calif. Smithsonian Secretary Wayne Clough and Under Secretary for History, Art, and Culture Richard Kurin are on the board as ex-officio members. Seventeen of the current members are Native American. For more information, visit www.AmericanIndian.si.edu.

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