For Immediate Release

{DATE}

{CONTACT NAME, TITLE}
{ORGANIZATION}
{PHONE} {EMAIL}

**Navajo Rugs Provide Common Thread**

[CITY] — [ORGANIZATION] presents, ***Navajo Children Weaving the Future***, a Utah Arts & Museums’ Traveling Exhibition featuring traditionally woven rugs created by young Navajo children educated in the traditional art form through the Adopt-an-Elder Program. The textile work will be on display at [LOCATION] from [START DATE] through [END DATE].

Hand-made rugs and blankets have always played an important role in the culture and economy of Native Americans. Traditionally, weaving techniques and patterns are passed down from mother to daughter; yet, the encroachment of modern life and technology threatened the continuation of this practice. Today, groups such as the Adopt-an-Elder Program are helping to counter this trend. These organizations provide an environment in which traditional weaving techniques can be passed on within a community. This allow for youth to perpetuate the practice, and tap into the global tourism market inspired by a renewed interest in history and culture, as well as economic development activity.

The rugs included in this exhibition were created by Navajo children, and are on loan from the non-profit organization and “Adopt an Elder Program.” Adopt an Elder fosters rug sales directly from traditional weavers, who in turn get one hundred percent of the profits. Adopt an Elder also organizes donations of wool, food, and other essentials for the less fortunate elders.

*Navajo Children Weaving the Future* will be exhibited at [LOCATION], [STREET ADDRESS, CITY], from [START DATE] to [END DATE]. [LOCATION] is open [DAYS OPEN] from [OPENING TIME] to [CLOSING TIME]. Accompanying educational materials are available. For more information on viewing the exhibition, please call [PHONE NUMBER] or go to [WEB ADDRESS].

**About Utah Arts & Museums and the Traveling Exhibit Program**Utah Arts & Museums’ Traveling Exhibit Program is a statewide outreach program that provides schools, museums, libraries, and community galleries with the opportunity to bring curated exhibitions to their community. This program is supported in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information on participating in the program, please contact Fletcher Booth at fbooth@utah.gov or call 801.532.2617. For media inquiries, please contact Josh Loftin at jloftin@utah.gov or 801.245.7205.

Utah Arts & Museums is a division of the Utah Department of Heritage and Arts (DHA). To enrich the quality of life for the people of Utah, DHA creates, preserves, and promotes Heritage and Arts. The Division provides funding, education, and technical services to individuals and organizations statewide so that all Utahns, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity or economic status, can access, understand, and receive the benefits of arts and culture. Additional information on the programs and services can be found at [artsandmuseums.utah.gov](http://www.artsandmuseums.utah.gov)

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