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Abbe Museum

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Native American Festival and Basketmakers Market
set for Summer 2009

Summer is just around the corner and with the warm and sunny days comes the annual Native American Festival and Basketmakers Market. Save the date as this year's festival is on Saturday, July 11th from 9:00am to 4:00pm at the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine. A collaboration between the Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance and the Abbe Museum, this world renowned "Indian Market" features exquisite hand crafted Wabanaki ash and sweet grass baskets, wood and stone carvings, jewelry, beadwork, and dolls as well as other hand crafted items representing the beauty and culture of the Maliseet, Micmac, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot people of Maine and the Maritimes.

Maine's first inhabitants can be traced back to over 12,000 years ago with many ancient village sites discovered along its coastal waters. In more recent history, the ancestors of today's Native artists traveled to summer encampments, set up in villages like Bar Harbor, and sold their wares to seasonal residents and tourists. In the spirit of that tradition, the Native American Festival fosters cultural connections between the Wabanaki and people from around the world.

Spend a beautiful day outside enjoying Native American singing, dancing, storytelling, demonstrations and food. Take advantage of easy access to the College of the Atlantic on the FREE Island Explorer Shuttle bus or by using the special free shuttle service at Connors-Emerson School located at Eagle Lake Road. This event is free and open to the public. For more information on this unique cultural event call (207)288-3519 or visit www.abbemuseum.org

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