

3-29-2002

# Snowshoes: A Gift from Gluskabe

Hudson Museum

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# THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS/DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES COMMITTEE GRANT APPLICATION

PROVIDE 10 (TEN) COPIES, INCLUDING THE ORIGINAL.  
PLEASE PLACE A COPY OF THIS COVER SHEET ON TOP OF EACH COPY

I.	Applicant/Organization: Hudson Museum								
II.	<p>a. Responsible Organization Officer: <u>Gretchen Faulkner</u></p> <p>b. Title: Program Coordinator</p> <p>c. Campus Address (include EMail and Telephone): Hudson Museum, Maine Center for the Arts gretchen@umit.maine.edu 581-1904</p>								
III.	<p>Summary of program requiring funding (title; featured artist(s); speaker(s); scheduled date (s): September 2002 - May 2003</p> <p><u>Snowshoes: A Gift from Gluskabe</u>, a special exhibit at the Hudson Museum</p>								
<p>Expand in fuller detail, a supporting statement with <u>detailed, itemized budget</u>. Funding for current application is contingent upon submission of detailed budget and attendance report for any previous years' grants.</p>									
IV.	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">a. Total funding required for program: .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">&gt; \$4400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b. Amount committed by applicant organization: .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">&gt; 200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c. Amount committed by/requested of (please indicate which) other funding sources: .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">&gt; 2000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>d. Amount requested of Cultural Affairs/DLS Committee: .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">&gt; 2200</td> </tr> </table>	a. Total funding required for program: .....	> \$4400	b. Amount committed by applicant organization: .....	> 200	c. Amount committed by/requested of (please indicate which) other funding sources: .....	> 2000	d. Amount requested of Cultural Affairs/DLS Committee: .....	> 2200
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d. Amount requested of Cultural Affairs/DLS Committee: .....	> 2200								
<p>Signature of responsible organization officer/date: <u>Claine Albright<sup>SC</sup></u>      <u>3/29/02</u>  <span style="margin-left: 150px;">SIGNATURE</span> <span style="margin-left: 150px;">DATE</span></p>									

SPACE BELOW FOR COMMITTEE USE:

\$2200

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATION TO: CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
C/O PRESIDENT'S OFFICE  
200 ALUMNI HALL

## Snowshoes: A Gift from Gluskabe

From September 2002 to May 2003, the Hudson Museum will feature *Snowshoes: A Gift from Gluskabe*. This exhibit will feature over 30 pairs of Northeastern Native American snowshoes, ranging from Ojibway, Huron, and Cree to Penobscot, Micmac and Passamaquoddy examples. Snowshoes were integral to the lifeways of Native Peoples of the Northeast. Today, snowshoeing is a popular winter recreational sport. For Native Peoples the ability to make and use snowshoes was a life skill—passed down by family members from one generation to the next.

*Snowshoes: A Gift from Gluskabe* will allow the Hudson Museum to expand its presentation of the Native Peoples of the Northeast, as the Museum's only Northeastern Native American gallery centers on the Penobscot. This exhibit will feature Maine Indian snowshoes from the Hudson Museum, the Maine State Museum and Abbe Museum, as well as Micmac, Cree, Huron, Ojibway and Attikamek examples from private collections. Snowshoes included in the exhibit will date from the early 1800s to the present, as among some Northeastern groups snowshoe making is a living tradition. *Snowshoes: A Gift from Gluskabe* will be installed on the ramp panels leading from the Museum's first to third level—one of the highest visibility exhibit locations in the Museum.

Throughout the Northeast, snowshoe technology drew on locally available resources. Snowshoe frames were riven from white ash, which was steamed and bent around the maker's knee or around a wooden frame or jig. The tail of the snowshoe was pinned together with sinew lashings or later nails or rivets. White maple, rock maple, or white ash were used to make the cross bars and rawhide strips were woven in a hexagonal pattern for the shoe's infilling or *babiche* work. Caribou was preferred for webbing material, but deer and moose and even cow hide were also used. Snowshoes were designed for specific snow types and terrains and were made in a variety of sizes. Shapes ranged from nearly round, bear paw specimens to elongated shoes that resembled pollywogs. Native American tribes in the Northeast developed distinctive and recognizable snowshoe styles to meet the specific winter challenges of their region.

*Snowshoes: A Gift from Gluskabe* represents one of the first efforts to document this traditional artform. It will draw on information about snowshoes and snowshoe-making among Maine Indian peoples recorded by Fannie Hardy Eckstorm, in *The Handicrafts of the Modern Indians of Maine* (1932) and Frank Speck in *Penobscot Man* (1940). It will also utilize Indian Agent reports, 19th and early 20th century sporting goods catalogs, and historic images. Documentation and historic images also exist for the snowshoe making traditions of Northeastern Native Peoples in Canada and will be incorporated in the exhibition.

The exhibit will be divided into three sections. The first section will present a historic overview of the tradition and examine the tools and technology used to make snowshoes. The second section will feature documented examples of Northeastern snowshoes made by Penobscot, Micmac, Passamaquoddy, Maliseet, Huron, Cree, Ojibway, and Attikamek peoples. The final exhibit section will feature contemporary

snowshoes. These subarctic snowshoes from Canada are the work of some of the last snowshoe makers who learned the craft as a life skill. They learned to make snowshoes in the “bush” as part of the traditional winter activities of their kin-based hunting camps. These elders carry on the traditions of their families and communities, making forms that honor their ancestors.

In conjunction with *Snowshoes: A Gift from Gluskabe*, the Hudson Museum will develop a wide variety of educational programming. These programs will include guided tours of the exhibit for University and elementary and secondary school groups, outdoor snowshoe clinics coordinated by UMaine’s Maine Bound, and lectures and demonstrations. The Museum will also work with the Indian Island School to re-introduce this tradition. Students in Michael Vermette’s art classes at the Indian Island School will visit the Hudson Museum and use the exhibit as a visual resource. A contemporary Native American snowshoe maker will come into their classroom and teach them about snowshoe making and they will have an opportunity to make a pair of snowshoes. Examples of the students’ work will be exhibited at the Hudson Museum. The exhibit will also be showcased at the Museum’s annual Maine Indian Basketmakers Sale and Demonstration held on the second Saturday in December--a major gathering for Maine Indians.

Each academic year over 17,000 visitors come to the Museum during regular operating hours, 3,300 elementary and secondary school children participate in guided tours and gallery programs, 800 UMaine students visit the Museum as part of directed coursework, 1,500 individuals attend Museum events, and over 51,000 Maine Center for the Arts and Bangor Symphony Orchestra patrons have an opportunity to see the Museum during concert hall events.

Publicity about this exhibit and associated educational programs will be coordinated by the University of Maine's Office of Public Affairs, which distributes Museum press releases and calendar listings to twenty-eight newspapers, and local television and radio stations. Information will be posted on the Hudson Museum’s website and on campus web-based bulletin boards. Through the Museum’s school newsletter, *The Totem*, information about the exhibit will be distributed to over 1,700 elementary and secondary school teachers state-wide. In addition exhibit flyers will be sent to the Tribal offices in Maine and in Canada.

Funding from the Cultural Affairs Committee is requested to support \$2200 in expenses associated with the exhibit. Expenses include the preparation of snowshoes and snowshoe making tools for exhibition (\$3120); the production of exhibit panels incorporating text, graphics and maps and object labels (\$1230); and installation and mounting supplies (\$50). Matching funds will be requested from the Maine Humanities Council (\$2000) and the Hudson Museum will contribute \$200 towards the project.

*Snowshoes: A Gift from Gluskabe*

	CAC/DLS Request	Maine Humanities Council Request	Hudson Museum
<b>Exhibit Preparation</b>			
Plexiglass-20 sheets @ \$100 per sheet	\$1000	\$1000	
Gatorfoam-24-4' x 8' sheets @\$30/sheet	600	120	
Gatorfoam shipping expenses		120	
Wood trim and wood screws			150
Fabric-40 yards muslin fabric @3.00/yard		120	
Monofilament		10	
<b>Exhibit Graphics</b>			
Exhibition panels-6 panels @ \$200/panel	600	600	
Object labels-matboard and paper		30	
<b>Installation and Mounting Supplies</b>			
Miscellaneous hardware (wood screws, mounting plates)			50
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$2200</b>	<b>\$2000</b>	<b>\$200</b>

*Cultural Affairs Committee*  
*including the*  
*Distinguished Lecture Series*  
*200 Alumni Hall*  
*University of Maine*

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April 19, 2002

To: Gretchen Faulkner

From: Kathleen March & François Amar, Co-Chairs

On behalf of the Cultural Affairs Committee, including the Distinguished Lecture Series, it gives me great pleasure to inform you that your proposal, Snowshoes: A gift from Gluskabe, has been awarded \$2,200.00. **Please contact Wanda Legere at 1-1516 before your event takes place to arrange for disbursement of award funds.** Note: Reception and University of Maine System payroll expenses are not reimbursable through this award.

Please note that acknowledgment of the *Cultural Affairs Committee* is required on all promotional materials. **A budget report must be submitted at the conclusion of your event and will be considered for future funding requests.** It is assumed that projects are completed within 12 months, therefore, any remaining balance will be returned to the Committee account for further distribution unless otherwise notified.

The Committee notes that it does not fund more than 50% of the amount for any given program. It also asks applicants to consider the most reasonable honoraria possible, as there may not be funding for the higher amounts.

We, the members of the Cultural Affairs Committee, congratulate you and wish you much success on this project.