



Contact: Joyce Alexander  
Communications Specialist  
Crow Canyon Archaeological Center  
970.565.4362 • 800.422.8975, ext. 162  
jalexander@crowcanyon.org  
www.crowcanyon.org

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Crow Canyon Staff to Speak About American Indians and Archaeologists**

CORTEZ, CO (September 1, 2011)—On September 9, 2011, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center Director of American Indian Initiatives Marjorie Connolly and Vice President of Programs Dr. Shirley Powell will present “American Indians and Archaeologists: Multiple Perspectives on the Past” as part of the Four Corners Lecture Series. The presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center and is free and open to the public.

In the past, the relationship between some archaeologists and American Indians was challenging, and until recently it was characterized by a lack of effective communication. Today, however, the dialogue is mutual, and many tribes have archaeology and preservation offices of their own. At the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, staff seeks the input of American Indian advisors in the design and implementation of its archaeological research projects and educational programming.

In their presentation, Connolly and Powell will discuss Crow Canyon’s ongoing collaborations with American Indians, showing how the Center is using oral histories and archaeological data to recreate a more inclusive past for everyone—in both temporal span and the people whose stories are being told.

As Crow Canyon’s director of American Indian Initiatives, Connolly works closely with the Center’s Native American Advisory Group, which was formed for the purpose of fostering constructive dialogue between Crow Canyon staff and American Indians. Dr. Powell, Crow Canyon’s vice president of programs, works with the Center’s staff and American Indian partners to develop and fund projects of mutual interest.

Organized by a consortium of area organizations, the Four Corners Lecture Series features presentations by guest speakers from around the Southwest. This year’s theme is “Gifts from the Ancestors.” All lectures are free. The location of the lectures rotates among the sponsoring organizations.

This year’s sponsors are the Anasazi Heritage Center, ARAMARK, the Bureau of Land Management, the Colorado Archaeological Society – Hisatsinom Chapter, the Cortez Cultural Center, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, KSJD, Mesa Verde National Park, the Mesa Verde Institute, the Mesa Verde Museum Association, and the Office of the President and Department of Anthropology – Fort Lewis College.

For more information, call 970-565-8975 or 800-422-8975.

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