



• TAMÁSTLIKT •
CULTURAL INSTITUTE

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NEWS RELEASE

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**Images of Mohawk Ironworkers Displayed in
Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition**





Mohawk iron workers in the 20th century built many of New York's best know skyscrapers. A traveling Smithsonian Institution exhibit, *Booming Out*, will open at Tamastlikt Cultural Institute June 23-August 12 with many images of these tall tower specialists. For more information: www.tamastlikt.com.

To download a print quality photo file of any of these images, please click on the following link, then click on the thumbnail.

<http://www.cleanpix.com/cleanpix/portal/WZY0:S7S:wbS>

Standing hundreds of feet above the ground on the frames of New York City skyscrapers is not the easiest way to make a living. Mohawk Indian ironworkers say that “walking iron” gives them great pride. These ironworkers share their stories of strength in a new Smithsonian traveling exhibition.

Booming Out: Mohawk Ironworkers Build New York opens at the Tamástlikt Cultural Institute June 23. The exhibition will remain on view through August 12 and then continue on a national tour through 2007.

Booming Out was developed by the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian’s George Heye Center and organized for travel by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES). The exhibition, its national tour and related programs are made possible by the AMB Foundation.

Mohawk ironworkers have been “booming out” for six generations. “Booming out” is a Mohawk expression used to describe the urban migration of the Mohawk ironworkers as they leave their native communities in New York State, Ontario, Quebec and Montreal in search of work. One of the earliest projects the Mohawks completed was a bridge over the St. Lawrence River, between Canada and Mohawk land in New York State. The Mohawks have constructed portions of the Empire State Building, the Chrysler Building, the George Washington Bridge and the World Trade Center in New York City. Mohawks on the West Coast in the 1930s constructed the San Francisco Bay Bridge.

Booming Out contains black-and-white and color photographs and photo-murals featuring Mohawk Indians “walking iron.” Many of these photographs were taken by the ironworkers themselves. The exhibit also includes a sculpture created by Darryl Pronovost (Mohawk) using metal recovered from the ruins of the World Trade Center during the clean-up at Ground Zero.

Tamástlikt Cultural Institute is located at Wildhorse Resort & Casino, 10 minutes east of Pendleton. From Interstate 84 take exit 216 and follow the signs five minutes to Wildhorse Resort and the Institute. Coming from the north, take the Mission exit from Highway 11 just northeast of Pendleton and follow the signs for about ten minutes to the Wildhorse Resort and the Institute. Tamástlikt is open 7 days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. In addition to exhibits telling the story of the three Tribes' history and culture, there is also a Museum Store and the Kinship Café.

For more information: 541-966-9748 or www.tamastlikt.org. Direct dial the museum store at tollfree 1-866-282-2022. Tamástlikt is owned and operated by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

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