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*** MEDIA ADVISORY ***

California Indians: Making A Difference to open on March 31st at The California Museum

All-new 3,000-sq. ft. exhibit is the only of its kind in California to be developed in Native voice

WHAT: Created under a Native advisory council over the last two years, *California Indians: Making A Difference* opens at The California Museum on Thursday, March 31, at 10:00am to the general public. The all-new exhibit is the only one of its kind in the state developed in Native voice and represents over 100 tribes across California. The 3,000-square foot gallery showcases the unique contributions of the state's Native peoples through art, artifacts, oral histories at 6 video stations and an interactive language kiosk.

Over 400 artifacts -- many of which have never publicly viewed before -- will be displayed including:

- Fur cape and arrowhead of **Ishi**, California's best-known Indian
- Rare baskets woven by two of the 20th century's most famous Native artists, **Dotsolalee** and **Lucy Telles**
- A bear chipped from volcanic rock by Native Californians around 7,700 years ago called **The Chipped Stone Bear**, California's official prehistoric artifact
- Works by contemporary Native artists **Frank LaPeña**, **Harry Fonseca** & **Fritz Scholder**
- **Oral history series** from 13 Natives document personal stories of adaptation and triumph of tribes throughout California shown in exhibit and online at CaliforniaMuseum.org

Utilizing the voices and experiences of the state's Native peoples, the exhibit presents stories of adaptation and triumph that ultimately reveal California Indians have not only survived but continue to thrive in California's constantly changing conditions.

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MEDIA: Members of the press are invited to attend the exhibit preview tour on **Wednesday, March 30, 2011**. To confirm attendance or for information and press images, contact:
Brenna Hamilton, Communications Director at The California Museum
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WHEN: Press Preview Tour: Wednesday, March 30, 2011 from 11:00am to 12:00pm
General Public Grand Opening: Thursday, March 31, 2011 at 10:00am

WHERE: The California Museum, 1020 O Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

ABOUT THE CALIFORNIA MUSEUM:

The California Museum — home of the California Hall of Fame— engages and enlightens people about California's rich history and unique contributions to the world through ideas, innovation, the arts and culture. Through interactive and innovative experiences, the museum inspires men, women and children to dream the California dream and dare to make their own mark on history. Open Monday through: 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.; Sunday from noon to 5:00p.m. Admission: Adults \$8.50; Students/Seniors \$7.00 with valid ID; Children 6-13 \$6.00; Children 5 and under free. For more information, visit: CaliforniaMuseum.org

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Press images and interviews available by request.