

## STILL HERE

New permanent exhibit  
*Our Home: Native Minnesota*  
opens at the Minnesota  
History Center in December

Rosemary Good remembers it as a natural pull.

“I had to stop, and touch, and try to understand where this genius inspiration comes from,” she recalls. “I can’t explain it, and I stand in total awe of it.”

On a trip to New Mexico with her husband, David, in the 1970s, Rosemary was bowled over by the Native American art and handwork they encountered. It wasn’t the only revelation of the trip. “I was stunned to finally get an education, to realize that Indians still lived and breathed. It sounds horribly ignorant on my part, but that was the case,” Rosemary confides.

David says, “It wasn’t until we moved to Minnesota that I realized, ‘Well, they’re still here, too.’ That really jump-started our interest in eventually wanting to have part of our philanthropy support Native American culture.”

Today the Goods have spent more than a decade supporting various Native American initiatives at the Minnesota Historical Society. But the inspiration for their largest gift yet came from viewing the Native art and handwork contained in MNHS collections storage. Recalling that experience, Rosemary noted, “There was everything from paintings to beading to birch-bark. Drawer after drawer would be opened,” Rosemary says. “I was excited and thrilled.”

But when the Goods walked through the Minnesota History Center museum they wondered why items they saw in storage weren’t on display. “Native Americans are important to this state’s history. Why aren’t these items out? We started bugging people a little bit,” Rosemary says.

Thanks in part to a gift from the Rosemary and David Good Family Foundation, a new permanent exhibit, *Our Home: Native Minnesota*, will open at the Minnesota History Center in December 2019.

The exhibit’s kickoff will mark the culmination of years of inclusion, engagement, hard work, and persistence of many Native people who work with and at MNHS. *Our Home: Native Minnesota* will share first-person stories, photos, video, and, of course, art.

“Their love of the arts is just part of their culture,” David says of Native Americans. “The arts are a way of expressing who they are and that they are still here.”

—Julianna Olsen



ABOVE: Rita Walaszek (White Earth Ojibwe), curatorial associate and exhibit codeveloper; David Good; Rosemary Good. BELOW: Bandolier bag made by an Ojibwe artist circa late nineteenth century. (PHOTOS ALYSON SMITH/MNHS)



If you would like information about supporting Native American Initiatives or other areas within the Minnesota Historical Society, please contact Jennifer Pogatchnik at 651-259-3116 or [jennifer.pogatchnik@mnhs.org](mailto:jennifer.pogatchnik@mnhs.org).



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