**Sample Press Release**

{*Print your press release on your sponsoring organization's letterhead*

*or include name, address, and phone number of organization at top of release*}

**For Immediate Release**

**THE [SPONSORING ORGANIZATION] HOSTS MONTANA CONVERSATION “BRIDGING THE WORLDS” WITH BUCK HITSWITHASTICK**

[City–date]

The [sponsoring organization] hosts Humanities Montana’s “Bridging the Worlds” with Buck Hitswithastick on [date of program]. The program is at [location and time of program]. The presentation is free and open to the public. Funding for Montana Conversations is provided by Humanities Montana through grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Montana’s Cultural Trust, and private donations. We are funded in part by coal severance taxes paid based upon coal mined in Montana and deposited in Montana’s cultural and aesthetic projects trust fund.

The Selis Qlispe Culture Committee once stated that: “We seek to guard and protect the culture and language of our ancestors so that it will not end or be lost.” Bridging the Worlds is a knowledge-based discussion centered on Salish-Bitterroot history and experience, which focuses on native warriorship and cultural knowledge-keeping. With 30 plus years of cultural immersion, language and wilderness experience, Buck Hitswithastick offers discussions on the concepts of wisdom, strength, and determination, which have been passed down by generations of his ancestors who overcame adversity. Buck makes this knowledge relatable to modern audiences by speaking on topics of leadership, warriorship and wellness through the lens of pre-European contact native culture, and early reservation history. His presentation, Bridging the Worlds, can be adapted to discussions on pre-European contact set-up tool making, native regalia and dance presentation, Native American “up-cycling, and assembly lectures on warriorship and wellbeing centered around the Salish medicine wheel.

Buck Hitswithastick (Morigeau) is a lifelong student of northwestern Native American peoples. His focus has primarily been on his culture, the Bitterroot Salish of western Montana. He began his study of native histories and cultures in his late teens. With nothing but a jacket full of modest supplies and a machete for survival, he started camping alone with his fire under the Big Sky in the Lolo National Forest. From there he sought out mentors to further his education in traditional arts and tribal history to help satisfy his thirst for Native American traditional values and culture. Throughout the years that followed this primal introduction to Northwestern and Plains Indian studies, Buck attended Salish Kootenai College (SKC) and participated in numerous other conferences and trainings that pertained to the specific areas of study he was focusing on at the time. He has instructed students of all ages and backgrounds, even teaching the Bitterroot Salish language for thirteen years at an elementary school on the Flathead Reservation in Northwest Montana. Today Buck teaches the same class at SKC, “Reservation Arts'' that he himself took from his mentor-teacher many years ago. Buck also apprenticed with a renowned Salish elder and master weaver for years before finally being certified by the Montana Arts Council for basketry.

Buck has been guided by numerous well respected tribal instructors and co-teachers. Buck formed a deep relationship based on historical and spiritual studies with those elders and holds dear the many hours of formal and informal discussions had with them. Buck contributes countless hours as a volunteer to teaching traditional arts, culture, and history to people. Armed with that and his own family’s cultural history, Buck takes his knowledge on the road to share with audiences big and small. You can find him motivational speaking on wellness and history from a cultural perspective, presenting modern war dance, or his primitive collection, including dress, tools, and weaponry. Buck is honored to help groups and individuals to learn and incorporate central warriorship lessons, that every person has a specific value to the betterment of the whole of society.

For more information, please call [sponsoring organization] at [phone number].

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Contact person: [project organizer and phone number]