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For Immediate Release

## Celebrating Utah's American Indian Culture: Utah State History Conference, September 17-19

David Hurst Thomas, anthropology curator of the American Museum of Natural History, will give the annual History Address at the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Utah State History Conference: "Celebrating Utah's American Indian Culture: We Shall Remain." Besides his extensive archaeological investigations, Dr. Thomas has focused on redefining the relationship between the Native American and anthropological communities—and building bridges between these often conflicting perspectives. A riveting speaker, he has published dozens of books, including works on human adaptation strategies in the Great Basin. Dr. Thomas will speak on Thursday, September 17, at 7:00 p.m.

On Friday morning Larry EchoHawk, recently appointed United States Department of the Interior, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, will speak. EchoHawk will speak about the legal issues surrounding the United States' history with American Indian tribes. A panel of representatives from Utah's tribes will follow to further discuss the issues involved as Native Americans have endeavored to "Remain."

Friday afternoon, scholars will present a variety of papers and posters on Utah history and archaeology. All of the above presentations will take place at the Salt Lake City Public Library and are free and open to the public.

On Friday evening, from 6 to 9 p.m., the public is invited to a reception and exhibit of the "Living Art of Utah's Tribes: We Shall Remain" at the Rio Grande Depot, 300 S. Rio Grande Street, SLC. This exhibit features folk art crafted by members of six tribes in Utah.

On Saturday, September 19, the public is invited to tour Danger Cave. The tour is free; however, reservations are required. To reserve a spot, contact Ron Rood at [rrood@utah.gov](mailto:rrood@utah.gov) or 801/533-3564. The Fort Douglas Military Museum will also lead a tour of the Bear River Massacre site in Cache Valley. This tour costs \$65 per person. For reservations and information, call 801/581-1251.

State History's annual conference is presented in conjunction with KUED's *We Shall Remain* project, in partnership with the Utah Division of Arts and Museums and the Utah Department of Community and Culture. For a complete schedule, see <http://history.utah.gov>. For further information, call Lynette Lloyd at 801/533-3553.

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