

**News Release**

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INSTITUTE OF  
AMERICAN  
INDIAN ARTS  
MUSEUM  
CONTEMPORARY  
NATIVE ART

***Tran·si·tion* Opens April 3 at IAIA Museum to Showcase Graduating Talent**



**Buffalo Wings,  
Micheal Schweigman (Oglala  
Lakota), Mixed Media**

Santa Fe, NM – The Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) Museum hosts *Tran·si·tion*, an exhibit showcasing the class of 2009 at IAIA. Curated by noted Native arts scholar Margaret Archuleta (Tewa/Nueva Mexicana), the show opens April 3, 2009 with a Museum Members' Preview from 4 - 5 p.m. and a public opening from 5 – 7 p.m. The exhibit is up through May 17, 2009.

Archuleta picked the theme transition, defined as “the movement, passage, or change from one position, state, stage, subject, concept to another,” because the graduating students who will receive their bachelor of fine arts degrees (BFA) and are now ready to transition from student artist to professional artist. Archuleta says, “For the past four years they have been preparing themselves for this transition. They continue the nearly 50 years of history at the Institute of American Indian Arts of promoting art making and encouraging generations of Indian students.”

Students participating in the show include studio and new media arts majors

Karla Blue Dawn, Nick Estes, Wayne Nez Gaussoin, Melissa Melero, Luther Pilant, III, Michael Schweigman, Salome Starbuck, Werewolf Micah Wesley, Jacqueline Smith, Taketo Yamashita, Kristin Maria, Rory Erler Wakemup, Cindy Schenandoah-Standford and creative writing majors

-more-

Millisa Alger, Tacey Atsitty, Rueben Chinana, Schuyler Deal, Oscar Hokeah, Layli Long Soldier, Vicki Morigeau and Ken Taylor.

For more information, please call Tatiana Lomahaftewa-Singer, 505.983.8900 or email [tlomahaftewa-singer@iaia.edu](mailto:tlomahaftewa-singer@iaia.edu). To request images of artwork, please email [sgolar@iaia.edu](mailto:sgolar@iaia.edu) or call 505.424.2351. For more information about the IAIA Museum, please visit [www.iaiamuseum.org](http://www.iaiamuseum.org)

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### **About the IAIA Museum**

Located in downtown Santa Fe, the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) Museum is dedicated to advancing the discourse, knowledge and understanding of contemporary Native arts. Founded in 1971, the Museum's exhibitions, publications and educational programs challenge pre-conceived notions of contemporary art. The IAIA Museum is home to the largest collection of contemporary Native art in the world. A premier shopping destination, the Museum's store offers the finest selection of contemporary Native arts and gifts from both emerging and established artists.

### **IAIA's Mission:**

To empower creativity and leadership in Native arts and cultures through higher education, lifelong learning and outreach