

# Birthday party of mammoth proportions

MASHANTUCKET PEQUOT  
10TH ANNIVERSARY

MUSEUM CELEBRATES  
IN AUGUST WITH FUN GALORE



A DISPLAY AT THE  
MASHANTUCKET  
MUSEUM.  
PHOTO JEFF EVANS

The Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center (MPMRC) is celebrating its 10th anniversary this summer with a delectable menu of special activities called "10 Days of Fun for 10 Years."

From Aug. 8-17, there is something new to do every day. Museum visitors can marvel at live birds of prey soaring freely, listen to a storyteller spin traditional tales, take part in a Native American Field Day, take a hike, discover all about archaeology and wampum and more. Details on these programs are listed below.

This summer, the museum also is

presenting the breakthrough and thought-provoking exhibition *RACE: Are We So Different?* It runs through Sept. 7. Visit [pequotmuseum.org](http://pequotmuseum.org) for a full schedule of spring and summer events, including programs related to the *Race* exhibit.

Since opening on Aug. 11, 1998, the museum and research center has hosted nearly two million visitors who toured its permanent and special exhibits, attended performances and presentations of Native American culture, and make use of its two libraries — one devoted to children. Upwards of 380,000 school children and their

teachers have taken advantage of special educational programs and tours designed by MPMRC staff.

Twenty-one special exhibits have been presented in the Mashantucket Gallery, a 4,200-square-foot space devoted to changing displays of Native arts and cultures, and a number of smaller displays have been exhibited in other areas of the museum. Key supporters of the Center's varied program offerings are the more than 3,000 individuals, families and corporations who have become annual museum members.

In 2006, the MPMRC became an

Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, a relationship that fosters the long term loan of artifacts and enables member museums to incorporate additional resources, such as integrating Smithsonian collections into exhibitions, educational initiatives and research efforts. Members of the Pequot Museum also will have the opportunity to become members of the Smithsonian at a reduced rate and enjoy a full package of benefits.

The MPMRC Research Libraries house diverse materials, including more than 40,000 titles, on all Native

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