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Haida Artist Honored by Smithsonian National Museum, New York

VANCOUVER, BC: Fashion Designer Dorothy Grant will be honored at a fall benefit at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in New York, the George Gustav Heye Center, on Thursday, September 25, 2008. "A Single Thread: Celebrating Native American Design and Style" will include preview tours of the exhibition "Identity by Design: Tradition, Change and Celebration in Native Women's Dresses" and benefit the museum's education programs and activities.

The luncheon will honor the achievements of fashion designer Dorothy Grant (Haida), multidisciplinary artist Joe Baker (Delaware Tribe of Indians), master dressmaker Joyce Growing Thunder Fogarty (Assiniboine/Sioux); jewelry artist Veronica Poblano (Zuni) and jewelry artist Denise Wallace (Chugach/Aleut). The event will also feature keynote speaker Jack Lenor Larsen, the internationally recognized textile designer and authority on craft.

"Native women for hundreds of years have made garments reflective of their pride and amazing design and sewing skills", says Ms. Grant. "My work as an artist has come from this same place of pride and knowledge of Haida Art. I am truly honoured to be recognized by the National Museum of the American Indian in this remarkable show, "Identity by Design".

This prestigious award recognizes Ms. Grant's 20+ year contribution to furthering Native American history and fashion through her "wearable art" designer collection. With a soon-to-be published book highlighting a 20-year retrospective of her art currently in the works, Ms. Grant is actively designing new works that will be shown in her new gallery /artist studio in the heart of Vancouver's SOMA district. Located in an elegant loft setting at 138 West 6th Avenue, the studio marries traditional native culture with contemporary fashion.

Contact: Julie Berg, Dorothy Grant Studio
Tel: 604 681 0201 info@dorothygrant.com
www.dorothygrant.com

Contact: Ann Marie Sekeres, Smithsonian Museum
Tel: 212 514 3823 sekeresa@si.edu
www.americanindian.si.edu