

[About](#) | [Calendar](#) | [Press](#) | [Bookshop](#)[Sitemap](#) | [VISITOR INFORMATION](#) | [EXHIBITIONS](#) | [EVENTS](#) | [OUTREACH](#) | [EDUCATION](#) | [COLLECTIONS & RESEARCH](#) | [MEMBERSHIP & GIVING](#)

## EXHIBITIONS

### Current Exhibitions in Washington, DC

#### Exhibitions in Washington, DC

##### Current

[Upcoming](#)

##### Exhibitions in New York

##### Online Exhibitions

##### Past Exhibitions

[Press Release](#)

#### Up Where We Belong: Native Musicians in Popular Culture

July 1, 2010–January 2, 2011

NMAI on the National Mall, Washington, DC

This panel and object exhibition highlights Native people who have been active participants in contemporary music for nearly a century. Musicians like Russell "Big Chief" Moore (Gila River Indian Community), Rita Coolidge (Cherokee), Buffy Sainte-Marie (Cree), and the group Redbone are a few of the Native performing artists who have had successful careers in popular music. Many have been involved in various forms of popular music—from jazz and blues to folk, country, and rock. *Up Where We Belong: Native Musicians in Popular Culture* tells their stories and histories, and provides visitors the opportunity to hear samples by music greats and discover musicians with whom those exceptional musicians collaborated. Visitors will also learn about artists who inspired the musical greats as well as the contemporary artists they themselves influenced.

In conjunction with the July 1 opening of *Up Where We Belong*, guitarist and singer/songwriter [Derek Miller \(Mohawk\)](#) will perform a mix of blues and rock, including many songs by musicians featured in the exhibition, such as Link Wray, Jesse Ed Davis, Peter LaFarge, Jimi Hendrix, Redbone, Robbie Robertson, and Buffy Sainte-Marie. In 2002, Miller released his debut album, *Music Is the Medicine*, for which he garnered a coveted Juno Award, Canada's equivalent to the GRAMMYS. Most recently he performed and was seen around the world at the closing ceremonies of the 2010 Winter Olympics.

To honor collaborators on the exhibition, there will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Saturday, Aug. 7, at 4 p.m. in the Sealaska Gallery. Visitors are invited to then enjoy the [Living Earth Festival concert](#) at 5 p.m. on the Welcome Plaza, featuring the New Orleans band, Dumpstaphunk, who will be performing with special guests.

[Listen to a selection of music in the exhibition.](#)

Jimi Hendrix's patchwork leather coat. On loan from Janie Hendrix, President/CEO, Experience Hendrix, LLC. Photo by Katherine Fogden, NMAI.