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**October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**NEWS RELEASE**

## **Tigua Heritage Day**

**EL PASO, Texas** Saturday, November 12th, 2016 at 10:00am to 3:00pm, In celebration of Native American Heritage Month the El Paso Museum of Archaeology along with the Tigua Cultural Center will be hosting the first ever Tigua Heritage Day at the Museum of Archaeology. This day of activities will focus on the cultural and historical importance of the Tigua tribe.

**Archery and Atl-Atl demonstrations:** Archery makes its appearance in the American Southwest around 1,400 years ago. Prior to that, the atl-atl, or spear thrower, was used to bring down medium sized, fast moving game such as deer and bison.

**Tigua bread and Chile sampling:** The Tigua are known for their bread which is made from a traditional recipe and passed down from generation to generation. Visitors are welcome to sample some traditional Tigua bread learning about how it is made.

**Paper Plate gourds:** Traditionally gourds are used during dances. Participants will be instructed on how to make their own gourds out of paper plates and beads.

**Dreamcatcher crafting:** In Native American cultures, dreamcatchers are used to keep bad energy and dreams away. This craft will teach participants about the significance of dreamcatchers while learning how to make one of their own.

**Tigua dances:** Tigua dances will be performed on the hour every hour from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Some of the dances that will be performed are open to public participation. Visitors of all ages are encouraged to join in.

**Medicine Bags:** Medicine bags are used for protection and usually contain small important objects or plants. Visitors will be able to make their very own medicine pouch and place their own special items inside.

**Sand Painting:** This activity will invite visitors to create their own painting using different colored sand and stencils of animals that are significant to the Tigua and their traditions.

For more information, please contact Brittany Hutchinson at (915)-755-4332 or [HutchinsonBM@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:HutchinsonBM@elpasotexas.gov)

Mission of the El Paso Museum of Archaeology:

The El Paso Museum of Archaeology is dedicated to the interpretation of archaeological and anthropological artifacts through research, exhibits, and education. We focus on the prehistory and culture of the El Paso-Juárez region and the Southwest.

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*Promote Transparent and Consistent Communication Among All Members of the Community*