

St. Cloud State's library to host Lewis and Clark exhibit

By David Unze
dunze@stcloudtimes.com

St. Cloud State University beginning Thursday will host a traveling exhibit that examines the impact explorers Merriwether Lewis and William Clark had on Native American tribes.

"Lewis & Clark and the Indian Country" will be on display at St. Cloud State's James W. Miller Learning Resources Center until Dec. 11. St. Cloud State's library is one of 23 nationwide to host the exhibit.

The 1,000-square-foot exhibit will be on the second floor of the library. It is free and open to the public.

The exhibit comes to St. Cloud at the same time as the university hosts the Northern Great Plains History Conference. The conference starts Wednesday and runs through Saturday at the Kelly Inn.

"Lewis & Clark and the Indian Country" depicts Indian Country before the arrival of Lewis and Clark. The exhibit tells the story

of the explorers' historic 1804-1806 expedition from the perspective of Native Americans who lived along their route. Lewis and Clark crossed the homelands of more than 50 Native American tribes during their coast-to-coast expedition.

The exhibit examines topics including: "The Indian Country Before in 1800," "Crossing the Indian Country, 1804-06," "A New Nation Comes to the Indian Country," and "The Indian Country Today."

Several public programs are scheduled in conjunction with the exhibit. Included are:

■ Fred Hoxie, the exhibit's curator and Swanlund Professor of History at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, will present the lecture "Getting Lewis and Clark Right: Who Cares? Why Worry?" His presentation will be 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday in Miller Center Auditorium. A reception follows at 8:30 p.m.

■ A workshop for elementary, secondary, community

college and university educators will be offered 6-7:30 p.m. Oct. 28 in Miller Center Rooms 114 and 115.

■ Craig Howe, director of the Center for American Indian Research and Native Studies and faculty member at Oglala Lakota College on the Pine Ridge Reservation, will present "Hate Speech, Horses and Hostages: The Untold Story of Lewis & Clark in Teton Territory" at 7 p.m. Nov. 5 in Miller Center Auditorium.

■ Lise Erdrich will read her children's book "Sacagawea" and present a program for youth from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Nov. 14 in the Mississippi Room at St. Cloud Public Library. Erdrich has worked the last 25 years in various tribal programs, the Indian Health Service and the Bureau of Indian Education. She works at the Circle of Nations School in Wahpeton, N.D.

For information visit: <http://lrs.stcloudstate.edu/library/events/lewisandclark.asp>.