



# PRESS RELEASE

OFFICE of the MAYOR | RALPH BECKER

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Mayor Proclaims November as Native American Heritage Month**

*Events include upcoming lecture on "The Real Story of Thanksgiving"*

SALT LAKE CITY – Mayor Ralph Becker has officially proclaimed November as “Native American Heritage Month” in honor of the original inhabitants – the Indigenous Peoples – of Salt Lake City. Over 2,300 American Indian and Alaskan Natives are residents of Salt Lake City and include members from several tribal nations.

As part of the month-long celebration, University of Utah professor Donna Deyhle will discuss the topic of “The REAL Story of Thanksgiving” on Monday, November 21, 2011 from 12:30-1:30 p.m. at the American Indian Resource Center, 1925 De Trobriand St., Bldg. #622.

Native American tribes throughout North America strive to uphold their culture through language and robust traditional ways of life immersed in a substantial relationship to the environment.

Native Americans have served in increasing numbers in the United State Armed Forces. Historically, they played a pivotal role in America’s success during World Wars I and II. Native American code talkers developed unbreakable codes to communicate messages that saved countless lives.

“Salt Lake City is proud to commemorate the substantial contributions Native Americans have made through their cultural heritage,” said Mayor Ralph Becker. “Members of various tribes enhance the cultural vitality and diversity of our city.”

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