



MEDIA RELEASE

Release Date: Sept. 12, 2015

MEDIA CONTACT:

Heather Roberts, 602-261-8063, or
info@heritagesquarephx.org

EXHIBIT TO OPEN AT HERITAGE SQUARE SEPT. 25 - HISTORY AND TRANSITION OF FORMER PHOENIX INDIAN SCHOOL MUSIC BUILDING INTO A COMMUNITY CENTER

**Exhibit is part of a multi-organization partnership, and features
photographs and objects from the Heard Museum collection.**

PHOENIX –

Heritage Square is partnering with Native American Connections, the Phoenix Indian Center, and the Heard Museum, presenting the Phoenix Indian School Legacy Project exhibit. It will be open to the public Sept. 25 through Dec. 31 in the Heritage Gallery at Heritage Square's Stevens-Haustgen House (built in 1901), located at 620 E Adams St, Phoenix.

Visitors to the two-bedroom bungalow will find historic photographs of the Phoenix Indian School, selected from the Heard's collection in its Billie Jane Baguley Library and Archives. Also on display from the Heard are its education panel exhibit on the Phoenix Indian School, a letter sweater and several plaques and trophies from the school (including a plaque from Peterson Zah, former chair of the Navajo Nation), as well as information about the current renovation of the school.

The Phoenix Indian School opened in 1891, and was one of 12 original US Government operated Indian Schools created in the late 19th century. Like dozens of similar schools that eventually opened throughout the country, the Phoenix school's purpose was to train American Indians in industrial and manual labor. Federal officials forced children to attend these boarding schools, isolating them from their families and tribes. Over the decades, attendance ultimately became voluntary and the course of instruction broadened to include a variety of academic subjects. The Phoenix Indian School's last class graduated in 1990, and it closed its doors.

Native American Connections, Local Initiatives Support Corporation of Phoenix, and the Phoenix Indian Center are collaborating to transform the Music Building at the former school – located in what is now Steele Indian School Park at Third Street and Indian School Road – into a community center,

which will include an exhibit on the history of the school, as well as a class room, a conference area, and a commercial kitchen.

Admission to the Phoenix Indian School Legacy Project exhibit at Heritage Square is free: visitors may view the exhibit at the Stevens-Haustgen House from Sept. 25 through Dec. 31, open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays [closed Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 26), and Christmas Eve and Christmas Day (Dec. 24-25)]. More information about Heritage Square is available at <http://www.HeritageSquarePHX.org>. Since 2000, the Heard has presented an ongoing exhibit: *Remembering Our Indian School Days: The Boarding School Experience*, which documents the growth and effect of these schools, several of which still exist today. More information about the Heard Museum is available at www.heard.org.

Images from the exhibit are available upon request. Contact Mark Scarp, mscarp@heard.org, or 602.251.0283.

Heritage Square Foundation
113 N Sixth St, Phoenix, AZ 85004
602-261-8063
HeritageSquarePHX.org

Join us!

facebook.com/Rosson-House-Museum
twitter.com/RossonHouse
pinterest.com/HeritageSquare

About Heritage Square

Heritage Square is the last remaining residential block of the original Phoenix townsite, and its cornerstone is the fully restored Victorian Queen Anne style, Rosson House Museum, built in 1895. The Museum is open for public tours, special events and school trips, Wednesday through Sunday. While on the Square, visitors can also visit the Museum store, three award-winning restaurants, a coffee shop, and wine bar. A visit to Heritage Square provides an afternoon of history, culture and relaxation.

Exhibit, event and program funding are provided in part by the Arizona Commission on the Arts, the Arizona Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture.

You're receiving this information from the Heritage Square Foundation, 113 N Sixth St, Phoenix AZ 85004. If you do not wish to receive future messages from us, email info@heritagesquarephx.org with the word "unsubscribe" in the subject line.