



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2, 2008

**ARTS OF INDIGENOUS CULTURES WITH CREATIVE SPIRIT CENTER
CO-FOUNDER CYNTHIA KEEFE**

What: Arts of Indigenous Cultures
When: September 13, September 27, October 18, November 8
Saturdays, 1 – 4 pm (except October 18, 2 – 5 pm)
Where: Creative Spirit Center, Midland
Cost: \$35/\$30 members plus \$12 materials fee per class
Information: Call 989-938-1885 or e-mail creativity@creativespiritcenter.org

[Midland] – Creative Spirit Center co-founder and artist Cynthia Keefe will guide explorations of Aboriginal culture, Native American wisdom, Celtic traditions, and African ritual in a fall series on Arts of Indigenous Cultures. During each session, participants will create an art project of their own after hearing traditional stories and viewing art from one of the four indigenous cultures. In all of these traditions, music, visual art, stories and mythology shape everyday life into an expression of tribal identity, creating a close-knit community based on shared belief. "Awakening in the Aboriginal Dreamtime," on September 13, offers an alternative experience of time. In "Native American Wisdom" on September 27, participants experience the shared nature of the universe. On October 18, "Celtic Traditions" joins traditional music to stories of divination, poetry and healing. The November 8 session, "Expressions of Belief: African Art and Ritual," highlights communal experience that honors tribal ancestors.

"In contemporary life, many individuals are deracinated, cut off from their cultural roots," says Keefe. "There is a deep longing to find satisfaction through connecting to these ancient traditions. In indigenous cultures, celebration, symbology, and even the use of color give meaning to life and help people find their place in the universe."

About the Artist

Cynthia Keefe, with Linda Z. Smith, co-founded Creative Spirit Center in 1994. A practicing artist, she

About Creative Spirit Center

Creative Spirit Center is a not-for-profit community arts organization founded in 1994. The Center's mission is to create an environment for people of all ages to experience the creative process through ongoing classes, conferences, concerts, speakers and outreach programs; and its goal is to enhance the development of physical, psychological and spiritual wellness through the arts and humanities.

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[Note: JPGs of attached separately:]

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