



Darrell Norman, *Blackfeet, Four Drummers*, © 2011

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Examples of IACB activities that promote Native American economic development include:

- an online Source Directory of American Indian and Alaska Native Owned and Operated Arts and Crafts Businesses that serves as a marketing link between consumers and a wide spectrum of Native American arts and crafts enterprises located nationwide;
- seminars in Indian country for Native American artists and artisans regarding the Act, effective marketing techniques, and intellectual property rights protections;
- informational brochures and related materials on the Act and contemporary Indian art and craftwork; and
- media campaigns to raise the visibility, appreciation, and demand for authentic Indian art and craftwork.

The IACB's activities are not duplicated in either the federal or private sector. The IACB's policies are determined by the Board of Commissioners, who are appointed by the Secretary of the Interior and serve without compensation. The IACB has an experienced and professional staff to carry out its responsibilities.



Wilson Oozeva, *St. Lawrence Island, Yupik, Walrus*, © 1982

*For additional information concerning contemporary Native American art and craftwork, IACB activities, as well as to obtain information on the Act, please contact:*



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U.S. Department of the Interior

The Indian Arts and  
Crafts Board



*S. Chaddlesone*

Sherman Chaddlesone, *Kiowa, Some Kiowas I've Seen in a Gourd Dance Dream*, © 1981



*Loverna Standing Capes, Kiowa-Wichita,  
Oklahoma Indian Arts and Crafts Cooperative, © 2011*

## MISSION AND ACTIVITIES

The Indian Arts and Crafts Board (IACB) was created by Congress in 1935 to promote American Indian and Alaska Native economic development through the expansion of the Indian arts and crafts market. In support of this mission, the IACB:

- implements the Indian Arts and Crafts Act of 1990, P.L. 101-644, as amended by the Indian Arts and Crafts Enforcement Act of 2000, P.L. 106-497, and the Indian Arts and Crafts Amendments Act of 2010, P.L. 111-211;
- increases the participation of Native Americans in the growing Native American fine arts and crafts industry;
- runs an economic development program through educational seminars, special museum exhibits, and other promotional endeavors; and
- conducts consumer outreach through publications, Indian art and craft markets, and targeted media campaigns.

## INDIAN ARTS AND CRAFTS ACT

A top priority of the IACB is the implementation and enforcement of the Indian Arts and Crafts Act (Act). The Act is a truth-in-advertising law that provides criminal and civil penalties for marketing products as “Indian made” when such products are not made by Indians, as defined by the Act. The Act protects Native American artists and craftspeople, businesses, and Tribes, as well as consumers. It also protects the integrity of Native American cultural heritage and the economic self-reliance of Tribes and their members.

Additionally, the IACB works with many federal and State agencies to enforce the Act. These collaborations significantly strengthen the IACB’s ability to successfully address counterfeit Indian art and craftwork. These counterfeits undermine the market for authentic Indian art and craftwork and severely undercut Indian economies, self-determination, cultural heritage, and the future of an original American treasure – Indian art and craftwork.



*George Benally,  
Navajo,  
Helping Hand,  
© 1988*

## MUSEUMS

As part of its mission to promote contemporary Indian art and craftwork, the IACB operates three regional museums: the Sioux Indian Museum in Rapid City, South Dakota; the Museum of the Plains Indian in Browning, Montana; and the Southern Plains Indian Museum in Anadarko, Oklahoma. These museums play a vital role in promoting authentic Indian art and craftwork through their permanent exhibitions and changing promotional sales exhibitions. Each museum presents approximately 4 one-person sales exhibitions and coordinates group sales exhibitions of outstanding contemporary Native American art and craftwork each year.

The IACB’s three museums are integral to their surrounding communities. Each museum provides a unique perspective on Native American art and craftwork and serves as a conduit between visitors and regional Tribes through public outreach and educational activities.

*Indian Arts and Crafts Board, Southern Plains Indian Museum, © 2011*

