WAR CLUB TO PRESENT DISCUSSION ON NATIVE AMERICAN ACTIVISM AT OU

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NORMAN, OKLA. (March 24, 2022) – War Club, a Tulsa Artist Fellowship project organized by artists Anita Fields (Osage/Muscogee) and Yatika Fields (Osage/Muscogee/Cherokee), will present a panel discussion about Native American activism titled *Intergenerational Practices of Activism* at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 7, in the Mary Eddy and Fred Jones Auditorium of the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, 555 Elm Ave., on the University of Oklahoma Norman campus.

The panel discussion is open to the public with no admission charge. War Club's visit is presented by the OU School of Visual Arts' Charles M. Russell Center for the Study of the Art of the American West as part of the Merkel Family Foundation Distinguished Lecture Series. War Club is a partnership project with the Tulsa Artist Fellowship through the 2021 Community integration grant. The presentation serves as educational programming to accompany the exhibition *Ascendant: Expressions of Self-Determination*, on view at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The panel discussion is open to the public with no admission charge.

The third in War Club's series of discussions with prominent Native American activists, *Intergenerational Practices of Activism* will bring together speakers from different generations to explore the past and present of Native American activism. Moderator Bineshi Albert (Yuchi/Anishinaabe) will be joined by panelists Della Warrior (Otoe-Missouria) and Amber Morning Star Byars (Choctaw/Chickasaw) for an evening of conversation.

Albert is co-executive director of Climate Justice Alliance in Tulsa, and previously served as movement building coordinator for the Indigenous Environmental Network. Warrior is president and CEO of the MICA Group, the former executive director of the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She was the first female chairman of the Otoe-Missouria Tribe. Byars is an artist, advocate, Native rights activist, writer, and law student at the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law in Tucson.

Intergenerational Practices of Activism also coincides with an exhibition by War Club in the Native Nations Center Event Center in 233 Copeland Hall, 860 Van Vleet Oval, on the OU Norman campus. The exhibition will feature photography, war clubs, videos, and publications that have emerged from the War Club project. It will run from April 6 until May 15.

Founded in 1998, the Charles M. Russell Center for the Study of Art of the American West is the first such university-based program in the nation. The center is dedicated to the pursuit and dissemination of knowledge in the field of American art history as it relates to the western United States. Through its resource holdings, national symposia, lecture series, course offerings and outreach programs, the Russell Center actively engages students and the public in developing a better understanding of, and appreciation for the art of the American West. Special

focus is given to the art of Charles M. Russell and his contemporaries. For more information on the Russell Center, visit <u>art.ou.edu</u>. For accommodations, call (405) 325-5939.

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Editors: Please find attached accompanying image with the following credit line information: [Image courtesy of War Club]