

# Wisconsin Historical Society: Observe the art of black ash basketry at the Madeline Island Museum

Posted on Thursday, Jul 6, 2017

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Contact:

Keri O'Keefe

(608) 261-9597

[keri.okeefe@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:keri.okeefe@wisconsinhistory.org)

**La Pointe, Wis.** – On July 29-30, Bad River Ojibwe artist April Stone-Dahl will demonstrate the making of traditional and contemporary black ash baskets at the Madeline Island Museum.

“Starting with the hand gathered and prepared raw material, Stone-Dahl weaves baskets that are meant for everyday use and takes great pride in her work,” said Keldi Merton, site director at the Madeline Island Museum. “April is one of the few keeping this important part of Native culture in Wisconsin alive.”

From the pounding of debarked ash log to the delicate weaving of narrow strips of wood into beautiful utilitarian works of art, Stone-Dahl will demonstrate the making of both traditional and contemporary black ash baskets, as well as the art of birch bark basket making. The demonstrations will take place July 29 and 30 from 10:00am – 5:00pm at the Madeline Island Museum.

Stone-Dahl is a member of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa/Ojibwe. She began weaving black ash baskets in 1999 and is currently the only ash basket weaver in her band and among just a hand full in all of northern Chippewa/Ojibwe in Wisconsin. Besides teaching from her studio, she teaches ash basketry in her community, neighboring reserves, and at different venues throughout northern Wisconsin and Michigan.

All Wisconsin Historical Society members receive free admission to this event and the museum. Tickets for adults (18-64) cost \$8; Seniors (over 65) \$7; Children: Free. Madeline Island Museum is open daily May 27 - October 14. Additional information regarding operating hours and special events can be found at [madelineislandmuseum.org](http://madelineislandmuseum.org).