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**For Immediate Release:**

**Steven Premo: *Avenues of Creation***  
February 14th - April 16th, 2022

MINNEAPOLIS (January 28th, 2022) — The Native American Community Development Institute (NACDI) and All My Relations Arts is pleased to present ***Avenues of Creation***, a solo exhibition from Steven Premo.

Through his lifelong artistic career, multi-disciplinary artist and designer, Steven Premo (Mille Lacs Band of the Ojibwe), has learned that there are many different avenues for creation, and each requires a particular medium. In his Twin Cities solo exhibition debut, Steve reflects his pride in his Ojibwe heritage through a variety of retrospective works highlighting narratives of the Mille Lacs Ojibwe people and the evolution of Ojibwe art forms.

Inspired by art from a young age after sustaining a serious leg injury as a child, drawing and painting became an integral part of Steve's creative path towards cultural identity, belonging, sense of self, and healing. His interest in textile design began with the early teachings by his mother in beadwork, birch bark, and quilt work. His beadwork designed fabric fills a cultural need in the Ojibwe community.

A self-taught artist and designer, Steve's artistic practice takes many forms including graphic designer, illustrator, fine artist, muralist, and fabric designer, all contributing to the legacy of the Mille Lacs Band. His public work can be seen at the Hinckley Minnesota Fire Museum, in the Mille Lacs and Hinckley Casinos, Grand Makwa Cinema, in the Mille Lacs band Government Center and District 3 Health Care Center, and Lac Courte Oreilles Cultural Center. For ***Avenues of Creation***, Steve examines and celebrates traditional Ojibwe art traditions in thoroughly contemporary ways.

“At Mille Lacs today, we are the descendants of Ojibwe leaders, men and women, who refused to leave our homelands at the turn of the century. They continued to harvest rice and maple syrup, hunt and fish, as we do today. My art takes its inspiration from our lifeways and history, and from those men and women who offered decades of consistent and strong leadership. If we cease our traditions, we cease to be Native people. Even though I work in contemporary arts

forms—painting, illustrations, textile design—I hope to advance the idea that Ojibwe art forms are both old and new and are not limited to birch bark and the materials our ancestors used (though I also love those mediums), but rather have evolved just as we have evolved in the modern day. Ojibwe art is just as relevant to the community today as ever, and our traditions can be passed on in thoroughly contemporary ways. My own art is a reminder of our history and the continuation of our existence and expresses our cultural influence across the community and beyond...” -Steven Premo

**About the Artist:**

Steven Premo is a proud enrolled Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe member who is nationally known for his paintings, murals, illustrations, and graphic design. Steve’s concepts are prominently featured in educational materials utilized throughout public elementary, secondary schools, and private institutions. More than 500 of his illustrations and graphics have been published by the Minnesota Historical Society Press, Minneapolis Public Schools, Hazelden Treatment Center, Grand Casino Inc., and the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe. He has designed logos for individuals, professional organizations and special events. His formal art training includes time at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design, the University of Minnesota-Minneapolis, and the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe (attended with recommendation by then Governor of Minnesota.) Steve has also provided art direction and instruction for the Minnesota State Department of Education, the Minneapolis Public Schools, Heart of the Earth Survival School, LCO Tribal School, and various art organizations. Steve’s passion for art and for his people are reflected in all that he creates.

**All My Relations Arts** (AMRA) operates the All My Relations Gallery, Minnesota’s premier American Indian owned and operated contemporary fine arts gallery. Located on Franklin Avenue in Minneapolis, the gallery resides within the heart of the American Indian Cultural Corridor. AMRA presents four fine art exhibits throughout the year, as well as hosting tours, presentations, and programs.

The focus of AMRA is to provide the people of the Twin Cities, greater Minnesota, and beyond consistently high-quality exposure to Native American fine arts. As an initiative of the Native American Community Development Institute (NACDI), All My Relations Arts serves a very distinct role in NACDI’s community development work, providing the public with education about American Indian history, culture, and contemporary experiences through the arts. Learn more about All My Relations Arts at [allmyrelationsarts.com](http://allmyrelationsarts.com)

AMRA's Covid requirements and regulations:

To ensure the health and safety of our visitors, artists and staff, the opening reception for Steve Premo: Avenues of Creation exhibition will require a timed reservation to attend. Reservations are available [here](#) . Masks are required for all AMRA visitors and staff.

In accordance with the current City of Minneapolis mandate, proof of full Covid-19 vaccination or negative covid test within 72 hours of the event is required. Thank you for your participation in keeping our community healthy and safe.

For more information and to plan your visit please visit our website at [www.allmyrelationsarts.com](http://www.allmyrelationsarts.com).

### **PROGRAMMING DATES**

On View: February 14th – April 16th 2022

Opening Reception: Thursday, February 17th, 6-8 p.m.

Community Art Activity: March 26th, 1-3 p.m.

Artist Talk: March 3rd 6-7 p.m.

