The Global Language of Headwear

Cultural Identity, Rites of Passage, and Spirituality

TRAVELING EXHIBITION SERVICE

IA&A INTERNATIONAL ARTS AND ARTISTS
“Hats and headdresses are a unique and powerful lens through which one can view the human experience.”

Stacey W. Miller, Curator

EXHIBITION SPECIFICATIONS

Number of Works
89 hats and headdresses; 2 sets of paired hats

Organized by
Stacey W. Miller and International Arts & Artists

Curator
Stacey W. Miller

Requirements
Moderate security; approximately 1600 square feet

Shipping
Exhibitor pays outgoing shipping costs within the contiguous US

Booking Period
8 weeks

Tour
October 2019–October 2022

Educational Materials
Exhibition Education packet

The Global Language of Headwear: Cultural Identity, Rites of Passage, and Spirituality explores the vital role of ceremonial headwear throughout diverse cultural customs, beliefs, and rituals. Featuring approximately 89 hats and headdresses from 43 different countries spanning five continents, and organized into five distinct categories—Cultural Identity; Power, Prestige, and Status; Ceremonies and Celebrations; Spiritual Beliefs; and Protection—this exhibition showcases these mutual themes amid a range of traditions.

Each section draws compelling parallels across a global spectrum of regions and ethnicities represented in the exhibition. The beliefs and rituals of these many cultures, and the ceremonial objects that accompany them, ultimately unite an international community. Comparatively, both the Plains Indian Warbonnet (6) and the Pende Chief’s Hat (Misango MaPende) (5)—though from vastly different regions and civilizations—represent a position of leadership and status, and only those who have earned the right to wear one may do so. The Global Language of Headwear colorfully demonstrates that each distinct society can be viewed through a similar lens of rites of passage, heritage, and identity.

International Arts & Artists
9 Hillyer Court, NW
Washington, DC 20008
202.338.0680
ArtsandArtists.org
TravelingExhibitions@ArtsandArtists.org