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Media Advisory

- WHAT:** Native Skate Jam – Native skaters demonstrate style and skills on a six-foot half pipe, the first skate ramp in the Smithsonian Institution
- WHEN:** Friday, July 3 through Sunday, July 5
12 and 2 p.m. daily
- WHERE:** Potomac Atrium
National Museum of the American Indian
4th Street and Independence Ave. SW
- WHO:** Mondo Lerma (Agua Caliente), age 7
Augie Lerma (Agua Caliente), age 10
Skyler Anselmo (Akimel O’odham), age 14
Len Yazzen (Navajo), age 21
Bryant Chapo (Navajo), age 21

High-ranking Native skaters will show tricks and gravity-defying acrobatics during half-hour sets. The action will be emceed by two well-known skate professionals, Todd Harder (Creek ancestry), owner of Native Skates and Jim Murphy (Lenni Lenape ancestry), owner of Wounded Knee Skateboards. The six-foot ramp will be specially constructed by Ramp Tech, the world’s oldest and largest skateboard ramp builder.

This skate demonstration is in support of the exhibition, “Ramp It Up: Skateboard Culture in Native America” that is open through Sept. 13, 2009. The exhibition examines the role of indigenous peoples in skateboard culture, from its roots in Native Hawaiian surfing to the visionary achievements of contemporary Native skaters.

Skating is by invitation only--No skating by the public will be permitted.

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