

Press Release

February 21, 2012

THE OREGON ENCYCLOPEDIA



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A partnership of Portland State University, the Oregon Historical Society, and The Oregon Council of Teachers of English

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The OE History Night at the Mission in March

The Oregon Encyclopedia (The OE) continues its monthly series of History Nights at McMenamins pubs with new programs at the Mission Theater in partnership with the *Northwest Examiner*. At each History Night, The OE will look back at the people and events that have shaped our communities. Visit www.oregonencyclopedia.org for History Night locations and more details.

“Modoc: The Tribe That Wouldn’t Die”

Presented by Cheewa James

Tuesday, March 13, 2012

7:00 p.m., doors open at 6 p.m.

McMenamins Mission, 1624 NW Glisan Street, Portland

Free and open to the public

The 1873 Modoc War, fought in what today is the Lava Beds National Monument, California, was one of the most expensive Indian wars ever fought, pitting over 1,000 U.S. soldiers against some 55 Modoc warriors. Cheewa James, the great-granddaughter of one of those Modoc warriors and author of *Modoc: The Tribe That Wouldn’t Die*, will talk about the war in southern Oregon and northern California. James, who was recently featured in Oregon Public Broadcasting’s *The Modoc War*, will also talk about the fate of the 150 Modoc men, women, and children who survived the war. Modoc exiles were placed as prisoners of war on a cramped and bitterly cold train car and sent to Oklahoma Indian Territory, where they started a new life.

James is a professional motivational speaker and business trainer based in Sacramento, California. She was born on Oregon’s Klamath Reservation and is enrolled with the Modoc Tribe of Oklahoma, which is made up of descendants of those who fought in the war. Her father Clyde “Chief” James played professional basketball in the Midwest in the 1920s and is in the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame. James is a freelance writer, and her book on the Modocs is the result of a decade of research.

The OE is an online resource for information on the state’s significant people, places, events, institutions, and biota. Over 1000 entries and essays have been published online and new entries are added every day. For more information visit www.oregonencyclopedia.org.

The OE is a partnership between Portland State University, the Oregon Council of Teachers of English, and the Oregon Historical Society. The OE has received support from a collaborative of the state’s five cultural partners—the Oregon Arts Council, Oregon Council for the Humanities, Oregon Heritage Commission, Oregon Historical Society, and the State Historic Preservation Office—with funding from the Oregon Cultural Trust. The Oregon Council of Teachers of English, the Oregon Heritage Commission, the Oregon University System, Willamette University, and private donors have provided additional support.