



Dear Monte,

We are so excited to have you come to campus for the Artist-In-Residence program!

- Lara Evans
Program Director
Institute of American Indian Arts

Left:
Strikes Enemy

I was a child during the Vietnam War. When we got our first black and white, Walter Cronkite was reporting images of wounded and jeeps carrying dead bodies. As a young artist, it influenced drawings of war. This early recollection was a step towards ledger art.

Growing up, my mother told bedtime stories from the bible and from her grandparents. In our culture it's traditional to feed the elderly. When I delivered fresh game to elders, they shared more traditional stories from their past. Pride and passion for my people took root.

Then life-changing happened. I attended the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe NM. As I entered the vast, new world outside our small, Whiteshield ND community, my work was challenged and influenced as I interacted with hundreds of tribes from across the country. Many of whom I didn't know existed.

Entering University and majoring in History and Fine Art provided a platform to research and discover, experiment and develop my voice. Today my work has evolved to historic ledger/warrior art, a form I am recognized throughout the world. It reflects my journey and pays homage to ancestors that were active storytellers before and during this tragic era.

Recently I created a piece titled "Strikes Enemy" an honoring of my great-grandfather who attended Carlisle Industrial school in Pennsylvania. During my residency at IAIA, I will begin a warrior series, ledger art that honors our Arikara holy men, women and warriors of the 1800's- mid 1900's. Each piece will highlight their great feats, seven in all.

One ledger will be a tribute to Joseph Young Hawk, Arikara warrior who served in World War I (1914 –1918). He was captured by five German Nazi soldiers and taken prisoner. Young Hawk, turned the tables on his captors, killing three of them by breaking their backs. Unfortunately, he was shot in both legs during the struggle, but marched the other two, back to allied lines where his legs were amputated. Ironically, this was a time when

Indigenous people were not even citizens of their own country. It wasn't until the "Indian citizenship Act of 1924" that our people were finally recognized in writing.

In the spring, I will revisit the campus with the same innocence and passion of the young man that once attended IAIA, but now sharing a myriad of experiences, both worldwide and personal, with students, staff and visitors. Before me, the challenge of inspiring and being inspired, as we share our stories and use our gifts to make a better world.

In addition to being selected for the A-I-R program, in February Monte was nominated and selected for the IAIA Foundation Board of Directors. [BPH's BIOGRAPHY](#)

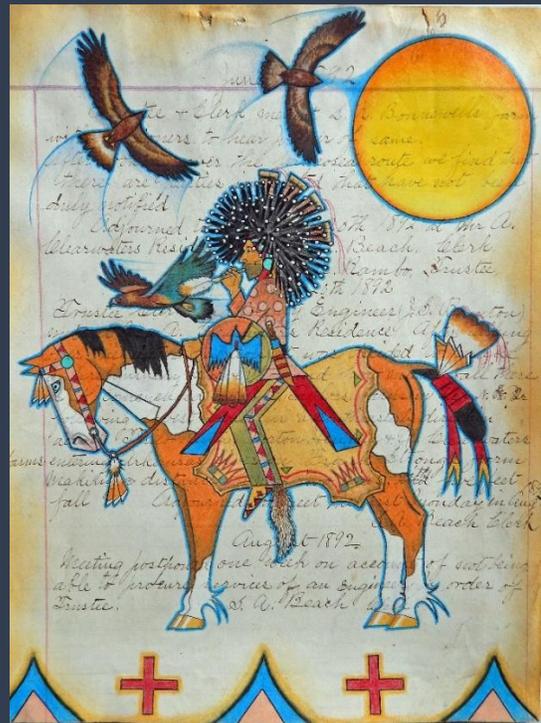
SPRING EVENTS:

March 3 & 4
Heard Museum Indian Art Market
Booth #: A 46
Phoenix AZ

March 24- April 26
Institute of American Indian Arts
Artist-in-Residence
Santa Fe NM

April
Santa Fe University of Art and Design
Guest Speaker
Santa Fe NM

April
Manitou Galleries
Presentations & Storytelling
Santa Fe NM



[BPH's NEW WORKS](#)

