Indian Art Objects Presented to Monticello

Historically accurate reproductions of Lewis and Clark-era Indian objects made by Native American art students were ceremoniously presented to Monticello at an Aug. 20 event at United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck, N.D.

The objects were commissioned by the Thomas Jefferson Foundation for inclusion in Framing the West at Monticello: Thomas Jefferson and the Lewis and Clark Expedition, a major exhibition opening in January 2003 that will re-create the appearance of Monticello’s Entrance Hall circa 1807-09 and serve as the centerpiece of Monticello’s observance of the Lewis and Clark bicentennial.

The Indian art objects – including arrows, war clubs, tomahawks, and lances – represent items from the Lewis and Clark Expedition once at Monticello that have been lost over time. All were made using traditional methods and natural materials by students in UTTC’s Art and Art Marketing Department under the direction of Butch Thunderhawk.

The re-created art objects were presented by the UTTC students to Kat Imhoff, Monticello’s chief operating officer and coordinator of its Lewis and Clark bicentennial programs. The pieces eventually will be sent to Monticello in accordance with the procedures governing the shipment of fine art objects.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.
Indian Art Objects
CONTINUED, PAGE TWO

Also participating in the program were U.S. Sen. Byron L. Dorgan and U.S. Rep. Earl Pomeroy of North Dakota; North Dakota Gov. John Hoeven; UTTC President David Gipp; Tex Hall, chairman of the Three Affiliated Tribes of Fort Berthold, N.D.; Gerard A. Baker, superintendent of the National Park Service’s Corps of Discovery II: 200 Years to the Future education project; Castle McLaughlin, research associate at Harvard University’s Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology; Native American historian Amy Mossett; and author, historian, and performer Clay Jenkinson.