

UC SANTA BARBARA

# THE *Current*

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## Weaving Community

Native American weavers don't just make baskets, they help create community and preserve traditions that are millennia old. A demonstration and discussion with distinguished artists at UC Santa Barbara will focus on the role of the cultural art form in their communities.

["Community Basketweaving,"](#) Thursday, May 4, at 3 p.m. in the campus's McCune Conference Room in the Humanities and Social Sciences Building, will feature three Native American artists: Jennifer Bates of the Central Sierra Mewok, who has been weaving for four decades; Lois Bohna of the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians, a cultural educator and weaver; and Linda Yamane, a Rumsen Ohlone basket weaver of 30 years.

The demonstration is part of the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center's (IHC) yearlong public events series, [Community Matters](#). It is free and open to the public.

[Kaitlin Brown](#), an archaeology Ph.D. candidate in UCSB's [Department of Anthropology](#), said the inspiration for the event came while researching a group of basket weavers who wove together after the Mission period.

"I was interested to see what these women were thinking," Brown said. "What can these baskets say about the individual artists that wove them? And I wanted to know modern basket weavers' take on weaving in the community in the present day."

"We are delighted to present this opportunity to learn how the living practice of the ancient art of basket weaving helps sustain, enrich and lend continuity to Native

American communities and traditions,” said [Susan Derwin](#), director of the IHC.

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## **About UC Santa Barbara**

The University of California, Santa Barbara is a leading research institution that also provides a comprehensive liberal arts learning experience. Our academic community of faculty, students, and staff is characterized by a culture of interdisciplinary collaboration that is responsive to the needs of our multicultural and global society. All of this takes place within a living and learning environment like no other, as we draw inspiration from the beauty and resources of our extraordinary location at the edge of the Pacific Ocean.