



STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
INDIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor  
Lynn Trujillo, Secretary  
Nadine Padilla, Deputy Secretary

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**New Mexico Indian Affairs Department issues statement on Dr. Cynthia Chavez Lamar being named Director of the National Museum of the American Indian**

Santa Fe - Dr. Cynthia Chavez Lamar (San Felipe Pueblo/Hopi/Tewa/Navajo) was named Director of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) on Wednesday, January 19, 2022. Dr. Chavez Lamar will be the first Indigenous woman to lead the Smithsonian National Museum of American Indians.

Secretary Lynn Trujillo, Indian Affairs Department, congratulated Dr. Chavez Lamar in the following statement:

“The Indian Affairs Department applauds Dr. Chavez Lamar’s appointment to serve as the new Director of the National Museum of the American Indian. Dr. Chavez Lamar's experience and leadership make her a great choice to carry on NMAI's purpose and dedication to extending Native American history and culture while working to elevate the voices of America's first citizens.”

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*Pictured: Dr. Cynthia Chavez Lamar  
(Photo: courtesy National Museum of the American Indian)*