

July 20, 2026

Calling all Oneida Royalty (past and present):

The Kahnekano·lú Cultural Center is planning its first temporary exhibit, and we chose the topic “Oneida Royalty Past and Present”. We would greatly appreciate your assistance in this exhibition as a current and/or past Miss Oneida, Jr. Miss Oneida, or Lil Miss Oneida. We would like to borrow any crowns and/or sashes received as Oneida Royalty to display in our temporary gallery with the exhibit content. Visual displays would include photos of participating Royalty both from when you were crowned and today.

If you have not been to the new cultural center yet, we have a large temporary gallery we are going to have rotating exhibits in as well as programming. It is in this gallery that we will be showcasing the crowns, photos, and other associated items. The exhibit will be open for 3 months (January-March 2026), upon which you will receive your items back.

Please see attached page for more details and timeline for this exhibition. If you have questions or would like to participate, please contact Courtney Gerzetich (Registrar) at cgerzet1@oneidanation.org or by phone at 920.869.6529.

YawΛʔkó

Courtney Gerzetich

Collections Registrar

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Exhibition Summary
“Oneida Royalty Past and Present”
January-March 2027

Vision

The Vision for the Kahnekano·lú Cultural Center is to sustain the protection, care, and knowledge of the On·ayoteʔa·ká· people’s historical and contemporary material culture. Because of its historical tradition that started in 1968 that continues to today, the KCC thought what better topic would showcase the sustainability of Oneida culture than Oneida Royalty? We hope this exhibit not only brings interest to the pageant, but pride in the past pageants, and education into the importance of the titles to the Nation and community. We hope you participate!

Exhibit Panels

There will be 5-6 large banners or panels that will stand around the temporary gallery discussing the following topics:

Introduction/Welcome to the exhibit

History of how royalty got started

Qualifications to participate

Roles/responsibilities of winners

Meaning for the Nation

Who made the crowns/sashes

Each banner will have text discussing the topic, as well as background images related to Oneida Royalty for visual interest. Research on these topics will be done by KCC staff, but any information you’d like to share is greatly appreciated. We hope these banners will travel after the exhibit to the visitor center, SEOTS, and powwow in the future.

In addition to the panels, we are working on including a digital kiosk that will feature Oneida Royalty participants answering a single question: What did it mean to you to be Oneida Royalty? Your short answers (if you wish to participate in the video) will be looped together as a promotional clip for the exhibition.



Cases/Security

We currently have a stock of exhibit cases to be used in the temporary gallery. They are a mix of large and small floor cases on pedestals and tabletop/wall mounted cases. Depending on interest by Oneida Royalty, we hope to place each crown/sash in a case for security. Additional security includes locking temporary gallery when not open to the public, single entrance/exit with staff outside doors in the lobby, and KCC facility has heightened security from other tribal buildings due to the collections being housed there.

KCC staff will ensure that people will not be able to touch or handle your items once on display, unless otherwise discussed with owner.

Important Dates

Now-Sept. 1	Call KCC or fill out interest form (attached)
Nov. 2-6	Bring items to KCC (760 Airport Rd) during business hours (8:30-4pm), sign loan agreement, and record your short interview
Nov. 9-Dec. 31	Items will be stabilized and mounted to go on display
Jan. 7 (evening)	Opening reception for Oneida Royalty
Jan. 8-March 26	Oneida Royalty Past and Present open to public
Mar. 29-31	Items removed from exhibit
April 1-9	Pick up your items from KCC during business hours