Navajo Sandpaintings

Also known as drypainting this art is predominately created by the Navajo but is also created by Zuni, Tohono O’odham and some the Pueblo Indians. Using crushed stone, dry plants, and paint they create pictures that are used in rituals for healing. These unique works known as “ikaah” or “a summoning of the gods” can consist of scenes or symbols depending on the occasion. The Indian believes that if they are done with a good heart that their prayers will have to be answered. They are very carefully created as any error could result in harm rather than good. They are done on the ground and when the ceremony is completed they are destroyed.

Rosie Yellowhair, Zachariah Ben and several other artists are featured in the Books and More Shop and the Museum Shop for sale.