

Journal #2869

from sdc

6.7.13

First draft of the first Constitution

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Over the rainbow, in the heart of Kansas

Randlett, Utah Bear Dance 2013

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America's Secret Fukushima Poisoning the Bread Basket of the World

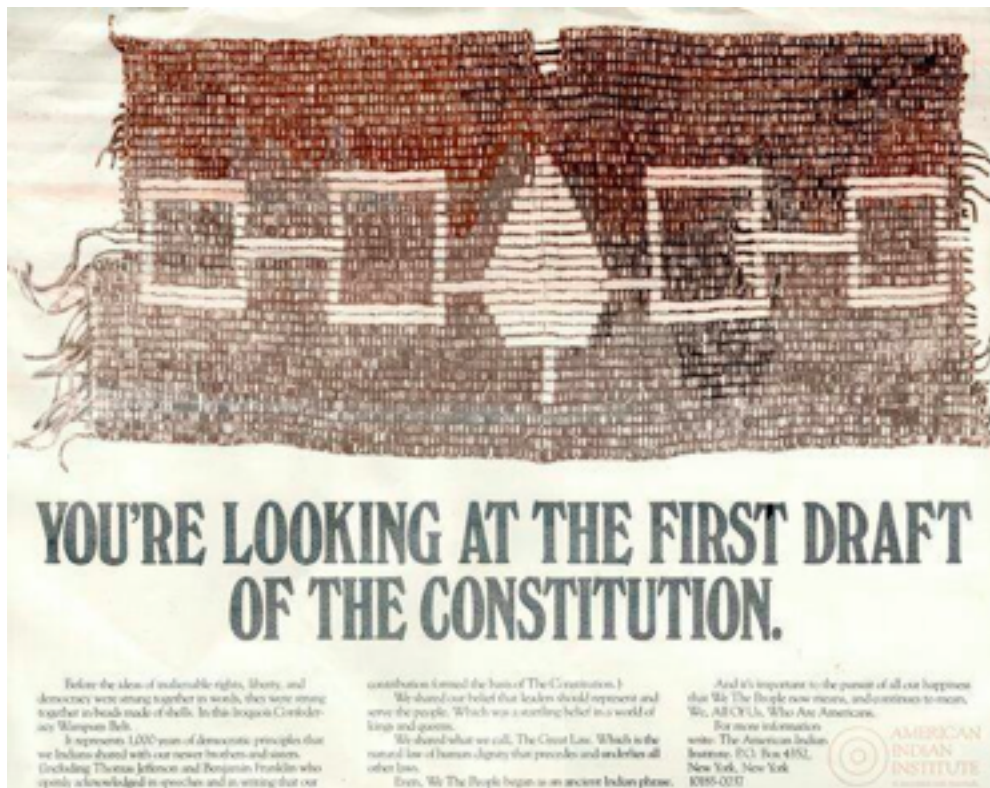
LA Indigenous School May Lose Its Charter Due to Arizona-style Politics

President Obama Unveils ConnectED Initiative to Bring America's Students into Digital Age

Scrape the Willow until It Sings: The Words and Work of Basket Maker Julia Parker 2013 West Coast

Classic All Indian High School Basketball Tournament Results

National Geothermal Summit 2013 - Jun 26 - 27



Let's explore Washington's message and see what wisdom we can draw from it today, or should have drawn in the ensuing 218 years since it was written. [Read more of this post](#)

DWP archaeologists uncover grim chapter in Owens Valley history

www.latimes.com

[LONE PINE, Calif. — Oral histories of Native Americans and U.S. Cavalry records offer insights into a horrific massacre here in 1863: Thirty-five Paiute Indians were chased into Owens Lake by settlers and soldiers to drown or be gunned down.](#)

Water agencies ask Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians to drop lawsuit

Coachella Valley News

Two Coachella Valley water agencies today asked the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians to drop its lawsuit against them so they can all work together "to chart a strong future for the region's water supply and economy," but the tribe's chairman called the request "absurd."

Judge upholds landmark California water pact Elliot Spagat, Associated Press

A California judge has upheld the nation's largest farm-to-city water transfer. Sacramento Superior Court Judge Lloyd Connelly ruled Tuesday that authorities properly weighed the environmental impact of a landmark 2003 accord on how to divide the state's share of Colorado River water. The centerpiece calls for California's Imperial Valley to transfer water to San Diego.

Decision that brought about Central Arizona Project (and Phoenix's rapid growth) celebrates 50 years

Patrick O'Grady, Phoenix Business Journal

When you take a look around at all the growth in Phoenix, whether you're standing in the heart of downtown looking up at CityScape or standing on the fringes near a DMB Associates development, there's really only one thing that brought it about.

NS/S Receives Generous Grants to Improve Southwestern Food Security

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 5, 2013

The Tucson, Arizona-based seed conservation nonprofit Native Seeds/SEARCH (NS/S) is pleased to announce it has received two generous grants to further its work in helping to build more sustainable and secure food systems across the Southwest region.

A grant in the amount of \$150,000 over two years was recently awarded to NS/S by the Christensen Fund to launch the new "Growing Opportunities for Native American Farmers" program. Additionally, the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) awarded NS/S with a two-year grant of \$200,000 to support the organization's new program, "Laying the Foundation for Climate-Smart Agriculture in the Southwest".

These grant awards represent exciting new developments in the work NS/S has been doing for 30 years to strengthen the food security of the Southwest through innovative approaches to regional seed conservation. With the "Growing Opportunities" program, NS/S will work to reintroduce traditional crops to the foodways of the Greater Southwest while addressing looming concerns of food sovereignty and security. Activities within this program include offering economic incentives for Native farmers to grow traditional crops, providing free bulk seed to Native farmers to boost farm-scale production of traditional varieties, and offering paid internships at

NS/S to Native Americans to learn bioregional seed conservation practices. As a whole, the work performed through this grant will support Native communities in the Southwest to establish more secure local food systems rooted in traditional crops.

Climate change looms as one of the greatest challenges to food security on a steadily warming planet. NS/S is tackling this challenge head-on in its “Laying the Foundation for Climate-Smart Agriculture” program, recently funded by GRIC, which will develop tools and resources to help Southwestern communities adapt their food systems to hotter, drier weather conditions. Among other activities, the program will employ climate-modeling software to connect communities in the Southwest and beyond with those varieties in the NS/S seed bank that will perform well in their region after climate change effects have taken place. Through this work, NS/S is leading the way among organizations taking steps to prepare their region’s food systems for the climatic changes ahead.

Founded in 1983, Native Seeds/SEARCH maintains a living collection of nearly 2,000 varieties of traditional seeds adapted to the arid Southwest. Through their various programs in conservation, distribution, and education, NS/S is helping to build a more diverse, abundant, and delicious world.



Enhance your skills in sustainability and self-reliance by learning to build your own straw bale cottage or studio in this hands-on workshop series. Native Seeds/SEARCH and world-renowned natural builders Bill and Athena Steen of the [Canelo Project](#) present a rare opportunity to construct a beautiful, sustainable straw bale house from start to finish.

Workshop 1: September 13-15, 2013

Workshop 2: October 19-21, 2013

For full details and registration, [click here](#).

[Putting the Culture Back in Agriculture](#)

Beverly Bell, Op-Ed: Throughout history, humans have cultivated about 7,000 species of plants. In the last century, three-quarters of the genetic diversity of agricultural crops have been lost. Native peoples’ efforts to protect their crop varieties and agricultural heritage in the U.S. go back 500 years to when the Spanish conquistadors arrived. Today, Native communities throughout the U.S. are reclaiming and reviving land, water, seeds and traditional food and farming practices, thereby putting the culture back in agriculture and agriculture back in local hands. [READ](#) | [DISCUSS](#) | [SHARE](#)

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission staff will hold **three webinars to answer questions about its Documenting Democracy: Access to Historical Records grants**. The Commission seeks proposals for projects that support one or a combination of the following activities: establishing new archives programs, processing and cataloging collections at the basic or detailed level, converting existing archival finding aids to new online formats, surveying and accessioning, and collection development.

The full announcement for 2014 will appear in early to mid-June and will contain few changes from the 2013 version. A 2013 version of the announcement is available on our website:

<http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/access.html>

Applications are due on Thursday, 3 October 2013. NHPRC staff will review drafts that are submitted by Thursday, 1 August 2013.

The dates and times for these webinars are listed below. Each webinar will last one hour and is limited to 25 participants. To register, please click the link below the time at which you would like to attend.

Friday, 21 June @ 1:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time
<https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/718682614>

Wednesday, 26 June @ 3:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time
<https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/241607030>

Thursday, 27 June @ 3:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time
<https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/861763246>

Native Youth Leadership, Athletic and Adventure Academy

When

Monday June 24, 2013 at 8:00 AM PDT -to- Thursday June 27, 2013 at 5:00 PM PDT
[Add to Calendar](#)

Where **Exact Location** TBA **Portland, OR**

Greetings!

At the 2013 Native Youth Leadership, Athletic and Adventure Academy (NYLAAA), youth will exercise their bodies and their Warrior Spirits on and off the court and playing field. They participate in football, basketball, weightlifting, traditional games, dance and more. They learn about teambuilding, wellness, healthy lifestyle choices, leadership, culture and spirituality. They laugh, have fun, and make great friends. At NYLAA, Native youth prepare themselves for life by getting fit inside and out! An added bonus this year will be additional outdoor adventures to further your growth and development.

[Get more information](#) [Register Now!](#) [Download Brochure](#)

[UN secretary general warns the world is on track to run out of drinkable water | The Raw Story](#) **www.rawstory.com**

[Freshwater supply and water quality under pressure, warns UN secretary general on International Day of Biological Diversity](#)

"Our ceremonies are connected to the tempo of the Earth and we continue that tempo and vocalize that in our rituals and in our ceremonies. We are connected to the Earth and play a critical role in its healing. That restoration work can't happen without spiritual restoration." -
Chris Peters (Pohlik-lah/Karuk)

[Obama's Speechwriter/Stand-Up Comedian Gives A Graduation Speech. Not Surprisingly, It's Badass.](#)

From BT: I thought folks may appreciate the inspirational story told (in the last half of the program) by Mayor Bob Dixson of Greensburg, KS whose town was completely destroyed by a tornado in 2007. But the residents of Greensburg rebuilt their town and it's now powered by 100

percent renewable energies and is extremely energy efficient from government buildings to businesses as well as homes.

TWiE 90: Over the rainbow, in the heart of Kansas

www.thisweekinenergy.tv

TWiE: discusses post tornado rebuilding in Greensburg, Kansas, to be both sustainable & 100% renewable energy powered, we discuss dirty energy, new-media and transparency in Mayflower, the broken solar FIT in Denmark and more!

Randlett, Utah Bear Dance 2013 www.youtube.com

Will Ohio Be Fracking's Radioactive Dumping Ground?

Mike Ludwig, Truthout: Environmentalists and many other Ohio natives are hoping that their Senate will enforce stricter restrictions on big oil corporations who want to dump toxic waste from fracking mines deep underground. [Read the Article](#)

America's Secret Fukushima Poisoning the Bread Basket of the World



Margaret Flowers and Kevin Zeese, Truthout: Open uranium mines are leaking radiation, destroying the lands of the Navajo Nation and poisoning its people. Most disturbing is that it has been this way for years. [Read the Article](#)

Native Hulk.. — with [Jason C Salazar](#), [Hip Deranger](#), [Native Impressions](#), [Reuben Crow Feather](#), [Frankie Rivera](#) and [Shekira Brayley](#) at [Muckleshoot Reservation](#).

Loika Kane

Don't you love being native? I'm so glad God, Creator, Numu Naa'a made me an Indian, Native American, American Indian, Numu; Paiute, Newe, Shoshone, Toitukadu, Cattail eater Kosipa tukadu, Alkali Water Eater, Agaitukadu, Trout Eater. Feeling pesa and very thankful. Just wanted to share my joy today!

Scrape the Willow until It Sings: The Words and Work of Basket Maker Julia Parker—coming September 2013

Julia Parker, Coast Miwok-Kashaya Pomo basket maker, carries the stories of baskets in her hands. A prolific artist, teacher, and storyteller, she makes baskets that carry the stories of an older California, of bracken fern patch and sedge bed, of all the Native women through the generations who gathered willow together. Alongside Parker's sensitively photographed work, her words are stitched with essays by textile artist and scholar **Deborah Valoma** on the historical and philosophical implications of basketry from a non-Native perspective. Basing her work on rigorous scholarship and a long-term personal relationship between author and artist, Valoma peels back cultural assumptions about Native America basketry to reveal the relevance of Parker's embodied philosophies of thinking and making in the twenty-first century.

"There are not many books that can change the way you see the world, but this is one of them. To understand basket making, as this book invites us to do, is to transform one's concepts of art and craft, indeed of culture itself. It is an eye-opening, mind-expanding, and heart-touching book."

—Lawrence Rinder, Director, Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive

Basket Weaving Workshop with Julia Parker and Family

Join Julia Parker and daughter Lucy, granddaughter Ursula, and great-granddaughter Naomi as they host a three-day workshop in which fifteen participants will weave tule baskets.

Friday, June 7, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 8, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Sunday, June 9, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

The Workshop Residence 833 22nd Street San Francisco, CA 94107

\$300 for the entire three-day workshop, including all materials and lunch.
For more information visit <http://bit.ly/13joKEG> or call 415-285-2050

Basket exhibit opens in Yosemite National Park

Julia Parker's intricate work is now featured at the Yosemite Museum along with artifacts, baskets and other collected pieces from renowned Yosemite Indian weavers during a new exhibit called Sharing Traditions, which opened June 4. The exhibit celebrates 84 years of basket weaving and American Indian cultural outreach at Yosemite National Park.

For more information visit <http://www.yosemiteconservancy.org>

Read the San Francisco Chronicle article [here](#).

LA Indigenous School May Lose Its Charter Due to Arizona-style Politics

Monday, 03 June 2013 12:30 By [Roberto Cintli Rodriguez](#), [SpeakOut](#) | Op-Ed

Years ago, an elder told me that the Indigenous cultures of Abya Yala, CemAnahuac or Pachamama – the ancient cultures of this continent – do not need to be revived, because they

never died. Instead, the elder said, it is we who have been severed or disconnected from those cultures.

The culture, the languages, the songs and the stories are all there – rather than revive them, we just need to access them. And equally important, we also need to create and contribute to our own cultures.

I think about that now because of two monumental educational struggles taking place in Arizona and California, both of which have been instrumental in reconnecting our communities to ancestral and living Indigenous knowledges. In both cases, the schools and programs in question continue to be under daily siege. In Tucson, the highly successful Raza Studies program has been dismantled whereas in Los Angeles, the charter for Anahuacalmecac is on the verge of being revoked.

Many people consider Tucson, Arizona the epicenter of the struggle for ethnic studies - the epicenter of the struggle to preserve Raza Studies – and it is. It is the epicenter of something very special, but for a quite different reason than most people think.

Tucson's Raza Studies department was the holdout or the exception in the realm of public education. When Raza Studies educators were teaching *In Lak –Tu eres mi otro yo – You are my other me -and Panche Be - buscar la raiz de la verdad - to Seek the root of the truth –* very few public school teachers, much less schools or school districts, were doing the same anywhere in the country.

That was not accidental. Cultural genocide was a project (reducciones) central to the mission of colonization. This is why most people today cannot even name 3 Indigenous pre-invasion cities on this continent, much less their histories. It is why most Mexicans/Central and South Americans, who live in the United States, can speak English or Spanish, but not an Indigenous language.

The Tucson Raza Studies curriculum was a showcase of what the rest of the nation's public schools could teach. Maíz or Maya-Nahua culture was its philosophical root. The teaching of the Four Tezcatlipocas (The Indigenous-based values of Tezcatlipoca-self-reflection, Quetzalcoatl-wisdom and beautiful knowledge, Huitzilipochtli-the will to act, and Xipetotec -transformation) and the Aztec-Mexica Calendar was also the heart and soul of that root.

As the struggle continues in Tucson, we turn to Los Angeles where there is actually a school, Semillas, that was created at almost the same time (2002) as TUSD's Raza Studies.

In a cultural sense, Semillas's goals – and its project – have been much broader than Tucson's program. And being an independent charter school, it could afford to. Its goal was to create an Indigenous school with an Indigenous curriculum, connected to its surrounding community. Its goal was to create students who were not simply bilingual, but trilingual: English, Spanish and Nahuatl. In effect, it is a de-colonial project; its emphasis is an autonomous education model that teaches Indigenous culture, values and language, referred to as Tlamachilisxochiponajle or flowering knowledge.

Z.C. (Azteca, 16) describes the importance of Anahuacalmecac: "Our school is what all communities need because it is based on culture, and culture is important for youth to have to grow into, it is something our school provides but most schools around Los Angeles or even around the nation do not."

Akin to Tucson's Raza Studies, the Semillas schools – comprised of Xinaxcalmecac (2002) and Anahuacalmecac (2008) – have been successful by the standard of student success: The students exceed all state standards and the college-going rate for Anahuacalmecac graduates is 80%. But more importantly, the Semillas schools are now a cultural and educational fixture in Southern California. What they have done is nothing short of phenomenal.

As an educational institution, Semillas is doing what no one else is doing in this country. It literally has taken up the mission of the ancient Calmecacs. It is not simply teaching that maíz or Maya-Nahua culture to its students, but it is creating *temaxtians* or teachers of that culture. Relative to the culture, many of the students and now graduates, can teach what college professors in the United States are not teaching. One example is the math system based on the ancient *Nepohualtzitzin*. Marcos Aguilar, principal of Semillas describes it as "a mathematical model based upon the ancestral vigesimal maize-based mathematical epistemology which recognizes the human relationships to the cosmos."

As with Raza studies in Tucson, rather than being recognized for the invaluable educational and cultural hub that it has become, Semillas' very existence is under threat. It has been under steady attack from right wing forces for almost a decade, which has included a steady drumbeat from hate radio, which has precipitated death and bomb threats.

As in Tucson, the students will not permit their school to go down without a fight. S.P. (14, Zapoteca) explains why: "Our school is important to defend because I feel safe here. I've grown up here and I feel comfortable with my teachers, so I know I can always go to them to ask for help in school because it's always good to have people around you that support you... Our school is unique because it is culturally-based so youth can learn about the world through our own eyes. It is also important because indigenous peoples around the world would love to have a school like ours, but may not have the resources or know how to start it. Anahuacalmecac shows it is possible and this can help others around the world."

The current attacks are coming from LAUSD itself, which is threatening to not renew its charter unless Anahuacalmecac turns over the lead petitioners' including parents', social security numbers. This is but the latest salvo in a long war against Semillas. And again, akin to Tucson – whose [UNIDOS] students invoked the 2007 UN Declaration on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, when they took over the school board in April 2011 – the students are defending themselves, having recently returned from the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues advocating for support. Their fate will be determined no later than June 30.

This attack is not simply directed at the school, but at the cultural patrimony and cultural heritage site that it has now become. Its very existence is protected by the 2007 UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, by the very fact it not simply educates students about ancient knowledges, but also preserves and contributes to the reconnection of peoples to those ancient

and living cultures. More than that, Semillas is the embodiment of the 2007 Declaration – the students are living the document, living its ideals.

M. K. (Azteca, 16) describes their trip to the UN: "The significance of our delegation to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues is that as an international forum, our voices may be heard as youth by Indigenous Peoples and governments from around the world. This way we can create solutions to our problems as we identify these collectively and internationally as indigenous peoples."

Z.C. adds: "In our visit to the UN, we heard loud and clear from indigenous youth around the world that they wanted indigenous teachers and curriculum to learn from because most often they do not have access to this in their communities. Here in Anahuacalmecac, we are fortunate to have our perspective included in our education."

The world may be listening, but perhaps not LAUSD. Stated bluntly, for the district to permit Semillas' demise is to partake in that cultural genocide begun 520 years ago. I will go further and say that Semillas is sacred space atop sacred land. If it requires an active defense to prevent its elimination, then so be it. Some things are worth going to jail for. As we have said in Tucson: It's not what we are willing to die for, but rather, what we are willing to live for.

To find out more about Semillas Community Schools, please visit Semillas' official website www.dignidad.org or you may visit their site to their collaborative international education program www.kalmekak.org.

THE WHITE HOUSE Office of the Press Secretary FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 6.6.13

President Obama Unveils *ConnectED* Initiative to Bring America's Students into Digital Age

Calls on FCC to leverage E-Rate program to have 99 percent of students connected within 5 years

WASHINGTON, DC — President Obama today unveiled a bold, new initiative called ConnectED to connect 99 percent of America's students to the internet through high-speed broadband and high-speed wireless within 5 years, calling on the FCC to modernize and leverage its existing E-Rate program to meet that goal. The President also directed the federal government to make better use of existing funds to get Internet connectivity and educational technology into classrooms, and into the hands of teachers trained on its advantages. And he called on businesses, states, districts, schools and communities to support this vision. This ambitious initiative does not require Congressional action.

"We are living in a digital age, and to help our students get ahead, we must make sure they have access to cutting-edge technology," said President Obama. "So today, I'm issuing a new challenge for America – one that families, businesses, school districts and the federal government can rally around together – to connect virtually every student in America's classrooms to high-speed broadband internet within five years, and equip them with the tools to make the most of it."

Preparing America's students with the skills they need to get good jobs and compete with countries around the world will rely increasingly on interactive, individualized learning experiences driven by new technology. But today, millions of students lack high-speed broadband access and fewer than 20 percent of educators say their school's Internet connection meets their teaching needs. ConnectED will bring high-speed Internet within their reach, with a particular benefit for rural communities that have lagged behind in connectivity.

In addition to connecting America's students, ConnectED harnesses the ingenuity of the American private sector get new technologies into students' hands and support digital learning content.

ConnectED also better invests existing federal funds to ensure that every educator in America receives support and training in using education technology tools to improve student learning. For more details on the ConnectED initiative, click [HERE](#).

The ambitious new vision for digital, connected learning builds on work the Administration has done over the past four years to increase broadband access across the country.

National Geothermal Summit 2013 - Jun 26 - 27

YPE Nevada is proud to announce a partnership with the Geothermal Energy Association in concert with this year's summit. This event will focus on policies and technology moving forward geothermal development in Nevada, California and the Pacific Northwest. The event also includes an exhibit area featuring sponsor, government and industry tabletops.

Read more [here](#).