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Now through July 6

Great Basin Native Artists - An Exhibition

Capital City Arts Initiative announces *Great Basin Native Artists*, an exhibition with art works by seven Native American artists, now through July 6, 2016. Artist Melissa Melero-Moose guest curated the exhibition. The group show presents art by Ben Aleck, Phil Buckheart, Louinda Garity, Topaz Jones, Jack Malotte, Melissa Melero-Moose, and Steve Nighthawk. The exhibition is on view at the **Carson City Community Center**, 851 East William Street in Carson City.

This program is funded in part by Nevada Humanities, Nevada's non-profit state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

State Bill Would Bolster Sycuan's Water Supply — and Possibly a New Hotel

Voice of San Diego About half the Sycuan Indian tribe relies heavily on a single groundwater well for water.

Oil Industry Knew CO2-Climate Link in '68

*This is a guest post by ClimateDenierRoundup crossposted from [EcoWatch](#). Decades-old...
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Shareholders Accuse BP of Failing to Live Up to Climate Promise

Shareholders accused oil giant BP of falling short on its promise to be more transparent about its impact on climate change and resilience to a low-carbon world during... [Read more](#)

Pipelines or Indigenous Rights? Premier Notley Can't Have Both By [James Wilt](#) •
Wednesday, April 13, 2016 - 13:01

The [speech](#) Alberta Premier Rachel Notley gave to over 1,000 federal NDP delegates on Saturday in Edmonton's Shaw Convention Centre was a stunning thing to behold.

In a mere half-hour, she received around a dozen standing ovations, cracked a pretty solid joke about Donald Trump and delivered a unabashed appeal for the approval and construction of pipelines “that are built by Canadians, using Canadian steel.”

But even more stunning was the fact that she completely failed to mention the rights or interests of First Nations, Métis and Inuit people.

Oil and Gas Industry Currently Critical to Alberta Economy

The Alberta government clearly has a reason for wanting to facilitate the export of more oil and gas via the proposed TransCanada Energy East and Kinder Morgan Trans-Mountain pipelines.

In 2014, energy products accounted for [one-quarter of the province's GDP](#) and [three-quarters of its exports](#). The global oil price has since plummeted by two-thirds, resulting in a projected provincial deficit of [over \\$10 billion](#).

Notley emphasized in her speech that “hundreds of thousands of Canadians work in resource industries — here and across Canada” and “we need to be able to get the best possible world price for the oil we produce here” via “pipelines to tidewater that allows us to diversify our markets and upgrade our products.”

Alberta NDP Pledged to Implement UNDRIP, “Ensure Respectful Consultation”

Those are very nice ideas, supported by many political pundits and Alberta NDP supporters.

But unfortunately for such boosters, the NDP [committed in its election platform](#) to implementing the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) (UNDRIP) and to “work

with Alberta Indigenous Peoples to build a relationship of trust and ensure respectful consultation.”

Article 32 of the declaration states that “Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of their lands or territories.”

And [free, prior and informed consent](#) (FPIC) underpins much of the document, requiring that Indigenous peoples are consulted with in a way that ensures a process free of manipulation, conducted well in advance and with plenty of information provided.

[Eriel Deranger](#), communications manager of the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation (ACFN) suggests the NDP’s push for the development of pipelines and oil and gas resources simply doesn’t respect the principle of free, prior and informed consent.

“Where’s the consent?” asks Deranger. “If communities want to say ‘no,’ then we’re talking about a government that’s willing to respect communities’ right to say ‘no’ and to uphold that right,” she says.

Many First Nations Oppose Energy East and Trans Mountain Expansion

Many First Nations and other Indigenous groups have voiced opposition to Energy East and the Trans Mountain expansion (the two projects considered most likely to be approved and constructed).

The [Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh and Musqueam nations](#) and [Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs](#) are explicitly opposed to Trans Mountain, while the [entire Iroquois caucus](#), [Wolastoq Grand Council](#) and [Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs](#) have united in resistance to Energy East.

A letter sent by Mohawk Kanesatake Grand Chief Serge Simon to Quebec Premier Philippe Couillard in early March stated: “The Mohawk Council of Kanesatake as well as the rest of the Iroquois caucus has made its choice. Other First Nations are making the same choice.”

Mike Hudema, climate energy campaigner at Greenpeace Canada, says: “Not only have First Nations not given their consent but they have said very strongly that they don’t want these pipelines going through their traditional territory.”

Federal Government Positioning to Implement Pipeline Strategy

On Monday, the National Post’s John Ivison [reported](#) (while vaguely citing “people with knowledge of the matter”) that Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has instructed cabinet ministers to prepare a pipeline strategy to “make Energy East and Trans Mountain expansion in British Columbia a reality.”

The federal government has also pledged to [implement UNDRIP](#), as well as [all 94 calls to action contained in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#).

The TRC also emphasizes the concept of free, prior and informed consent of Indigenous peoples “before proceeding with economic development projects” and the requirement of “recognition

and integration of Indigenous laws and legal traditions in negotiation and implementation processes involving Treaties, land claims, and other constructive agreements.”

Many First Nations Desire Co-management of Resource Development

Deranger emphasizes that First Nations communities are not anti-development: “There’s this really, really antiquated notion that if you give First Nations the right to say ‘no’ we’re going to end up back in teepees and sending smoke signals or something really ridiculous,” she jokes.

Rather, she says First Nations are asking for co-management of resource development, something that has been done in the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Northern Quebec and Manitoba (ACFN has been petitioning for a similar arrangement for 20 years).

“Co-management is not asking for everything,” she says. “It’s asking to be partners. Our ancestors signed our treaty agreements believing that we were signing nation-to-nation agreements, to be given equal say in the development of our lands and territories.”

There has been no public indication that such conversations are on the radar of the provincial or federal government.

Alberta’s Push for Pipelines “Flies in the Face of These Commitments”

After all, truly engaging with documents like UNDRIP and the TRC would require a complete overhaul of how development is conducted, could potentially pose a threat to corporate profits and prove difficult to explain to voters.

But the Alberta NDP perhaps shouldn’t have promised to implement such policies if it just wanted to continue rapid oilsands development in Treaty 8 territory and ram pipelines through other sovereign territories without ensuring free, prior and informed consent beforehand.

“I do think the Alberta government pushing so hard for pipelines really flies in the face of these commitments,” Hudema says. “A lot of First Nations communities are looking to see how the government deals with this situation to know how serious the government really is to its commitments to First Nations people.”

In This Town, a Staggering Number of People Attempt Suicide

National Geographic [Read the full story](#)

Why World Leaders Are Terrified of Water Shortages

[Read the Article at Mother Jones](#)

The Redskins’ impact on the Paiute

Paiute Gover: Indian Country needs real help, not things [thespectrum.com](#)

Author and conservationist John Muir -- nicknamed the [“Father of the National Parks”](#) -- shared his love of the outdoors through writing and inspired people to protect our country's wild places like Yosemite and Grand Canyon national parks.

Now's the perfect time to get outdoors and #FindYourPark -- visit all national parks for FREE during **National Park Week** from April 16-24. Get inspired to explore America's public lands with [our 10 favorite John Muir quotes](#).



“Don’t judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant.”

– Robert Louis Stevenson

Native Seeds/SEARCH is Hiring

NS/S is currently hiring for the following positions. Full details about the jobs, qualifications, and application procedures can be found on our [website](#). Please share this information with your network and individuals looking to work for an organization dedicated to conserving and promoting arid-adapted crop diversity.



Project Manager
Farm Operations Technician
Conservation InternshipSeeds/SEARCH

Teaching With Seed

Schools have been embracing the garden movement in recent years. It is easy to understand why if you have ever witnessed picky eaters enjoying fresh produce straight from the garden or the excitement students express when they find sprouts pop out of the ground. That type of excitement about growing food is infectious.



Native Seeds / SEARCH
conserving arid-adapted crops to nourish a changing world

Native Seeds/SEARCH has proudly supported the school garden movement with small donations of seeds through our Community Seed Grant Program. To date we have provided arid-adapted seeds to over 150 garden projects working with youth in the Southwestern region. Read more about this program and download some of the lesson plans from our web site [here](#).

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AT THE WHITE HOUSE SCIENCE FAIR

April 13, 2016

THE PRESIDENT: Hello, hello, hello! Hey! (Applause.) Good to see you. All right, everybody, have a seat, have a seat.

Well, hello, everybody. Welcome to the White House. There are a lot of good things about being President. I get a chance to travel all across the country and meet people and see all the amazing things that are being done; being Commander-in-Chief of the greatest military the world has ever known and seeing the incredible service of our men and women in uniform -- Air Force One is very cool. (Laughter.) I don't have to take off my shoes before I get on an airplane. (Laughter.)

But some of the best moments that I've had as President have involved science and our annual Science Fair. I mean, I have shot a marshmallow out of a cannon directly under Lincoln's portrait. I've learned about prototypes from six-year-old Girl Scouts who built a page-turning machine out of Legos for people who might be disabled -- there they are. (Laughter.) Good to see you guys. I should add, by the way, that I took a picture with them with one of their tiaras on, which I think is still floating around the Internet. (Laughter.)

Most importantly, I've just been able to see the unbelievable ingenuity and passion and curiosity and brain power of America's next generation, and all the cool things that they do. I've

also, by the way, had a chance to see an alarming number of robots. (Laughter.) None have caused me any harm up until now. They've startled me a little bit. I understand today that we have a live chicken here, which I'm sure the White House staff is thrilled about. (Laughter.)

But this is fun. More importantly, it speaks to what makes America the greatest country on Earth.

I want to publicly thank some of the people who helped make today possible — also because I want you to know who to blame if something explodes. (Laughter.) We've got some members of Congress in the house who have been highly supportive of all our science and basic research efforts. We've got my science advisor, John Holdren, who is here. Give John a big round of applause. (Applause.) We have my Chief Technology Officer Megan Smith in the house. (Applause.)

We have some guests who are really helping to lift up the importance of science, like -- this is not a typical combination -- supermodel and super coder Karlie Kloss is here. (Applause.) We've got actress and science enthusiast Yara Shahidi. There she is. Good to see you. (Applause.) We've got XKCD comic creator Randall Munroe is here. Give him a big round of applause. (Applause.) We're joined by some of the past participants of our Science Fairs, including Elana Simon, who studied her own cancer and started coming up with some cures. I remember meeting you last year. How is Harvard going?

MS. SIMON: Good.

THE PRESIDENT: So far, so good? She was a senior last year, just started. (Applause.)

So this is an eclectic and diverse bunch. But what they all share is this love of science and love of technology, and a belief that our youngest innovators can change the world.

And there's nothing that makes me more hopeful about the future than seeing young people like the ones who are here -- and they come from all over the country, they come in all shapes and sizes. All of you are showing the rest of us that it's never too early in life to make a difference. You teach us about the power of reason and logic, and trying things and figuring out whether they work, and if they don't, learning from that and trying something new. And you remind us that, together, through science, we can tackle some of the biggest challenges that we face.

Whether you're fighting cancer or combatting climate change, feeding the world, writing code that leads to social change, you are sharing in this essential spirit of discovery that America is built on.

John Holdren helpfully reminded me that today happens to be the 273rd birthday of Thomas Jefferson. And Thomas Jefferson was obviously a pretty good writer; the Declaration of Independence turned out pretty well. (Laughter.) He was a great political thinker and a great President. But he was also a scientist. And that was true of most of our Founders -- they were children of the enlightenment. They had come of age when all the old dogmas were being

challenged. And they had this incredible faith, this belief in the human mind, and our ability to figure stuff out.

And whether it was Benjamin Franklin or Thomas Jefferson, or all the others who were involved in the founding of our country, one of the essential elements that is embedded in our Constitution and the design of this democracy is this belief that the power of the human brain when applied to the world around us can do amazing, remarkable things.

And it also requires, as we're seeing from these outstanding teams, not just constant inquiry, but also strong teamwork and dogged perseverance. And by following the trail of your curiosity wherever it takes you, you are continually adding to this body of knowledge that helps make us a more secure, more prosperous, and more hopeful society. Science has always been the hallmark of American progress. It's the key to our economic success. I can't think of a more exciting time for American science than right now, because we are busy reigniting that spirit of innovation to meet so many challenges.

Just give you a couple examples. We're on the cusp of a new era of medicine that accounts for people's individual genes. And I've been doing a lot of work with Francis Collins, the head of NIH, around how we take the human genome that we've mapped, in part thanks to the good work of Francis and others, so that we are able to not just cure diseases generally, but figure out what exactly do you in your particular body need in order to keep it running well.

We're harnessing technology to develop cleaner sources of energy, and save our planet in the process. We're unraveling the mysteries of the human brain, unlocking secrets of the universe. In fact, just last month, Commander Scott Kelly returned from an almost a year-long stay on the International Space Station. Some of you may have read about that. He conducted countless experiments, and he also served as an experiment himself. His identical twin brother, Mark, who is an astronaut, as well -- Mark stayed home during this entire time that Scott was up in the air, and that meant that NASA could study the two of them side by side to gain insights into how a long-term occupation in space changes your body and your operating systems.

It turned out, initially, it makes you two inches taller. (Laughter.) But I saw Mark just two weekends ago; apparently, you shrink back really quickly. (Laughter.) It makes your head bigger too. (Laughter.) But I don't know how big.

America has also got a selfie-taking rover that's Instagramming from Mars. The International Space Station just got its first inflatable habitat for astronauts. SpaceX, on the commercial, private venture side of space, just landed a returning rocket on a drone ship in the middle of the ocean. And that's opening up the possibility of reusing our rockets instead of just throwing them away once they have launched.

So the progress we're seeing across the board is extraordinary, and it's just the beginning. The rest is going to be up to you, the next generation. Somewhere in your generation, maybe in this room, are pioneers who are going to be the first to set their foot on Mars -- the first humans, anyway. I don't know about other life forms. (Laughter.)

And I know what you're capable of because I just had a chance to see some of the exhibits, and we had some of the press pool follow. If you were not blown away from some of the young people that we just had a chance to meet, then you had too big of a lunch and you were falling asleep, because if you were paying attention it was unbelievable.

We've got Maya Varma, who is a senior from San Jose, California. Where is Maya? Yay, there's Maya. Maya is using a low-cost microcontroller, software freely available on the Internet, and a smartphone, and she designed a tool that allows people with asthma and other lung diseases to diagnose and monitor their own symptoms. So her goal was to use smartphone technology to make diagnostic tests for all kinds of diseases a lot cheaper. "My aspiration is not only to create the next big thing in my field one day," Maya says, "but also to make it accessible to more than a privileged few in the world." So give Maya a big round of applause. (Applause.)

I do have to say -- this is just an aside -- the only problem with the Science Fair is it makes me feel a little inadequate. (Laughter.) Because I think back to my high school, and, first of all, I didn't have a field. Maya talked about her "field." I don't know exactly what my field of study was at that time, but it wasn't that. (Laughter.)

We also have nine-year-old Jacob Leggette from Baltimore. Where is Jacob? There you go, in the bowtie. (Applause.) So Jacob loved programming ever since the age of two, when he nearly wiped clean his grandma's computer -- (laughter) -- which I'm sure she was thrilled with. But don't worry, Jacob fixed it. Last summer, this young maker wrote to a company that manufactures 3D printers, asked them if he could have one of the 3D printers in exchange for feedback on whether their printers are kid-friendly. So clearly he's a good negotiator and business person. (Laughter.) And today, Jacob is churning out toys and games for himself and his little sister, and he dreams one day of making artificial organs for people.

I should add, by the way, Jacob, John, had a very good idea, which is that we should have -- in addition to our PCAST, which is my science advisory group, all these scientists and leaders in various fields, we should have a kid's advisory group that starts explaining to us what's interesting to them and what's working, and could help us shape advances in STEM education. Anyway, that was Jacob's idea. So way to go, Jacob. We're going to follow up on that. Give Jacob a round of applause. (Applause.)

We have 16-year-old Anarudh Ganesan. Where is Anarudh? There he is, right there. (Applause.) So when Anarudh was little, his grandparents walked him 10 miles to a remote clinic in his native India for vaccinations, only to find out that the vaccines had spoiled in the heat. Though he eventually got the shots that he needed, he thought, well, this is a problem, and wanted to prevent other children from facing the same risk. So he developed what he calls the VAXXWAGON, and it's a refrigerator on wheels that transports vaccines to remote destinations. That's the kind of innovation and compassion that we're seeing from so many of these young people. So give Anarudh a big round of applause. (Applause.)

And we have Olivia Hallisey, a high school senior from Greenwich, Connecticut. Where is Olivia? There she is. Hi, Olivia. Now, think about this -- so Olivia swept the Google Science Fair. She read about the Ebola epidemic in the news. She decides, I want to make a faster, less-expensive test for the disease, as opposed to a lot of adults who were just thinking,

how do I avoid getting Ebola? (Laughter.) She decides, well, I'm going to fix this. So she wants a faster, less-expensive test. An old test cost \$1,000, took up to 12 hours to conduct. Using silk as a base instead, Olivia made the test cost \$5, without requiring refrigeration, with results that are available in under 30 minutes. What were you doing in high school? (Laughter.) Give Olivia a big round of applause. (Applause.)

So this is just a small sample of the incredible talent that is on display at this science fair. And we couldn't be prouder. To all the students, to all the young people, we could not be prouder of you. I want to thank the parents and the teachers and mentors who stood behind these young people, encouraged them to pursue their dreams. I asked all the young people who I had a chance to meet, how did you get interested in this? And there were a couple whose parents were in the sciences, but for the majority of them, there was a teacher, a mentor, a program, something that just got them hooked. And it's a reminder that science is not something that is out of reach, it's not just for the few, it's for the many, as long as it's something that we're weaving into our curriculum and it's something that we're valuing as a society.

And so I hope that every company and every college and every community and every parent and every teacher joins us in encouraging this next generation of students to actively engage and pursue science and push the boundaries of what's possible. We've got to give all of our young people the tools that they need to explore and discover, and to dig their hands in stuff, and experiment, and invent, and uncover something new, and try things, and see hypotheses or experiments fail, and then learn how to extract some knowledge from things that didn't work as well as things that worked. That's another theme that came out of a lot of the conversations I had with young people.

And that's why we're building on our efforts to bring hands-on computer science learning, for example, to all students. As I've said before, in the new economy, computer science isn't optional, it's a basic skill, along with the three Rs. So we're issuing new guidance to school districts for how they can better support computer science education. Oracle will invest in getting 125,000 more students into computer science classes. Give Oracle a big round of applause for that. We appreciate that. (Applause.)

We've got more than 500 schools that are committing to expand access to computer science. And this is just a sample of the things that we've been putting together over the last several years to try to expand opportunity for the kind of brilliant work that's being done by these students. And we're seeing entire states take action. For example, last month, Rhode Island got on a path to bring computer science to every school within two years.

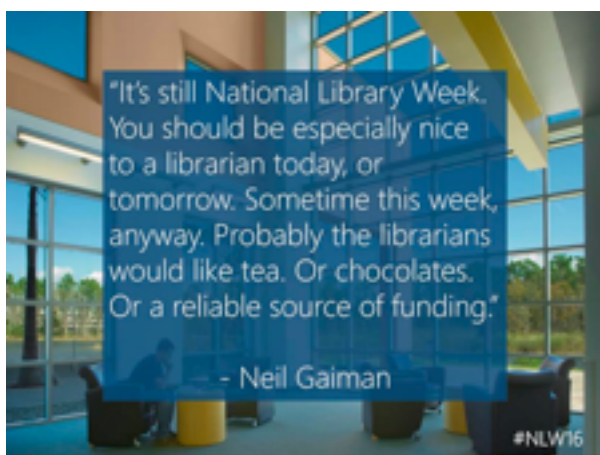
So we're going to build on this progress. We want to make sure every single one of our students -- no matter where they're from, what income their parents bring in, regardless of their backgrounds -- we want to make sure that they've got access to hands-on science, technology, engineering, and math education that's going to set them up for success and keep our nation competitive in the 21st century.

That includes, by the way, working through some of the structural biases that exist in science. Some of them -- a lot of them are unconscious. But the fact is, is that we've got to get more of our young women and minorities into science and technology, engineering and math,

and computer science. I've been really pleased to see the number of young women who have gotten more and more involved in our science fairs over the course of these last several years.

And as I said to a group that I had a chance to meet with outside, we're not going to succeed if we got half the team on the bench, especially when it's the smarter half of the team. (Laughter.) Our diversity is a strength. And we've got to leverage all of our talent in order to make ourselves as creative and solve as many problems as we can be.

And one of the things I find so inspiring about these young thinkers and makers is that they look at all these seemingly intractable problems as something that we can solve. There is a confidence when you are pursuing science. They don't consider age a barrier. They don't think, well, that's just the way things are. They're not afraid to try things and ask tough questions. And above all, what we've seen today is that they feel an obligation to use their gifts to do something not just for themselves but for other people as well.



Olivia said after she was working on this Ebola diagnostic tool, "My generation has been raised with an awareness that we're part of a global community. It's everybody's responsibility to take a proactive approach and think of solutions." She is right. I want you to call up Congress and tell them your thinking on that. (Laughter.) That was just a joke. (Laughter.) Maybe not. (Laughter.) But it's all up to us to work together with our youngest talent leading the way.

A century ago, Albert Einstein predicted the existence of gravitational waves. This year, a team of scientists finally proved him right. This was very cool, by the way. I don't know -- those of you guys who had a chance to read about this -- the way they measured it was the building got a little longer. The building that -- from which they were measuring this gravitational wave grew, like, a little bit. (Laughter.) And then it kind of shrank back, which is really weird and really interesting. (Laughter.)

And that's the thing about science -- you don't always cross the finish line yourself. You may have a hypothesis, a theory, and then people build off of it, and it's like you're running a race and you're passing a baton. Everything that we're working with today is based on some young person like you 10 years ago, 50 years ago, 100 or 300 years ago, who were asking themselves the same question. And while even Einstein didn't see all the fruits of his labor, because he went as far as his curiosity and hard work would take him, generations of scientists continue to build on his progress

So that's what we're going to need from all of you. We are counting on all of you to help build a brighter future, and for you to use your talents to help your communities and your country and the world. We will be with you every step of the way. And I will be keenly

following your progress so that when you invent some cancer cure or find some new source of cheap, clean energy, I will take some of the credit. (Laughter.) I'll say, if it hadn't been for the White House Science Fair, who knows what might have happened -- even though it won't really be my credit to take. So I'm just teasing, guys.

Thank you very much, everybody. Proud of you. Good job. (Applause.)