

Journal #4127 from sdc 4.4.18

Chaco Canyon

Newspaper archives for many states Walker River Conservancy Hiring

May PowWows

America's first climate change refugees preparing to leave island that will disappear under the sea

Museums and the Web - MuseLetter

Street Artist Reflects Native American Dignity at a Monumental Scale

2018 HUD BUDGETS

SOBOBA INDIAN REPORTER

Pebble Mine

Inside the Tax Bill's \$25 Billion Oil Company Bonanza

IMLS News

Indigenous history, culture now mandatory part of Ontario curriculum

Scholarships - May 1-15 Deadline

The Great Salt Lick

StoryCorps.me at the Western Folklife Center



Chaco Canyon, New Mexico is one of the most beautiful places in the United States. Oil and gas companies want to drill near it, but a temporary halt by U.S. Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke has put those plans on hold. This is our best chance to stop any more drilling near Chaco Canyon for good.

[Tell Ryan Zinke: permanently protect Chaco Canyon from oil and gas drilling!](#)

In March, Zinke put a scheduled oil and gas lease sale near Chaco Canyon on hold.¹ This didn't happen in a vacuum: the delay is a **well-earned win for Tribal leaders, environmentalists and people of New Mexico** who have been protesting the sale of sites situated too close to Chaco Culture National Historical Park.

Zinke called for the delay in order to further review the potential impacts from oil and gas exploration. **He should be worried:** much of the public land surrounding Chaco Canyon has been leased to oil and gas companies for exploration. More drilling in the area could be devastating for this culturally significant landmark.

We have to draw the line here and stop the drilling. This delay is our chance to get what we need: permanent protection for Chaco Canyon from oil and gas drilling. So far 120 petitions opposing the lease sale have been sent to the Bureau of Land Management. [Can you help us keep up the pressure?](#)

More drilling activity in this area would completely destroy a sacred place that holds incredible importance to the local Navajo residents.² It also has the potential to contaminate vital resources that surrounding communities rely on, threatening their health and well-being.

[Protect Chaco Canyon](#)

Many voices have called for a moratorium on drilling and leasing — including Food & Water Watch supporters, the Navajo Nation and All Pueblo Council of Governors, the National Congress of American Indians, 15 Navajo Chapter houses and the New Mexico Legislature. New Mexico's congressional delegation has also given this issue their strong, ongoing support: Senators Tom Udall and Martin Heinrich, and Representatives Michelle Lujan Grisham and Ben Ray Lujan, have all stood up to protect Chaco Canyon. Continued opposition to oil and gas activity around Chaco Canyon is essential to protecting New Mexico's unique history and environment.

[Stand with our political arm, Food & Water Action, and tell Secretary Zinke to permanently protect Chaco Canyon from oil and gas drilling.](#)

Onward together, Eleanor Bravo, New Mexico State Director, Food & Water Watch

<http://www.stparchive.com/landing.php> - newspaper archives for many states

We're Hiring!

In March, Walker Basin Conservancy announced several open job positions. Walker Basin Conservancy is hiring an AmeriCorps [Program Manager](#), a summer [water management intern](#) and summer [conservation intern](#), along with several [conservation technicians](#). If you have any questions, please email Amy Gladding at amy.gladding@walkerbasin.org.

May PowWows

Ed note: Unfortunately, the "More information" buttons did not work, so you'll have to google each one for particulars. sdc

May 5 - 6 34th California Indian Market & Peace Dance San Juan Bautista, CA

May 4 - 6, 2018 The Odessa Powwow Odessa, FL

May 11 - 12 Comanche Little Ponies 50th Annual Celebration Lawton, OK
night (winners paid same night). SPECIAL Women's Hat & Boot Contest (no age limit) night. All adult (16 yrs. +) categories night, must make Grand Entry ().
Adults...

May 11 - 12 42nd Annual Edisto Natchez-Kusso Tribe Pow-wow Ridgeville, SC

May 11 - 12 38th Annual Tuscarora Nation of NC PowWow Maxton, NC
Tradition and Excitement . . .See You at the Pow Wow! Vendor Spaces: \$100 Food
Vendors: \$150

May 11 - 13 Southern Virginia American Indian Festival Chase City, VA

May 12 1st Annual South of the River Powwow Burnsville, MN
, to celebrate the community's graduating American Indian students. Express will be the host drum. Doors open at The schedule will include first grand entry at , free...

May 12 - 13 Noxen's 13th Annual Mothers Day Pow Wow Noxen, PA
FREE PARKING – FREE ADMISSSION – HANDICAPPED ACCESSABLE
Gates Open Grand Entry at Circle open: Saturday 12-6 and Sunday This is a
gathering style demonstration of Native American...

**May 12 - 13 13th Annual Turtle Island Native American Association Pow Wow
Millington, TN**

May 12 - 13 Honoring the Elders Pow Wow Wyandotte, OK

**May 12 - 13 29th Annual Cherokee Co Indian Festival & Mother's Day Powwow
Canton, GA**

Native American Dance Competition Native dancers only, please. Grand Entry will be at Saturday and Sunday Honor Dance for Chipa Wolfe Sunday Mother's Day Honor Dance both days Emcee: Jody Gaskin Host...

May 18 - 19 Gathering of the People Evans, GA

May 18 - 20 Susanville Indian Rancheria 9th Annual Pow-Wow Susanville, CA

May 19 6th Annual Casa Grande Union High School Pow Wow Casa Grande, AZ

May 19-20 Honoring of the Elders -Native American Inter-Tribal Pow Wow Tamworth, NH
Celebrating 25yrs of Pow Wow at the Tamworth Camping Area . This is a great experience for all, young and old. Bring a chair and/or a...

May 19 - 20 25th Annual Assateague People's Drums on the Pocomoke: New Beginnings Pocomoke City, MD

Vendors Raffles Jewelery Frybread Dancing Storytellers Apparel Honoring Veterans Dancer only Raffle Limited Free Camping 13 & Up \$5.00 6 – 12 \$3.00 5 & Under Free Military ID Free

May 19 - 20 Manito Ahbee International Powwow Winnipeg, MB

May 19 - 20 All Nations Veterans Council's 11th Annual Teaching Our Traditions PowWow Howell, MI

May 25 -27 Cherokee's of Alabama 17th Annual Spring Powwow Arab, AL

May 25 - 28 14th Annual Seven Clans Casino Pow Wow Thief River Falls, MN

All adult categories \$1000,\$800,\$600,\$400 Teens: \$400,\$300,\$200,\$100 — Jrs: \$200,\$150,\$100,\$50 Committee singing contest: \$8000,\$6000,\$4000,\$2000,\$1000 Darren “Scruff” Cook Sr Memorial singing contest: \$4000,\$3000,\$2000,\$1000 Committee specials – \$300,\$200,\$100 – Mens fancy, grass,...

May 26 - 27 9th Annual Native Woodland Gathering Zanesfield, OH
or . US 33 & SR's 292 & 153. <http://loganhills.homestead.com/gathering.html>

May 26 - 27 11th Annual for the People Pow Wow Jefferson City, MO

Adults: \$3; School Age: \$1; Elders & Preschool: Free Gourd Dancing; Grand Entry; Inter-tribal; Dinner Break Gourd Dancing; Grand Entry; Inter-tribal 12-2 Gourd Dancing; 2-5 Inter-tribal Larry Sellers – Pawhuska, Oklahoma Cloud Dancing from the...

America's first climate change refugees are preparing to leave an island that will disappear under the sea in the next few years Business Insider

This used to be a forest of oak and cypress trees. In March, Louisiana state officials announced that everyone living on Isle de Jean Charles will have to leave. Where there were 22,000 acres in 1955 there are only 320 acres today. They are one hurricane away from obliteration. The evacuation is a test-run for countless coastal communities in Louisiana, who must all move as the seas take over the land. ISLE DE JEAN CHARLES, Louisiana - America comes to an end here. Connected to the marshes and [Read the full story](#)

MuseLetter | March 2018

From the past month to the past two decades, the MW MuseLetter sums up the notable and newsworthy in the field of cultural heritage to help chart the course for a more connected and innovative future.

What's Hot in the Field?

We cruise the latest headlines so that you don't have to! Check out some of the articles that MW followers engaged with the most this month.

- > [Why Facebook Is a Waste of Time—and Money—for Arts Nonprofits](#)
- > [European Museums Get Adventurous with Virtual Reality](#)
- > [Virtual Reality Recreates First Photography Show](#)
- > [What We Can Learn from the Success of the Google Arts & Culture App](#)

Want to reach more than 70,000 cultural heritage professionals around the world? Your organization, project or related product could be featured in next month's MuseLetter! Contact us to find out how to participate. info@mwconf.org

MW Published Papers are Available Online

Check out some of the papers that will be in the MW18 program; all have been peer-reviewed. Follow #MW18 to read all the MW18 conference papers for free as they are published online – no registration required!

- > [Is This An Exhibition Or A Publication? Defining Online Resources Types In Art Museums](#), Maribel Hidalgo Urbaneja, University of Glasgow, UK
- > [Storytelling With Mobile Augmented Reality On Omaha Beach: Design Considerations When Reconstructing An Historical Event](#)
Gunnar Liestøl, University of Oslo, Norway
- > [Who Reviewed This?! A Survey On Museum Web Publishing In 2018](#)
Susan Wigodner, The Field Museum, USA, Caitlin Kearney, The Field Museum, United States
- > [Sustaining The Heartbeat Of Your Museum's Content Strategy](#)
Eric Holter, Cuberis, USA, Nick Faber, Cuberis, USA
- > [Connecting The Dots: The Impact Of Diversity In The Museum Workforce On Innovation, Relevance, And Audience Engagement](#)
Haitham Eid, Southern University at New Orleans, USA

From the MW Archives: What Do We Know About Online Visitors?

There's nothing new under the sun. The [MW Paper Archives](#), filled with over 1,200 papers about museums and technology, is an excellent place to trace the roots of today's leading work in the field, and start research for your new project. In the monthly MuseLetter, we feature a few ground-breaking papers from the past two decades of MW

conferences, and connect them to the latest innovations being presented at MW18.

This March, we're looking back at what museums have learned about their online visitors over the years, and how:

[2016 The \(post\) digital visitor: What has \(almost\) twenty years of museum audience research revealed? by Lynda Kelly](#)

[2015 Finding the motivation behind a click: Definition and implementation of a website audience segmentation by Elena Villaespesa and John Stack](#)

[2012 Exploring the Relationship between Visitor Motivation and Engagement in Online Museum Audiences by Silvia Filippini Fantoni, Rob Stein, and Gray Bowman](#)

[2004 Exploring Motivational Factors And Visitor Satisfaction In On-Line Museum Visits by Kate Haley Goldman and David Schaller](#)

[1998 Understanding Free-Choice Learning: A Review of the Research and its Application to Museum Web Sites by Lynn D. Dierking, Ph.D. and John H. Falk, Ph.D.](#)

>> Find more about this and other topics in the MW archives!

Conference News: MW18 Closing Plenary Announced

In this closing conversation, [Curtis Wong](#), Principal Researcher at the [Microsoft Redmond Research Laboratory](#), reflects on how museum and other learning experiences have been transformed by the evolution of the many technologies he has helped pioneer, from the 20th century's laserdiscs and CD-ROMs, to today's Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence. Tech companies are today's Medicis, he argues, and the opportunity for those leading the technological Renaissance is to employ new tools in connecting the separate contexts that museum objects and their visitors occupy in an experiential way.

Inspired by his own interests in science, history, culture, music, arts, and humanity, Curtis has been life-long friend and champion for museums, educational, and scientific organizations worldwide. Given the levels of investment now occurring in social networks and the public exposure of personal information, he and MW18 co-chairs, Nancy Proctor and David Alexander, discuss how the latest generation of technologies will shape how and what museums do in the future.

The Deadline to Book Your Conference Hotel Has Been Extended!

[Book your room at the conference hotel to be in the middle of the action!](#)

The MW18 rate is extended until April 6.

[Take a look at the program](#) and check out which sessions, workshops, and tours you'd like to attend!

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*Baby Swan*



**Street Artist Reflects Native American Dignity at a Monumental Scale**

When images of everyday Navajo life began appearing at a monumental scale on abandoned buildings, roadside stands and water towers across the Four Corners region, it was a surprise for many in the community to discover it was the work of [Chip Thomas](#) (aka Jetsonorama), a long-time resident known by many as a healer of another kind.

Watch how he honors the lives of his Navajo neighbors and shares stories of their resilience with the world at large. Full story: [bit.ly/RepresentJetsonorama](http://bit.ly/RepresentJetsonorama)



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Last week Congress passed a FY18 budget bill, appropriating \$42.7B to the Department and **\$30.51B to PIH**.

The **Housing Choice Voucher Program** and **Public Housing Capital Fund** received significant increases of over \$1B and \$800M, respectively. The **Public Housing Operating Fund** saw a slight

| Public and Indian Housing Budget                  | FY 2017 Enacted | FY 2018 Enacted  |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Rental Assistance Demonstration                   | \$0             | \$0              |
| <b>Tenant Based Rental Assistance</b>             | <b>\$20.29B</b> | <b>\$22.02M</b>  |
| Contract Renewals                                 | \$18.36B        | \$19.6B          |
| Administrative Fees                               | \$1.65B         | \$1.76B          |
| Tenant Protection Vouchers                        | \$110M          | \$85M            |
| Mainstream Vouchers                               | \$120M          | \$505M           |
| VASH                                              | \$40M           | \$40M            |
| Tribal VASH                                       | \$7M            | \$5M             |
| Family Unification Program (FUP)                  | \$10M           | \$20M            |
| <b>Operating Fund</b>                             | <b>\$4.4B</b>   | <b>\$4.55B</b>   |
| <b>Capital Fund</b>                               | <b>\$1.94B</b>  | <b>\$2.75B</b>   |
| Mod Grants                                        | \$1.83B         | \$2.67B          |
| ROSS                                              | \$35M           | \$35M            |
| Emergency Disaster Reserve                        | \$16.5M         | \$16.5M          |
| Safety and Security                               | \$5M            | \$5M             |
| Administrative Receivership                       | \$1M            | \$1M             |
| Financial/Physical Assessment Support             | \$10M           | \$8.3M           |
| Reduction Lead-Based Paint/Risk Assess            | \$25M           | \$0              |
| Jobs-Plus                                         | \$15M           | \$15M            |
| <b>Family Self Sufficiency (FSS)</b>              | <b>\$75M</b>    | <b>\$75M</b>     |
| <b>Choice Neighborhoods</b>                       | <b>\$137.5M</b> | <b>\$150M</b>    |
| <b>Native American Housing Block Grant</b>        | <b>\$654M</b>   | <b>\$755M</b>    |
| <b>Indian Comm Dev Block Grant (ICDBG)</b>        | <b>[\$60M]</b>  | <b>[\$65M]</b>   |
| <b>Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant</b>        | <b>\$2M</b>     | <b>\$2M</b>      |
| <b>Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Fund</b>         | <b>\$7.2M</b>   | <b>\$1M</b>      |
| <b>Nat Hawaiian Loan Guar Fund (Section 184a)</b> | <b>\$0</b>      | <b>\$0</b>       |
| <b>Total, Program Accounts</b>                    | <b>\$27.51B</b> | <b>\$30.3B</b>   |
| <b>Salaries and Expenses</b>                      | <b>\$216M</b>   | <b>\$216.63M</b> |
| <b>Total, PIH</b>                                 | <b>\$27.73B</b> | <b>\$30.51B</b>  |

increase, while PIH's programs for resident **self-sufficiency** received level funding. The **Native American Housing Block Grant** received \$100M in additional funding for competitive grants and additional funding for technical assistance.

This appropriation is 19% higher than the Administration's FY19 Request, which we reviewed a few weeks ago. Thank you for helping our partners effectively administer this funding to continue providing critical housing assistance to millions of families across the country.

Many thanks,  
 Dominique Blom,  
 General Deputy Assistant Secretary

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**SOBOBA INDIAN REPORTER**

**Attachments:**

[Soboba\\_Indian\\_Reporter\\_April-2018.pdf](#) [PAGE ONE SPECIAL.pub.pdf](#) [PAGE 2 of 2 special.pdf](#)

We are happy to inform you that we will be publishing a new Southern California newspaper for the American Indian Community. The American Indian Reporter will be a monthly publication - the first edition on May1, 2018. It will be the only so. California Tribal news. It will be distributed in San Diego, Riverside, San Bernardino. Orange, LA, Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties. Our first publication will be 10,000 copies and increase to 30,000 or as needed. The So California Indian Tribes, Organization, Health Service, and the Urban Tribal Communities will be our primary tsrget population.

The American Indian Reporter will be posted on CALIE.ORG and the American Indian Reporter websites. copies will be sent to each tribe, organizations that we have addresses for and Health Centers.

We will email copies to all individuals that we have email addresses -

The Soboba Indian Reporter will continue to e published and distributed to the Soboba Tribal Members only. This is because the content will be for tribal member.

Thank you for you continued support Ernie C. Salgado Jr.

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**Pebble Mine**

The Army Corps of Engineers announced that it will [begin gathering public input](#) for its environmental review of the Pebble Mine, in Alaska’s Bristol Bay watershed.

Scoping is only 30 days, a relatively short time for a large project. Scoping is the process by which the public gets to comment on the options that will be analyzed and concerns that should be addressed. By comparison, scoping for the ongoing review of Columbia River dams, also being coordinated by the Army Corps, was initially more than three months. To be fair, that scoping process included meetings in four states.

Allowing the developers of the proposed mine to apply for a permit was part of a deal struck with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency last year. The EPA’s opinion is that the mine, which would be located upstream of one of the world’s most abundant salmon fisheries, should not be developed.

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[Inside the Tax Bill's \\$25 Billion Oil Company Bonanza](#) *Antonia Juhasz, Pacific Standard*  
Juhasz writes: "A Pacific Standard analysis shows the oil and gas industry is among the tax bill's greatest financial beneficiaries." [READ MORE](#)

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## IMLS News

### IMLS Receives Funding Increase for Remainder of FY 2018

The legislation includes \$240 million for IMLS, which is \$9,000,000 above the FY 2017 enacted funding . [Read more](#)

### IMLS Now Accepting Native Hawaiian Library Services Grant Applications

The deadline for submitting applications is May 1, 2018. [Read more](#)

### Additional Funding for Native American Library Grants

Congress has appropriated an additional \$1 million for the IMLS Native American Library Services Basic and Enhancement Grant programs. We encourage all federally recognized tribes that have applied for a Basic grant to [submit a proposal for an Enhancement grant](#) by the May 1 deadline. (IMLS cannot extend the deadline, except for organizations in federal acknowledged disaster areas.) Please contact [Dr. Sandra Toro](#) or [Stephen Mayeaux](#) with any questions.

### Open Grant Opportunity Encourages Community Development Approaches

Museums, libraries, and archives, as well as universities and non-profit organizations, are eligible to apply for Community Catalyst grants. The deadline is May 14. [Read more](#)

### IMLS Names Finalists for National Medal for Museum and Library Service

IMLS announced 29 finalists for the 2018 National Medal for Museum and Library Service . [Read more](#)

### 80 Museums Selected to Receive Customized Collections Assessments

The Collections Assessment for Preservation program helps museums improve long-term care of their collections and buildings. [Read more](#)

### Save the Date for USCIS - IMLS Webinar on Online Filings

The next USCIS - IMLS webinar will be April 10, 2:00 p.m. Eastern. It will provide an overview of [myUSCIS.gov](#) and its newest features including an overview of online filings for naturalization. Visit the [USCIS registration page](#) to submit your email to receive information about how to join the webinar.

## ON THE BLOG

### 2018 Community Catalyst's Funding Opportunity: A Chance to Innovate

The Community Catalyst Initiative of IMLS asks libraries, museums, and their non-profit collaborators to spark change in their communities. [Read more](#)



### [Indigenous history, culture now mandatory part of Ontario curriculum | CBC News](#)

Ontario will incorporate the contributions, histories, culture and perspectives of Indigenous peoples into a revised curriculum for all students in the province, the education minister announced Wednesday. [cbc.ca](#)

## Scholarships - May 1-15 Deadline

|                                                                                                |                          |                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| <a href="#">Seed Companies Scholarship</a>                                                     | <a href="#">\$4,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">Sertoma Hard of Hearing or Deaf Scholarship</a>                                    | <a href="#">\$1,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">SFC Larry Garner Veterans' Scholarship</a>                                         | <a href="#">\$1,100</a>  | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">SkillsUSA Alumni &amp; Friends Merit Scholarship</a>                               | <a href="#">\$500</a>    | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">State of Maine Grant Program</a>                                                   | <a href="#">\$1,500</a>  | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">Stephen Phillips Memorial Scholarship Fund</a>                                     | <a href="#">\$18,000</a> | <a href="#">05/02/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">Support Creativity Graduate Scholarship</a>                                        | <a href="#">\$1,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/05/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">Support Creativity Scholarship</a>                                                 | <a href="#">\$1,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">Support Creativity Undergraduate Scholarship</a>                                   | <a href="#">\$1,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">SVS (Balaji) Temple of Greater Chicago Scholarship</a>                             | <a href="#">\$10,000</a> | <a href="#">05/13/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">Tennessee Valley Interstellar Workshop Scholarship</a>                             | <a href="#">\$2,500</a>  | <a href="#">05/15/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">Texas Hospitality Association Poster Contest</a>                                   | <a href="#">\$5,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/06/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">Texas Space Grant Consortium Columbia Crew Memorial Undergraduate Scholarships</a> | <a href="#">\$1,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">The American Express Scholarship</a>                                               | <a href="#">\$2,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">The Anchor Program</a>                                                             | <a href="#">Varies</a>   | <a href="#">05/11/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">The Anne Trabue Scholarship Fund</a>                                               | <a href="#">Varies</a>   | <a href="#">05/15/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">The Cal Aggie Alumni Association Scholarships</a>                                  | <a href="#">\$10,000</a> | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">The David Kranz-Argus Leader Media Journalism Scholarship</a>                      | <a href="#">\$1,500</a>  | <a href="#">05/13/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">The de Moya Foundation Vocational/Technical Program Scholarship</a>                | <a href="#">\$3,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/15/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">The Douglas MacInnes ALS Scholarship</a>                                           | <a href="#">\$2,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">The Explore More Scholarship</a>                                                   | <a href="#">\$3,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">The Fountainhead Essay Contest</a>                                                 | <a href="#">\$10,000</a> | <a href="#">05/15/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">The Laurels Fund</a>                                                               | <a href="#">\$5,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/15/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">The Mary Doyle Grant</a>                                                           | <a href="#">\$3,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/05/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">The Mimi Deatherage Scholarship Fund</a>                                           | <a href="#">Varies</a>   | <a href="#">05/15/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">The Paula Kovarick Segalman Family Scholarship Fund for ALS</a>                    | <a href="#">\$25,000</a> | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">The Purple Heart Scholarship Fund</a>                                              | <a href="#">\$5,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/15/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">The Sara Scholarship</a>                                                           | <a href="#">\$8,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">The Vicki Soto Memorial Scholarship</a>                                            | <a href="#">\$5,026</a>  | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">The William L. Cullison Scholarship</a>                                            | <a href="#">\$4,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">Thomas K. Besh Memorial Scholarship Fund</a>                                       | <a href="#">\$2,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |
| <a href="#">TMS Outstanding Student Paper Contest</a>                                          | <a href="#">\$1,000</a>  | <a href="#">05/01/2018</a> |

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## The Great Salt Lick

“We don’t pay our artists, we eat them!” So declares Whit Deschner, creator of the Great Salt Lick Contest. The artists he’s referring to are animals...cows, elk, deer, goats and others...who create their art by licking salt blocks left for them in fields and pastures.

This is certainly one of the most unusual art contests and auctions in the nation, right in the middle of ranch country in eastern Oregon. For the past several years Whit's been distributing new salt blocks to ranchers who put them in fields where their livestock - and often, wildlife - sculpt away for weeks and months.

The ranchers then collect the “finished” sculptures and bring them to Whit who organizes an auction each September at a local gallery. Proceeds from the auction are donated to Oregon Health & Science University and its efforts to find to a cure for Parkinson’s Disease. Over the years more than \$40,000 has been raised for the cause. Get more information about the Great Salt Lick contest at: [www.whitdeschner.com/great-salt-lick-contest.html](http://www.whitdeschner.com/great-salt-lick-contest.html)

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### **StoryCorps.me at the Western Folklife Center**

Honor your friends and loved ones! The Western Folklife Center is working with TED and StoryCorps to collect rarely told stories from the rural American West, to share them with the nation.

**We invite you to sign up online here** with a friend or family member who's made a mark on your life, and to interview them about their experiences and wisdom. Click on the StoryCorps logo above to go to the website and download the app to your smartphone and record your interview in the privacy of your home or hotel room. Please tag your interview with "westernfolklife." All interviews will become part of the StoryCorps.me website as well as our Archive, and they will also be shared with the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. We are pleased to participate in this exciting effort to help Americans document their own stories. Help us celebrate the part of the American story that matters to you!

[Follow the Western Folklife Center on StoryCorps »](#)

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### **Bixi Nibe**

War on us,  
WE STAND  
IN PRAYER  
Worldwide  
Indigenous  
Resistance Since  
1492----->>>>  
for Water, for Life  
----->>>> — at  
[Planet Earth.](#)

