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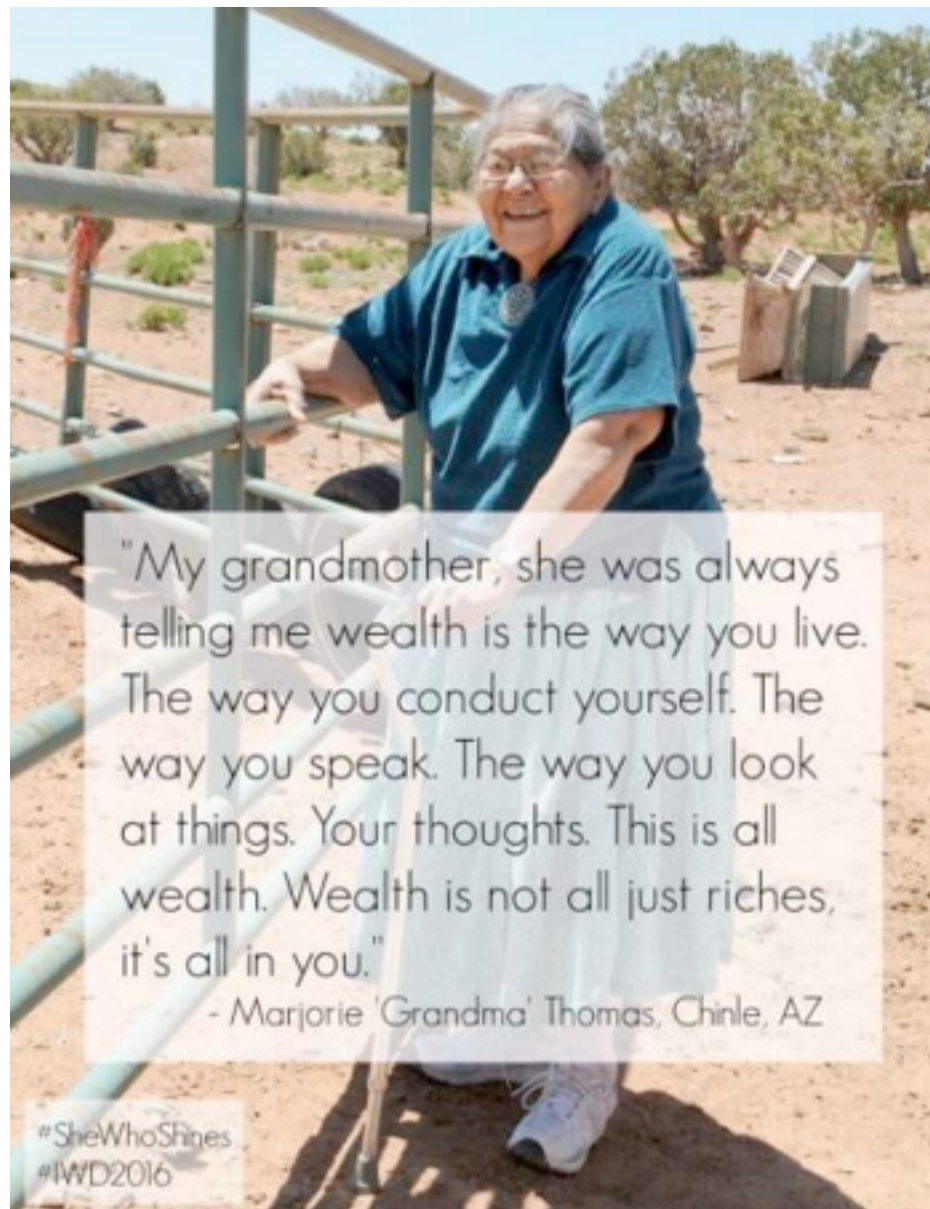
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IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America

When in the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. — Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their Public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected, whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock Trial from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefit of Trial by Jury:

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences: For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & Perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these united Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States, that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. — And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

New Hampshire:

[Josiah Bartlett](#), [William Whipple](#), [Matthew Thornton](#)

Massachusetts:

[John Hancock](#), [Samuel Adams](#), [John Adams](#), [Robert Treat Paine](#), [Elbridge Gerry](#)

Rhode Island:

[Stephen Hopkins](#), [William Ellery](#)

Connecticut:

[Roger Sherman](#), [Samuel Huntington](#), [William Williams](#), [Oliver Wolcott](#)

New York:

[William Floyd](#), [Philip Livingston](#), [Francis Lewis](#), [Lewis Morris](#)

New Jersey:

[Richard Stockton](#), [John Witherspoon](#), [Francis Hopkinson](#), [John Hart](#), [Abraham Clark](#)

Pennsylvania:

[Robert Morris](#), [Benjamin Rush](#), [Benjamin Franklin](#), [John Morton](#), [George Clymer](#), [James Smith](#),
[George Taylor](#), [James Wilson](#), [George Ross](#)

Delaware:

[Caesar Rodney](#), [George Read](#), [Thomas McKean](#)

Maryland:

[Samuel Chase](#), [William Paca](#), [Thomas Stone](#), [Charles Carroll of Carrollton](#)

Virginia:

[George Wythe](#), [Richard Henry Lee](#), [Thomas Jefferson](#), [Benjamin Harrison](#), [Thomas Nelson, Jr.](#),
[Francis Lightfoot Lee](#), [Carter Braxton](#)

North Carolina:

[William Hooper](#), [Joseph Hewes](#), [John Penn](#)

South Carolina:

[Edward Rutledge](#), [Thomas Heyward, Jr.](#), [Thomas Lynch, Jr.](#), [Arthur Middleton](#)

Georgia:

[Button Gwinnett](#), [Lyman Hall](#), [George Walton](#)

The above names are linked because many had specific interactions with Native Americans and thus deserve more research. (When you have nothing to do! sdc)

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## **Price of Freedom 56 Men Who Signed**

Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence? They gave us a free and independent America. The history books never told you a lot of what happened in the Revolutionary War. We didn't just fight the British. We were British subjects at that time and we fought our own government! Some of us take these liberties so much for granted...We shouldn't!!! So, take a couple of minutes while enjoying your 4th of July holiday and silently thank these patriots. It's not much to ask for the price they paid....

- Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army, another had two sons captured.
- Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War.
- They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor. What kind of men were they?
- Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners; men of means, well educated. But they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.
- Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags.
- Thomas McKean was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.
- Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton.
- At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson, Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt.
- Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.
- John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished. A few weeks later he died from exhaustion and a broken heart. Norris and Livingston suffered similar fates.
- Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These were not wild eyed, rabble-rousing ruffians. They were soft-spoken men of means and education. They had security, but they valued liberty more.
- Standing tall, straight, and unwavering, they pledged:

***"For the support of this declaration, with firm reliance on the protection of the divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."***

***"MAY ALL WHO COME BEHIND US FIND US FAITHFUL."***

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"We all know the story" (well, sort of) but it did lead to the Constitution of the United States of America which contains the following article (of which no high school student or naturalized citizen should be allowed to graduate without being able to recite:

Section 8.

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes;

To establish a uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures;

To provide for the punishment of counterfeiting the securities and current coin of the United States;

To establish post offices and post roads;

To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries;

To constitute tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court;

To define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations;

To declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water;

To raise and support armies, but no appropriation of money to that use shall be for a longer term than two years;

To provide and maintain a navy;

To make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces;

To provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States, reserving to the states respectively, the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

To exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten miles square) as may, by cession of particular states, and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of the government of the United States, and to exercise like authority over all places purchased by the consent of the legislature of the state in which the same shall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dockyards, and other needful buildings;--And

To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

From Adam Mazo & Misty Lesser, Uplander Project Co-founders

As this Fourth of July approaches we recognize that for many Native families this date is about community, service, honor and economic vitality. And at the same time it also represents a time of mourning and loss: of land, relatives, culture, lifeways, and language. So we remind ourselves that in this land now referred to as the United States, we are on Indigenous land.

You can find printable and shareable versions of these and other posters from dozens of locations across the continent at dawnland.org/take-action.

Upcoming Screenings **JULY 11** **Bethel, Maine**

with learning director Dr. Mishy Lesser and Maine-Wabanaki REACH Executive Director Maria Girouard (Penobscot)

AUGUST 1 **Boston, Massachusetts** **Museum of Fine Arts**

with filmmaker Adam Mazo, learning director Dr. Mishy Lesser, TRC commissioner gkisedtanamoogk (Mashpee Wampanoag), and senior adviser Chris Newell (Passamaquoddy)
Details at Dawnland.org/screenings

Uplander Academy

Our flagship teacher professional development experience, the Uplander Academy begins later this month. We're thrilled to be welcoming to Boston nearly 50 teachers and museum educators from across the country and beyond. For six days we will learn together about genocide and decolonization with extraordinary guest faculty. We send gratitude to all for taking time out of their summer to join us. And a big thanks to our hosts and partners Boston Public Schools, Akomawt Educational Initiative, Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate, Old State House, Leventhal Map Center at the Boston Public Library, Institute for New England Native American Studies, and Massachusetts Historical Society.

More thanks to our colleagues at Maine Historical Society for hosting us for a daylong teacher workshop last week with more than 20 southern Maine area educators. We were pleased to hear that teachers appreciate *Dawnland*, the teacher's guide, and the opportunity to learn how to use these resources more effectively with their students.

For those in the Portland area please check out the [Holding Up the Sky exhibit](#) at MHS pictured below. The exhibit "explores Wabanaki philosophies of leadership and obligation relating to humans and non-humans by highlighting 13,000 years of Wabanaki residence in what is now known as Maine."

Organizations can [rent or purchase](#) the DAWNLAND DVD from our partner Tugg Edu. Health centers, schools, universities, libraries, faith and community organizations, governmental entities, and anyone else who wants to share the film as a tool to teach, learn, engage in conversation, and take action can host a screening.

Measuring Biological Toll On Brain Function Of Holocaust Survivors
(which Holocaust? sdc)



New memorial honors Native Americans who served in military

An American Icon Finds a Safe Home at Lake Oroville

By CA Department of Water Resources, 7/2/19

It has been an active spring for bald eagles nesting in and around Lake Oroville and the Oroville Wildlife Area near the Feather River. Environmental scientists from the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Oroville Field Division are keeping an eye on seven nesting pairs of bald eagles, four of which are successfully raising a total of eight young eaglets. Chicks typically fledge – grow feathers and become strong enough to attempt flying – during the months of June and July. During their first several weeks of flight, fledglings still receive parental care, primarily through feeding.

Fourth of July Quiz: Can You Answer the Hardest Citizenship Test Questions?

By NICHOLAS BOGEL-BURROUGHS

Thousands of people will become American citizens around Independence Day. But first they had to pass a citizenship test. Could you do the same?



Facts about California Native American Tribes

Posted By [PowWows.com](https://www.powwows.com) July 1st, 2019 Blog

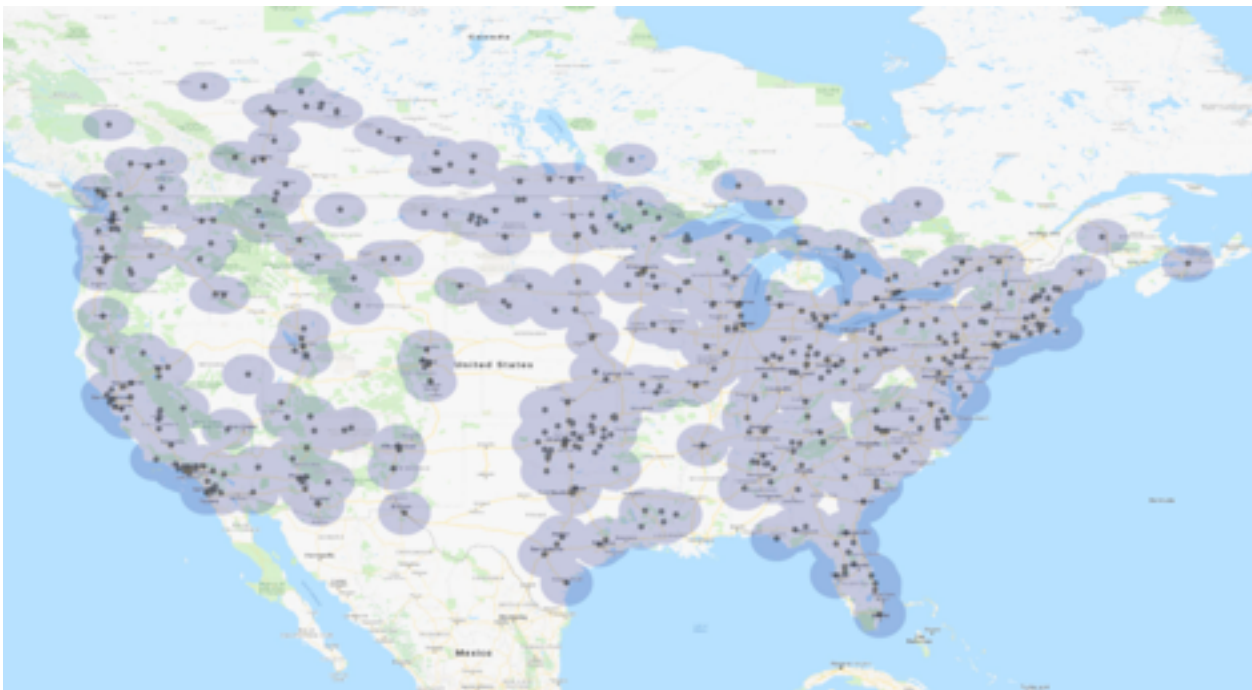
The Native American Tribes of California

There are 109 federally recognized Native American tribes in the state of California, more than 70 additional groups have petitioned for recognition. All have a unique history and culture.

Here are the names and quick highlights of some of these.

California is home to more people of Native American heritage than any other state. The list of California Native American tribes below gives you a starting point to learn more about the more than 100 tribes in the state. [Read More...](#)

And this map demonstrates the drums are “alive and well” in Indian Country.



Each dot represents a Pow Wow held in 2018 with a 100-mile circle. You can see there is a Pow Wow near you! [Read More..](#) from powwows.com

WOMEN IN INDEPENDENCE SPOTLIGHT



Nanyehi (Nancy Ward)
(ca 1738-1822)

Nanyehi was a female Cherokee warrior who served as an important intermediary between the Cherokee community, white settlers, and British troops during the Revolutionary War.

She worked extensively to promote peace among all parties and advocated for cooperation between the indigenous population and white settlers.

It's stories like these that we are working to preserve and share with future generations...



That's why we are working hard to make our vision of a world-class museum in Washington, D.C., a reality.

YOU ARE NEEDED TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN.

Your support today will bring us one step closer to a brick-and-mortar tribute honoring women's contributions for generations to come.

As we celebrate Independence Day, show your commitment to sharing these stories **with a gift of support today.**

CONTRIBUTE