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In 'a Huge Victory,' California's Joshua Tree Becomes the First Plant Protected Due to Climate Change Democracy is Indigenous Newsletter #2

Nevada Electric Highway

Scientists Find Virus Still Detectable After Six Days on Four Common Library Materials When Stacked Speak for Mining Reform in the Climate Conversation at State of NV's Climate Justice Listening Session Kaylon Henry (no more info at press time)

Darrel Bender " ' '



INDIAN NEEDS DISCUSSED — Senator Alan Bible, right, confers with Nevada Indian representatives in his office on major problems' facing the various reservations and colonies. The talks centered mainly on plans for a recreation development at Pyramid Lake and on progress of various utility and housing construction programs at Fort McDermitt, Pyramid Lake and Walker River reservations. Shown left to right with Bible are Dell Steve of Fallon, Allen Aleck of Nixon, Walter Voorhees of Schurz, Frank Quinn of Yerington and Stannard Frank of Schurz. All were in Washington in connection with disposition of Indian land claims.

2020 Statewide Virtual Summit: Ensuring Equitable Engagement in Regional Water Planning (Day 1)

As a follow up to the Spring Tribal Regional Water Management Series, the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority and the Local Government Commission are hosting a free statewide virtual Summit, with support from California Department of Water Resources.

Start: Thu 8 Oct 2020, 8:30 AM End: Thu 8 Oct 2020, 1:00 PM

2020 Statewide Virtual Summit: Ensuring Equitable Engagement in Regional Water Planning (Day 2)

As a follow up to the Spring Tribal Regional Water Management Series, the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority and the Local Government Commission are hosting a free statewide virtual Summit, with support from California Department of Water Resources.

Start: Tue 13 Oct 2020, 8:30 AM End: Tue 13 Oct 2020, 1:00 PM

2020 Statewide Virtual Summit: Ensuring Equitable Engagement in Regional Water Planning (Day 3)

As a follow up to the Spring Tribal Regional Water Management Series, the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority and the Local Government Commission are hosting a free statewide virtual Summit, with support from California Department of Water Resources.

Start: Wed 14 Oct 2020, 8:30 AM End: Wed 14 Oct 2020, 1:00 PM

Water Forum Virtual 20th Anniversary Symposium and Reception

Water forum addresses climate impacts on the Sacramento region's water supplies and the environment.

Start: Wed 14 Oct 2020, 1:00 PM End: Wed 14 Oct 2020, 5:00 PM



Native Pathways ·

Prepare for your internship search and applications with us on Wed, OCT 7 at 1pm MDT. Get all the tips and tricks from our corporate internship managers, and WIN SOME GREAT PRIZES! Join us at https://bit.ly/3kXxAEF #ThinkIndian #NativeAmerican #NativePathways #Internships

National Wildlife Refuge Week is October 11-17. Observed the second full week of October, the celebration highlights the great network of lands and waters that conserves and protects Americans' precious wildlife heritage. Nevada has 9 National Wildlife Refuges. Currently, we are seeking to add Wilderness protection to the roadless mountain ranges of the Desert National Wildlife Refuge which house a large population of bighorn sheep, Nevada's state animal. Join us in standing for permanent protection for the Desert Refuge by visiting https:// www.dontbombthebighorn.org.



Venture Down a VR Rabbit Hole With This Free 'Alice in Wonderland' Tour

The Victoria and Albert Museum will host a free, Lewis Carroll-inspired virtual reality experience on October 22

A still from "Curious Alice," which features original artwork by Kristjana S. Williams (Courtesy of the Victoria and Albert Museum)

By Nora McGreevy smithsonianmag.com October 1, 2020 7:00AM

Since Lewis Carroll's <u>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</u> debuted in 1865, the fantastical tale of a young girl who falls down a rabbit hole and ends up in an alternate universe has inspired countless retellings, from the classic <u>1951 Disney animated film</u> to a grown-up 2010 <u>Tim Burton version</u>, a <u>Cirque de Soleil show</u>, <u>theme park rides</u> and even an <u>Instagram adaptation</u>.

A new exhibition at the <u>Victoria and Albert Museum</u> (V&A) in London, "<u>Alice: Curiouser and Curioser</u>," will chart a century and a half of the story's cultural impact upon opening in March 2021. But Wonderland fans don't have to wait until next year to see the show: Thanks to a virtual reality (VR) exhibition launched by the museum and tech company <u>HTC Vive Arts</u>, audiences will soon be able to enjoy a sneak preview from the comfort of their own homes.

Dubbed "<u>Curious Alice</u>," the free, 45-minute-long VR experience is scheduled for 2 p.m. London time (9 a.m. Eastern time) on October 22. Participants can join through the VR platform <u>Engage</u> (<u>sign-up</u> is required ahead of time), or by logging on with a Windows PC or Android device. A live version of the event will also be available via the museum's <u>YouTube page</u>.

During the preview, users will wander through a virtual environment inspired by the museum's ornate 19th-century building, reports Aimée McLaughlin for <u>Creative Review</u>. A personal companion—a <u>white rabbit</u> similar to the one Alice encounters in her own fictional journey—will accompany visitors as they encounter visual effects including a "pool of tears" and a "hallway of doors," per a <u>statement</u>.



Still from "Curious Alice," a virtual reality experience launching on October 22 (Courtesy of the Victoria and Albert Museum)

The immersive landscape is based on digital collages by Icelandic artist <u>Kristjana S. Williams</u>. These illustrations will also decorate the in-person exhibition.

As Williams explains in a <u>V&A video</u>, she was inspired by the dreamlike qualities of Carroll's novel, as well as an array of 18th- and 19th-century prints in the V&A's collections.

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland has endured through the centuries to become one of the most popular works of English-language fiction in history. Carroll—whose real name was Charles Dodgson—originally told the story to Lorina, Alice and Edith Liddell, the daughters of one of his colleagues at Oxford University. At Alice's urging, Carroll wrote out the story by hand.

Try watching this video on www.youtube.com

Williams isn't the first artist to craft illustrations for the whimsical work. Political cartoonist John Tenniel <u>created 92 drawings</u> for the original 1865 edition of Carroll's novel; in subsequent years, Surrealist <u>Salvador Dalí</u> and polka-dot-obsessed contemporary <u>artist Yayoi Kusama</u> both crafted their own artistic renditions of the children's story.

Directly after the October premiere, the full "Curious Alice" experience will be made available for purchase for £3.99 (\$5.15 USD). At the physical exhibition in March, attendees will also have the chance to don headsets and explore an extended VR game based on Alice's famous topsy-turvy croquet match against the Queen of Hearts. The slate of programming marks the V&A's first foray into virtual events, according to the statement.

"Since their creation the *Alice* books, with their mind-blowing ideas and concepts, have been a source of inspiration for new technologies from silent film to CGI," says Kate Bailey, senior curator of theatre and performance, in the statement.

She adds, "Alice's impossible journey through a fantastical universe becomes possible in this exciting new creative platform. From rabbit holes to mirrors, flamingoes to hedgehogs, [W]onderland is the perfect world for VR."

"Alice: Curiouser and Curiouser" opens at the V&A in London on March 27, 2021.

(<u>sign-up</u> is required ahead of time), or by logging on with a Windows PC or Android device. A live version of the event will also be available via the museum's <u>YouTube page</u>.

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The World's First Happiness Museum Opens in Denmark

The Nordic country is consistently ranked among the planet's happiest https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/worlds-first-happiness-museum-opens-denmark-180975960/?

<u>utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20201001-daily-responsive&spMailingID=43593912&spUserID=OTYyNTc5MzkyMTQyS0&spJobID=1860096367&spReportId=MTg2MDA5NjM2NwS2</u>

Which Species Shed the First Fossil Feather Ever Found Initially discovered in the 1800s, researchers argue that the 150-million-year-old plume came from the fluttering dinosaur Archaeopteryx

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/new-study-reignites-debate-over-which-species-shed-first-fossil-ever-found-180975962/?

<u>utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20201001-daily-responsive&spMailingID=43593912&spUserID=OTYyNTc5MzkyMTQyS0&spJobID=1860096</u> 367&spReportId=MTg2MDA5NjM2NwS2

This is a Ribbon Flying Snake. Isn't he gorgeous?





In 'a Huge Victory,' California's Joshua Tree Becomes the First Plant Protected Due to Climate Change

Experts say that climate change will decimate the population of Joshua trees, but California is taking action



Adult Joshua trees—which can live for 150 years on average

—sprouted when temperatures were about 1 degree Celsius cooler than today. (<u>Pixabay user nightowl under free for commercial use license</u>)

By Rasha Aridi

smithsonianmag.com

October 1, 2020 7:30AM

Joshua trees, famous for adorning the desertscapes of the southwestern United States, have existed in the Mojave Desert for 2.5 million years. Despite prevailing through many cycles of ice ages and warming periods, a <u>study</u> from last year suggests that at the current rate of climate change, only 0.02 percent of Joshua trees' habitat will remain by the end of the century.

?

Now, the Center for Biological Diversity filed a petition under California's Endangered Species Act to protect Joshua trees, making it the first plant species to be protected in the state due to the threats posed by climate change, reports Vivian Ho for *The Guardian*.

In a historic vote, California's Fish and Game Commission accepted the petition and placed the plant under protection for one year while they conduct research. After that period, they will vote again to decide if the protection should be made permanent, reports Dharna Noor for *Gizmodo*. If so, state and local agencies will develop a species recovery plan and decide the best strategy to protect the plant from climate change and industrial development. But for the next year at least, it will be illegal to damage, cut down, or remove a Joshua tree without special permits, reports NPR's Lulu Garcia-Navarro.

"This is a huge victory for these beautiful trees and their fragile desert ecosystem," Brendan Cummings, the conservation director for the Center for Biological Diversity and the author of the petition, says in a <u>statement</u>. "If Joshua trees are to survive the inhospitable climate we're giving them, the first and most important thing we can do is protect their habitat. This decision will do that across most of their range."

Conservationists are already seeing drastic changes in the population of Joshua trees, one of which is slower reproduction. The adult trees, which can live for 150 years on average, that exist currently sprouted when temperatures were about 1 degree Celsius cooler than it is today. But droughts in the southwest have left the soil too dry to support the growth of saplings, which have shallow roots that cannot reach water deep underground. But even if world leaders took drastic climate change measures now, up to 80 percent of Joshua trees will be lost by the end of the century, Cummings tells NPR.

Climate change isn't just devastating the population of Joshua trees—it's also transforming the landscape. In August, the Dome Fire blazed through the Mojave National Preserve and scorched more than 43,000 acres of Joshua tree habitat.

"No doubt the fire spread was assisted by the unusually dry vegetation resulting from a warming climate and frequent drought," James Cornett, a desert ecologist, tells the <u>Desert Sun</u>.

The severity of the fires was exacerbated by invasive grasses; instead of one tree catching fire and burning, the grasses act as fuel and spread the blaze across the desert, which has "completely changed the fire regimes in the Mojave," Cummings tells NPR.

"Right now, it's a symbol of our utter failure as a society to address climate change. I'd like to think it can become a symbol of us coming together," Cummings tells *The Guardian*.



Democracy is Indigenous Newsletter #2

Spotlighting Success: Organizing in a Pandemic

How Two Centers Are Connecting with the Native Swing Vote in Minnesota

- American Indian OIC & Native American Community Development Institute

Residing in the heart of the Native American Corridor in downtown Minneapolis, American Indian OIC and the Native American Community Development Institute (NACDI) have been working tirelessly to register voters and motivate the Native swing vote.

The two organizations partnered together for a successful National Voter Registration Day event, which featured a walk-up Indian Taco bar and resource drive that drew more than 200 new voters. They have also planned a weekly 'Democracy and Donuts' table, handing out snacks and literature about voting every Wednesday.

While the organizations are working together on many projects, they are also focused on their own initiatives. For NACDI, they are focusing to engage with the housing insecure populations that are so often overlooked. This means helping them create vote plans, making sure they are registered, and ensuring that their ballot can be cast. For American Indian OIC, they are making sure to implement civic engagement 101 materials with all their employment services, one of their main functions. They are also helping people map out vote plans, to make sure they can safely vote and are also offering transportation to the polls for those that want it.

"We've been serving the community here since 1979, so we've built a strong familial bond with this region over the decades," said Stephanie Nick, the Assistant Director at American Indian OIC. "Once you become a part of the family, you're in. It's why our voter outreach is so special in this community."



Bringing the Vote to the Community - American Indians In Texas

n the heart of Texas, the American Indians in Texas (ATI) decided that the best way to spread the word about the election safely was to bring the message right to the community. For this, they organized a Democracy is Indigenous car parade, marching through San Antonio neighborhood's with a conch, drum, care packages, and information about the most important election in the country's history



The parade was strategically designed to run through the neighborhoods with the highest population of indigenous people in the east and southside of San Antonio. It was also coordinated with the city, which provided the caravan with a police escort to help them stay safe and limit traffic. As the energy of the parade flowed into the neighborhood, the organizers saw people come out to cheer them on and learn more.

"One of the best things about this parade is that we're reaching people who would not normally come to one of our traditional events" said Maximo Anguiano, a Communications Consultant with AIT. "We brought the message and the energy straight to their neighborhoods. You saw kids that had been cooped up inside for weeks coming out to celebrate with us!"

Over the three hours of the parade, the half dozen cars interacted with hundreds of people and provided them with masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, and literature about registering to vote. The success of the event has motivated AIT to plan two more parades over the last 33 days of the election. By going to where the people are, the AIT is showing why they are the bedrock of the indigenous community in Texas.

"AIT has a longstanding presence in San Antonio, it's one that people trust and know they can ask for help," said Anguiano. "They know when we come, we are here to help the community and are not just looking for a vote. Our work comes from a positive space, we are there to nourish the community.

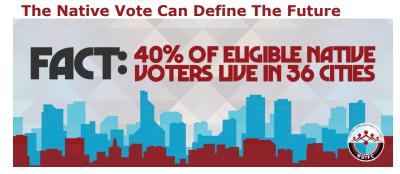
Democracy is Indigenous in the News

- <u>Street Parade In San Antonio Hopes To Raise Native American Participation In Upcoming Election</u> *Texas Public Radio*
- Making the Native Voice Heard NBA.com OKC Thunder Press

 NUIFC elevates civic power of urban Natives through Census and voter outreach - Group Health Foundation

What is the Democracy is Indigenous Newsletter?

With the most consequential election of our lives 33 days away, the NUIFC wants to take some time each week to share the work our Cohort is doing to make history. This newsletter will be a space to uplift the grassroots work our partner centers are doing during the most ambitious Urban Indian Get Out the Vote campaign in history. We look forward to bringing this inspiring work right to your inbox every week.



The National Urban Indian Family Coalition | 100 N Bowdoin Place, 100 N Bowdoin Place, Seattle , WA 98103

Scientists Find Virus Still Detectable After Six Days on Four Common Library Materials When Stacked

Nevada Electric Highway

The Nevada Electric Highway (NEH) is a program that began as a partnership between the Governor's Office of Energy (GOE) and NV Energy to expand the state's electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure by placing charging stations at cost-effective and strategic locations, initially along U.S. 95 between Reno and Las Vegas.

Nevada's Strategic Planning Framework established the goal to complete an "electric highway" system serving the entire state by 2020, building on the initial plan to install publicly available EV fast-charging infrastructure along U.S. Highway 95 between Reno and Las Vegas (NEH Phase I).

The NEH initiative aims to achieve this goal through partnership with the Nevada Department of Transportation, Nevada's electric utilities, and private commercial host sites. Each station

incentivized by the GOE in Phase I includes two Level 2 charging ports and one Direct Current



(DC) fast charger.

Phase II

In the second phase of the project, the GOE is partnering with a number of electric utilities, including NV Energy, to complete the EV charging infrastructure deployment on the State's remaining major interstate and highway corridors including I-15, I-80, U.S. 93, and U.S. 50, and the remainder of U.S. 95. Phase II development began in 2017 with the completion of the EV charging station in Panaca along U.S. 93. Phase II charger requirements are similar to Phase I in that it includes a minimum of two chargers. Phase II, however, allows that both be Direct Current (DC) fort chargers. For a complete list of the sites and a map of the Newada Electric (DC) fast chargers. For a complete list of the sites and a map of the Nevada Electric

Action Alert: Speak for Mining Reform in the Climate Conversation at State of NV's Climate Justice Listening Session on Tues., Oct. 6th, @ 2:30P **Background:**

The connection between mining and climate change is strong and multi-faceted. In our work at GBRW, we are seeing a rise in mining projects in the Great Basin for materials needed in renewable energy technologies (and their consequences), and we have a precise awareness of the way this is heightening the need for mining reform and accountability.

As an organization that works with communities to protect ecosystems and culture from the harmful effects of mining, we would like to stress just how much of climate justice (and possibilities for deep injustice) is connected to how we treat mining during our attempt to address climate change. We must think about mining reform if we want to ensure that our work to combat anthropogenic climate change does not unintentionally cause species to go extinct, destroy cultural resources and disregard Tribal sovereignty, use exorbitant amounts of our precious and limited groundwater, create systematic water inequity in rural areas, or unnecessarily destroy the desert ecosystems that are pivotal in our state's natural defense against climate change itself. The materials needed for our transition away from fossil fuels come from somewhere, and very often this somewhere is within Nevada...and to avoid stark inequities in burden-carrying and the perpetuation of deep environmental injustice, we need to be mindful of who is paying the price for our new technologies. Mining justice is climate justice.

Now is a pivotal moment to let the State of Nevada know the deep importance of mining reform in relation to climate change, since they are currently in the process of holding listening sessions with the pulic to develop Nevada's climate strategy. More about the State's Climate Initiative process can be found here: https:// climateaction.nv.gov/our-strategy/#listening

How You Can be an Advocate for Mining Justice in the Climate Conversation:

We would like to invite and greatly encourage anyone who is interested to please speak at the

State of NV's climate justice listening session on October 6th from 2:30 to 4 PM about climate change's connection to mining and the deep need of mining reform in Nevada at this present moment.

Register for the listening session here!
(must do so before midnight on Oct. 5th)
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/
1FAIpQLScRKrcdSKAhrsvAzkN9gxHBn6hUU6n5GlcnxCvwS4w3RLHY4g/viewform

If you do register for the listening session, it would be great if you could also let me know (through emailing chelsey@gbrw.org) so that I can go over talking points with you and instructions for the event. We are also asking that if you are planning on speaking, wear red to show solidarity with those of us who will be there from Great Basin Resource Watch and the Nevada Environmental Justice Coalition that we are a member of. Also note, while registering, it would be best if you filled out the form as a general member of the public (and not delineating your association with GBRW as an organization). However, while speaking in the session itself, it's great if you want to mention that you are a part of Great Basin Resource Watch! If you would like to hear our perspective on the mining and climate justice intersection in greater depth, or if you would like to hear our main points to use in your own comments at the listening session, find GBRW's official full climate justice statement here: http://gbrw.org/2020/10/02/gbrws-climate-justice-statement/

If you have any concerns or any questions, or if you would like assistance in signing up for the climate justice listening session, please contact chelsey@gbrw.org or john@gbrw.org



Zhongshuge Bookstore