

***Journal #4786      from sdc      10.13.20***  
***Aunties of Australia***  
***Indigenous Day Celebrations***

***From an article wherein a young coed had some unfortunate experiences in prior schools:***

Okay, now for the more uplifting story! While studying at the Australia program in the Spring 2012, we ended our semester with a Bushcamp experience with some of the local Aboriginal tribe on their traditional ancestral lands for 4-5 days. It was a very family friendly and multi-generational experience. We were 12 students, 11 female identifying and 1 male identifying. It was a very relaxed and safe vibe.

On our last night some of the Aboriginal crew in the 20s invited some friends out to the site where we were camped at night, to hangout around the fire. They were drinking, but it was still a mellow vibe. I went to bed early, other students stayed up later. In the middle of the night I was rudely awakened by one of the invited friends shaking my tent, saying "hey sis, you awake". I awoke in a panic and PTSD freeze response. At first I didn't answer, but he kept shaking my tent and moving closer, getting more aggressive saying "hey sis, you wanna fuck?".

I did my best to force some words out "I'm not interested, please leave me alone." Eventually he got the memo and stumbled away. I was too scared/shocked to do anything, so I stayed silent in my tent. When I woke up in the morning, I noticed that my female peers also looked disturbed and bewildered. We started whispering among ourselves, "did you get rudely awakened last night?" Soon we learned that the majority of us had had the same experience and none of us got out of our tents to go alert the faculty.

But now that we realized it wasn't an isolated incident, we told the faculty that were with us, who both took it seriously and said they would need to tell the Aunties (who are responsible for upholding cultural law) what had happened.

Once the Aunties were informed, they first made sure the friend that had harassed us was gone (they also banned him from ever returning to that site) and they also isolated their nephews who had invited the friends from the rest of the camp, since they were responsible for inviting and enabling this friend and his behavior.

Then the Aunties first invited all of us young women (whether or not we were directly harassed) into a circle to share our feelings and experiences, so we could name our harm our hurt and not keep it inside to fester. Many tears were shed, for me this was the first time I really felt safe and taken seriously since my experience in India, so that was hugely healing for me.

Next, they invited the men into our circle to listen and share their feelings and support, that was also really moving, because they expressed their sorrow for their lack of awareness and ability to better support us in the moment.

Finally, the nephews were made to come formally apologize to us for being bystanders. Their shame and sincerity was palpable. They knew they had done wrong.

Of course, if I zoom out and look at the broader cultural, historical context of this event-- hundreds of years of raping, pillaging and violence against Aboriginal peoples and their lands through colonization and white supremacy and how this continues to play out today through ongoing racist ideologies, policies and inter-generational trauma, then yes of course this event becomes more complex.

This is something I've spent a lot of time educating myself more about.

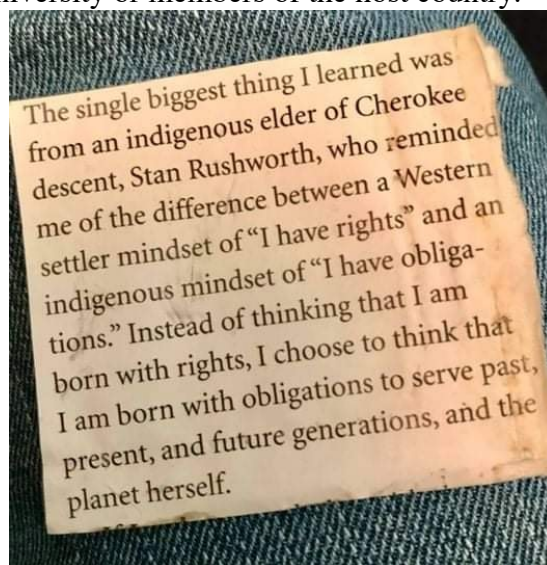
And, for the Aunties, it did not excuse the seriousness of the behavior, this was a serious violation of natural and cultural law and needed to be treated as such.

I know for me, this offers a potent example of processes of accountability and healing that have been largely lost in the Western world. Restorative justice and circle processes are gaining more popularity and is something I think XXXXXX could look at implementing more formally in their grievance processes.

Maybe it's not for everyone, but more me, this was one of the most powerful experiences of my whole life and having had the experience of violation, got a visceral first-hand experience and empathy into the reality for so many oppressed groups and lands.

I learned a lot about the destruction of sacred-feminine sites in Australia and came to understand how intrinsically linked patriarchy, capitalism and colonialism are, as well as how linked violence towards the earth and violence towards the feminine are, whether your in a female, male or gender diverse body.

So, I am grateful for this experience and offer it as a counter-narrative to all the stories where we felt let down by the university or members of the host country.



*I don't know why people send announcements the day of an event....or a day after, but here's some information that should have been here last week.....sdc*

## **Here's What's Going On in Indian Country**

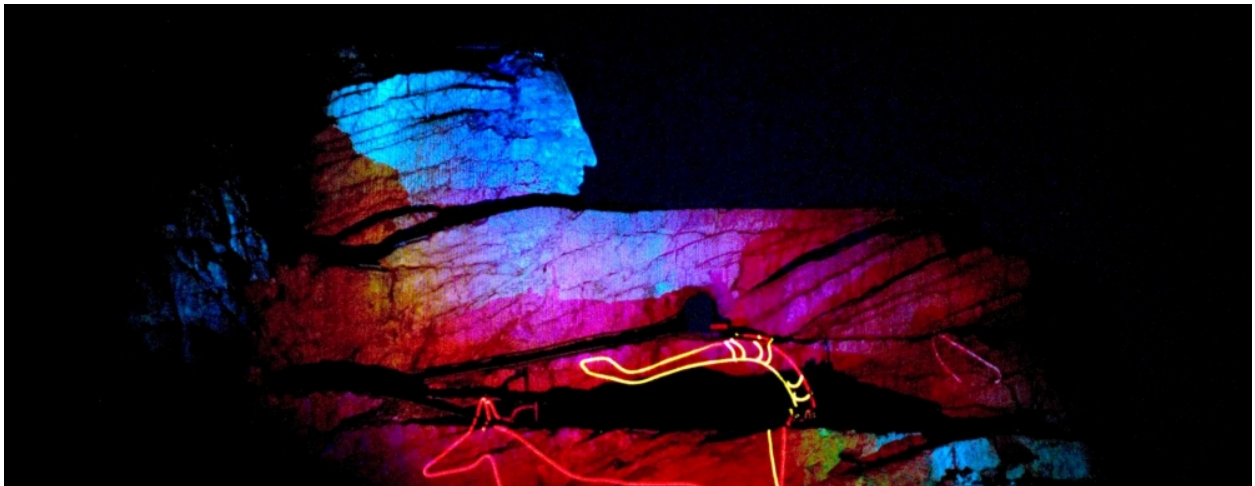


The Crazy Horse Memorial in Crazy Horse, South Dakota. ([blackhillsbadlands.com](http://blackhillsbadlands.com))

By Tamara Ikenberg October 08, 2020

This weekend and next week, there are hundreds of ways to celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day, aka Native American Day, throughout real-world and virtual Indian Country.

Monday Oct. 12 is the official day, but events are occurring all weekend. *Native News Online* has selected a handful of unique holiday happenings to help you plan your perfect Indigenous Peoples' Day.



The Crazy Horse Memorial in Crazy Horse, South Dakota, during a laser light show. ([blackhillsbadlands.com](http://blackhillsbadlands.com))

**Crazy Horse Memorial's Native Americans' Day Celebration**

**WHEN: Monday, Oct. 12, 10 a.m. MDT**

**WHERE: Crazy Horse Memorial, [12151 Avenue of the Chiefs](https://www.crazyhorsememorial.org) Crazy Horse, SD; [crazyhorsememorial.org](https://www.crazyhorsememorial.org)**

At the Crazy Horse Memorial, celebrants will enjoy Native singing and dancing, special displays, a hearty buffalo stew lunch, and the presentation of the annual Crazy Horse Memorial Educator of the Year Award, all under the majestic mountain carving of the legendary Oglala Lakota warrior

“Crazy Horse Memorial’s Native Americans’ Day celebration gives us the opportunity to take a moment to recognize the differences, and also the similarities, among people,” said Monique Ziolkowski, Crazy Horse Memorial’s chief executive officer, in a press release. “We are blessed to be able to be a part of many cultures.”

This year’s Educator of The Year award winner is Jill D. Kessler, an enrolled member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe who works as a certified school counselor at Cheyenne-Eagle Butte High



This year's virtual Tulsa Native American Day includes a virtual art market starting on Sunday, Oct. 11. (Tulsa Native American Day Facebook page)  
School in Eagle Butte, South Dakota.

Admission to the Memorial will be waived on Oct. 12 with a donation of three cans of food per person. Without the donation, regular admission rates of \$12 per person will apply.

### **Tulsa Native American Day Virtual Art Market**

**WHEN:** Sunday, Oct. 11 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.; Monday, Oct. 12, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. CDT **WHERE:**

Check Facebook [event page](#) for details.

Add

some shopping to your celebration list at the first Tulsa Native American Day Virtual Art Market, hosted by [Oklahoma Indian Festival](#) and [Tulsa Native American Day](#). Artists will share their stories and sell their work during the event, which will feature live interactions via Zoom with artists and vendors, is the prelude to Tulsa Native American Day.

### **Alaska Indigenous Peoples’ Day Celebration**

**WHEN:** Monday, Oct.12, 11 a.m – 12:30 p.m. PDT **WHERE:** Check Facebook [event page](#) for details.



Sovereign Bill, the voice of Molly Mabray on "Molly of Denali," will be part of Alaska's virtual Indigenous Peoples' Day Celebration. (Molly of Denali Facebook page)



Experience Indigenous Peoples' Day, Alaska style, at a virtual celebration presented by organizations including Alaska Pacific University, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, and the Alaska Native Heritage Center.

Participants will have the pleasure of virtually meeting Tlingit and Muckleshoot artist and community organizer Sovereign Bill, the voice of Molly Mabray on the PBS Kids series "Molly of Denali." Sovereign Bill will emcee the celebration along with Alaska Native linguist Rochelle Adams (Gwich'in).

The event will also feature a performance by Yup'ik musician Martin Paul and appearances by Alaska luminaries like Alaska State Writer Laureate Ernestine Saankalaxt' Hayes (Tlingit), and Anchorage Mayor Ethan Berkowitz.

### **Heard Museum Indigenous Peoples' Day Celebration**

**WHEN:** Saturday, Oct. 10, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. PDT

**WHERE:** Heard Museum, 2301 N Central Ave. Phoenix, AZ; <https://heard.org>



Santa Fe Indian Center will host Indigenous Peoples' Day celebration at The Motorama at Downs Santa Fe on Monday, Oct. 12. (Santa Fe Indian Center)

Part virtual, part in-person, the Heard's take on Indigenous Peoples' Day features an outside musical performance by Grammy nominated artist, Aaron White (Navajo/Northern Ute), the opening of the "Behind the Mask: Indigenous Artists Speak Out" installation, and a virtual screening of the newly released film, "Gather," a documentary about cultural identity and food sovereignty.

### **Indigenous Peoples Day at Motorama**

**WHEN:** Monday October 12, 3:30 p.m. MDT

WHERE: Motorama at The Downs Santa Fe, 27475 W Frontage Rd, Santa Fe, NM Tickets are \$15. Order [here](#). There will be no on-site tickets sold.

What does Santa Fe Indian Center have in store for Indigenous Peoples' Day?

A night at the movies, complemented with performances by Pueblo of Pojoaque Youth Hoop Dancers, Diné singer Nadine Oglesby, Indigenous dance company Dancing Earth, and more.

At 7 p.m. there will be a screening of "Neither Wolf Nor Dog" a 2016 film about a Lakota Elder who enlists a white writer to help him produce a book about his people.



### **A Conversation About Indigenous Identity & Solidarity Today**

**WHEN:** Monday, Oct. 12, 3 p.m. - 4 p.m..

**WHERE:** Facebook [event page](#)

In the new children's book ["The Journey of the Freckled Indian,"](#) an Indigenous schoolgirl named Freckles connects with her Tlingit heritage. You can learn more about her journey, and the work of Tlingit author Alyssa London at a book launch event and special celebration of Indigenous Peoples' Day. London will be joined by the book's illustrator Monica Ricker-Bolter, (daughter of Native News Online publisher Levi Rickert) and Northwest formline artist Preston Singletary, who provided the book's Pacific Northwest Coast formline art. The creative team will discuss modern indigenous identity and solidarity with Debra Yepa-Pappan, Community Engagement Coordinator at Chicago's Field Museum."

### **Support Independent Indigenous Journalism**

Native News Online is an independent, Indigenous-led newsroom with a crucial mission: **We want to change the narrative about Indian Country.** We do this by producing intelligent, fact-based journalism that tells the full story from all corners of Indian Country. We pride ourselves on covering the tribes you may have never heard of before and by respecting and listening to the communities we serve through our reporting. As newsrooms across the country continue to shrink, coverage of Indian Country is more important than ever, and we are committed to filling this ever-present hole in journalism.

Because we believe everyone in Indian Country deserves equal access to news and commentary pertaining to them, their relatives and their communities, the story you've just finished was free — and we want to keep it that way, for all readers. But we hope it inspires you to make a gift to *Native News Online* so that we can continue publishing more stories that make a difference to Native people, whether they live on or off the reservation. Your donation will help us keep producing quality journalism and elevating

Indigenous voices. Any contribution of any amount, big or small, gives us a better, stronger future and allows us to remain a force for change. **Donate to Native News Online today and support independent Indigenous journalism. Thank you.**

About The Author



Tamara Ikenberg

Tamara Ikenberg is a contributing writer to Native News Online. She covers tribes throughout the southwest as well as Native arts, culture and entertainment. She can be reached at [tamara@nativenewsonline.net](mailto:tamara@nativenewsonline.net).

Other articles by Tamara Ikenberg

- [Artists Are Producing Pro-Voting Images With Native Values and Design in Mind](#)
- [The Age of Online Art Markets: Native Artists and Organizers Are Adapting Their Craft and Marketing for Virtual Success](#)
- [Here's What's Going On in Indian Country](#)
- [Rocky Boy Reservation's Annual Fashion Extravaganza Set to Mask Up and Go Virtual](#)

## Governor says Indigenous Peoples' Day to be celebrated in 2020

Gov. Doug Ducey signed a proclamation recognizing the 'historic injustices suffered by Indigenous people.'

by [Emma Gibson](#)



Andrew Brown

Gov. Doug Ducey announced Tuesday he has signed a [proclamation](#) to recognize Oct. 12, 2020, as Indigenous Peoples' Day.

State Sen. Jamescita Peshlakai and a youth-led advocacy group, [Indigenous Peoples' Initiative](#), are the main drivers of the effort to end Columbus Day and establish Indigenous Peoples' Day in Arizona. Dylan Baca, who is White Mountain Apache and Navajo, is the group's 18-year-old president.

"This whole day is significant for me cause it works to try to eliminate the stereotypes and stigmatism [sic] associated with Indigenous peoples and tribes," said Baca, speaking of Indigenous Peoples' Day. ccurred.

[Try watching this video on www.youtube.com](#)

Peshlakai called on the governor to establish the state holiday using his executive powers during President Donald Trump's visit to Phoenix in June. She said she aims to introduce a bill to make the change permanent in the 2021 legislative session.

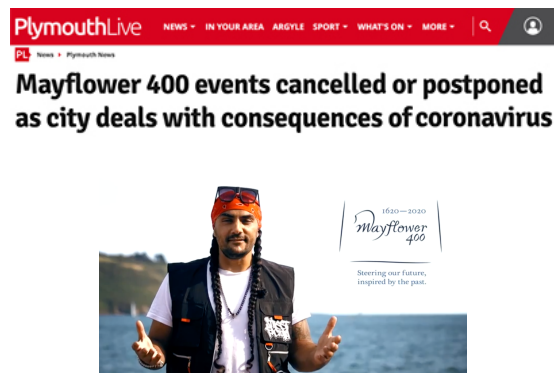
"I'm grateful to our governor for signing this proclamation," Peshlakai said. "The story of Indigenous peoples in America is often invisible or ignored. And so it is important that as Americans we find the opportunity to celebrate the histories, cultures and resiliency of the people who comprise the 573 tribal nations who live today within the United States."

Oct. 12 is commonly celebrated as Columbus Day, honoring the legacy of Christopher Columbus, whose arrival in the Americas resulted in the genocide of many Indigenous people.

"The proclamation signed by Governor Ducey shows us that bipartisanship is possible and by working together we can accomplish things," Baca said.

## NEWS OF TRIBAL JUSTICE AND WE STILL LIVE HERE

My last full newsletter went out on March 10th, joyously recapping screenings in Taiwan, Hawaii, and across the U.S., and announcing the theatrical release of **Thousand Pieces of Gold**, outreach screenings of **Tribal Justice**, and museum showings of **We Still Live Here** in the UK.



All those plans ground to a halt two days later, when everything changed. Some of the screenings happened virtually. Others were postponed or dropped altogether. But now I'm pleased to send you good news about **Tribal Justice** and **We Still Live Here**.

**Tribal Justice - Taiwan TV and Tour**



This fall, [Tribal Justice](#) is set to tour Taiwan as part of the Taiwan International Ethnographic Film Festival's Screening Extension Tour. In-person screenings and discussions are planned at Sun Yat-sen University, Niumatou Cultural Park, Dong Hwa University, and seven other venues around the country. I wish I could be there!



For those who can't attend in person, [Tribal Justice](#) will have a national broadcast on Taiwan's premiere television station, TITV, date TBD.

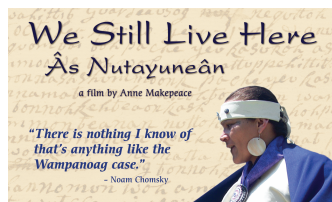
### [We Still Live Here](#) Travels to the UK



After postponing plans to open last spring, The Box Museum in Plymouth, England, opened just last week with their *Mayflower 400: Legend and Legacy* exhibit commemorating the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower's journey from Plymouth, England, to the New World.



[We Still Live Here](#) will screen repeatedly at The Box during the exhibit, entertaining and educating viewers from around the world about the Wampanoag people who welcomed a tattered band of immigrants to Turtle Island.



### *Jessie Little Doe Baird in [We Still Live Here](#)*

Exhibition materials urge visitors to "Forget everything you thought you knew about the Mayflower... the exhibition will debunk myths and explore how one ship connects four nations

over 400 years.” The four nations are England, the US, Holland, and of course the Wampanoag nation.



Co-Curator Jo Loosemore at The Box Museum decoding the story in a Wampanoag wampum belt

Co-curator Jo Loosemore and the Museum staff are taking every precaution to make their inaugural exhibit a safe and exciting experience.

### **We Still Live Here - Closer to Home**

The Karuna Center in Amherst, Massachusetts, is organizing a Zoom screening and Q&A as part of a dialogue series called *Erasure and Restoration: An Exploration of Past and Present in the Kwinitekw Valley's Indigenous Communities*.



The Center's mission is to "foster reconciliation, interrupt cycles of violence, and strengthen community resilience." I am very pleased that they will use [We Still Live Here](#) to demonstrate the importance of language in restoring indigenous cultures. *Date and time TBD.*

### **USA Today Honors - Jessie Little Doe Baird**

USA Today recently named Jessie Little Doe Baird, the extraordinary Wampanoag linguist featured in [We Still Live Here](#), as one of the 100 most influential women of the century since the



The language had gone quiet. Remarkably, she brought it back, saving far more than just words

Nicole Carroll, USA TODAY  
Updated 2:59 p.m. EDT Aug. 27, 2020

passage of the 19th Amendment.

**Jessie Little Doe Baird, MacArthur winning Wampanoag linguist featured in *We Still Live Here*** Also on the list are Madeleine Albrecht, Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, and 96 other trailblazing women.

**From:** ["Paul G - PowWows.com"](#) <[newsletter@powwows.com](mailto:newsletter@powwows.com)&... [Edit Address Book]

## **Subject: Happy Indigenous Peoples Day**



Indigenous Peoples Day is a celebration of the cultures of those people who were here before Europeans arrived on the shores of the Americas.

Throughout the Americas, countries celebrate Columbus Day, but in some areas, there is a movement to change that day to Indigenous People's Day. In Canada, however, this day, acknowledging and celebrating the profound contributions and sacrifices of native peoples.

### **In the USA – Columbus Day becomes Indigenous People's Day**

Columbus Day, the holiday created to celebrate the arrival of [Christopher Columbus](#) arrived in North America, was celebrated as far back as 1792, 300 years after the Italian explorer landed in the Caribbean. Over the years, it was celebrated throughout the Americas, including the United States and Canada.

As a footnote, oddly Columbus Day itself was created to battle discrimination. Italian-Americans were discriminated against, even with a federal commission in 1911 issuing a report that criminality was genetic among Italians. Upon gaining some political power, they pushed for a holiday that celebrated an Italian (Columbus was alleged from Genoa) to overcome some of the discrimination.

### **How to celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day**

There are many ways to celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day, whether it's in the US as a replacement for Columbus Day or on the Summer Solstice in Canada.

1. Participate in a [cultural appreciation](#) event – There are often events that celebrate the cultures of the First Nations, as the indigenous people are often referred to. Things like powwows and parades occur all over North America. Many people worry that this is “cultural appropriation,” but organized events should avoid this problem.

2. Donate to indigenous peoples' rights organizations – The people of the First Nations struggle to keep their rights and be treated as equals by individuals and governments at every level. A donation to one of these organizations can be used to help affirm those rights and help native peoples achieve the equality they deserve.
3. Be a part of the activism – There are a steady stream of events to protest the trampling of indigenous peoples' rights, unfortunately (it would be better if they weren't needed). Join those protesters and activists in helping to affirm the rights of native peoples.
4. Disavow Columbus Day – It's not enough to celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day; you need to let the world know that you refuse to celebrate Columbus Day for what it means. It represents the first day of a genocide that has continued for over 500 years. Post it on social media, tell others, even put a bumper sticker on your car. Make it clear that you're not proud of how your European ancestors behaved and the things that they did.
5. Purchase Native American art – There are some amazing artists in the native communities of the Americas. Purchasing art from these artists can put money into native economies and help support native families. It's the most direct way to help improve the lives of individuals.
6. Read a book – There are a huge number of books about the lives and trials of the native peoples of North America. Here is a list of books you can read (then donate them to your local library or put them on the shelf at a coffee shop):
7. **Promote Indigenous Peoples' Day where you live** – If you live in a place where Columbus Day is still celebrated, push for your city, county, or state to recognize the indigenous peoples who used to live there, and, in most of North America, are still nearby. Talk to civic leaders, start a petition, and promote a formal recognition of Indigenous Peoples' Day.

[Learn more](#)

## [Christopher Columbus: How The Explorer's Legend Grew—and Then Drew Fire](#)

Columbus's famed voyage to the New World was celebrated by Italian-Americans, in particular, as a pathway to their own acceptance in America.

[READ MORE](#)



Happy Indigenous People's Day!

This beautiful print is by Dana Tiger, inspired by the women's drum, the Mankillers