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Meet Rylan Sprague

Smithsonian Open

Alexander von Humboldt and the United States

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Melanie Nadeau is feeling hopeful

L.A.'s only Indigenous school helps return land to California's Native population

Stolen lands, justice deferred: An Indigenous Californian dreams of a united front on reparations

New highway signs feature Dakota language in southwest Minnesota

Three San Diego County tribes receive more than \$3 million from EPA for recycling

US touts new era of collaboration with Native American tribes to manage public lands and water

UNR professor develops interactive CPR module to help student athletes

Earn eagle feathers not prison sentences!

Grant Station

Native American Exhibit - Minneapolis Institute of Art

The Eleven Steps for Archive Addiction

They fought a big water company and won

Bid underway to win accreditation for tribal college

Indigenous peoples' dissenting views on Arctic drilling fuels debate

What's in a Name?

How does climate change threaten where you live? A region-by-region guide.

Honor Cheyenne & Arapaho people by renaming 75,000-acre preserve the Mount Blue Sky Wilderness



A Visit to Big Warm Spring, Duckwater Shoshone Reservation

[Our Generation BlackHills- He Sapa Wicouncage Okolakiciye Mount Rushmore National Memorial](#)



My name is Rylan Sprague, and I'm a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe (Mnicoujou). I grew up in Rapid City, South Dakota and earned my degrees of Bachelor of Science in Biology and Master of Science in Sustainability from Black Hills State University. My position title at Mount Rushmore is Integrated Resource Program Manager. To say that another way, I manage the Natural and Cultural resource programs at the Memorial. Natural resources include Botany, Wildlife, Hydrology, and Geology – while Cultural resources pertain largely to Archaeology and our Museum program. My background is heavy on Botany, and Ethnobotany is a passion of mine as I enjoy harvesting edible and medicinal plants from the region. Prior to joining the Mount Rushmore team, I was a Natural Resource Specialist for the Bureau of Land Management and a Botanist for the US Forest Service for a combined 10 years. One thing I love about my job is having the ability to contribute to management decisions in the Black Hills.

The Black Hills are sacred and there are many ways people can make positive change. This is my path.

NPS Photo/ A. Rimstidt

[#NativeAmericanHeritageMonth](#) [#NAHM2023](#) [#CultureBearers](#) [#MountRushmore](#)
[#MyParkStory](#) [#FindYourPark](#) [#EncuentraTuParque](#) [#MidwestNPS](#)

Smithsonian Open

Download, share and reuse millions of the Smithsonian's images from the Smithsonian's 21 museums, nine research centers, libraries, archives and the National Zoo. The tools you need to create, imagine and discover are right at your fingertips. si.edu/openaccess.

Alexander von Humboldt and the United States:

Art, Nature and Culture

Take a trip with Alexander von Humboldt, a famous 19th -century naturalist, as he tries to better understand the complexities of our world through beautiful and intricate works of art. go.si.edu/Humboldt

Navajo Tech is the first tribal university to offer a PhD program

The program at Navajo Technical University will be dedicated to sustaining Diné culture and language. Diné is the Navajo word meaning “the people” and is commonly what tribal members call themselves.



December 16, 2022

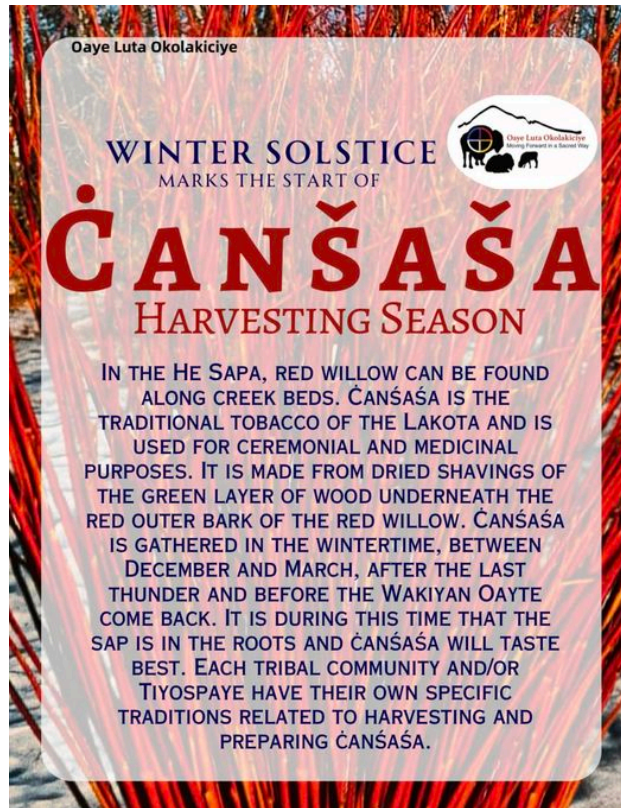
https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/navajo-tech-first-tribal-university-offer-phd-program-rcna76717?cid=sm_npd_nn_fb_ma

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**Melanie Nadeau is 🌸 feeling hopeful.**

I currently have 53 doctoral students in my Indigenous Health PhD program at UND... all but 4 are Indigenous. And the 4 who are not Indigenous are very strong allies who have all worked in tribal communities. We will be accepting 7 for cohort 5, which will start summer 2024. That will bring us back to 60 students given our recent graduates. Isn't that amazing. I honestly never thought I would live to witness something like this. I was the only Native in my doctoral program... the first Native to ever graduate from my program at the University of Minnesota. I can't describe how proud I am to be part of this historic time... how proud I am of our students. I honestly believe with every fiber of my being... my students are going to change the world.

**[L.A.'s only Indigenous school helps return land to California's Native population](#)**

**[Stolen lands, justice deferred: An Indigenous Californian dreams of a united front on reparations](#)**



## **New highway signs feature Dakota language in southwest Minnesota**

<https://www.startribune.com/mndot-state-highway-signs-dakota-language-minnesota-upper-sioux/600325485/>

## **Three San Diego County tribes receive more than \$3 million from EPA for recycling**

San Diego Union-Tribune, 12/7/2023. The Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians has pursued several sustainability projects in recent years, including wastewater recycling and renewable energy

## **US touts new era of collaboration with Native American tribes to manage public lands and water**

AP News, 12/7/2023. The U.S. government is entering a new era of collaboration with Native American and Alaska Native leaders in managing public lands and other resources, with top federal officials saying that incorporating more Indigenous knowledge into decision-making can help spur conservation and combat climate change.

**UNR professor develops interactive CPR module to help student athletes:** UNR's Dr. Lorrel Toft, a cardiologist, has been awarded \$1.48 million to develop CPR training modules for high school students. The project aims to save lives and reduce disparities in CPR education. ([kolotv.com](http://kolotv.com))

The elderly woman, perhaps a Lakota Sioux named Red Thunder, reportedly held the staff of her husband, Little Bull, and posed in her best regalia. A finely-crafted miniature buffalo was on the dog's back. (PC users click click image to better see detail.) What appeared to be a dead skunk was in the travois. Dating from about 1910-20 or so, the photo by Frank Fiske of Fort Yates (ND) was found at the Buffalo Bill Museum.



[Joseph Brings Plenty](#)

[Sr.](#)

## [Delaney Apple](#)

Earn eagle feathers not prison sentences!

Through cultural teachings and ceremonies we find our true identity and follow the path our grandfathers laid out before us.

To become a Shirt wearer was a high honor to our people. It means the people put their lives and safety in your hands. It means you have continually made decisions that reflected your commitment to the people and not self. There is no such thing as self. When there is danger or an enemy is near you run out to meet those enemies and fight. Today our enemy is elusive and hard to see, a trickster. We as men can come together and identify those enemies and decide on a plan of action that will protect our young, old, women and less fortunate.

Lets come together now.

## **GrantStation**

### **National Opportunities**

#### **Programs Serving People With Parkinson's Disease Supported**

The Parkinson's Foundation provides community grants to further the health, wellness, and education of people with Parkinson's disease across the U.S.

#### **Grants Aim to Improve School Food Supply Chains**

Partnerships for Local Agriculture and Nutrition Transformation in Schools (PLANTS) will fund eight projects led by groups of local partners advancing systemic and equity-driven approaches to transforming school food supply chains.

#### **Arts Engagement for Veterans and Military Service Members Funded**

The Creative Forces Community Engagement Grant program aims to improve the health, well-being, and quality of life for military service members and veterans exposed to trauma as well as their families and caregivers through experiences of art or art making.

#### **Program Engages Indigenous Knowledge to Address Climate Change**

The Commission for Environmental Cooperation's North American Partnership for Environmental Community Action promotes shared responsibility and stewardship for the environment in Canada, Mexico, and the United States.

### **Regional Opportunities**

#### **Funds Provided for Mid-Atlantic Performing Arts Touring Projects**

ArtsCONNECT, a program of Mid Atlantic Arts, supports performing arts touring projects collaboratively developed by presenters working together in the mid-Atlantic region.

#### **Support Enhances Programs Serving Older Adults in Texas**

The Isla Carroll Turner Friendship Trust supports nonprofit organizations throughout the state of Texas that provide services to the elderly.

#### **Grants Advance Health Equity in Connecticut**

The Connecticut Health Foundation is dedicated to improving the health of all Connecticut residents, with a focus on improving health outcomes for people of color and ensuring all Connecticut residents have access to affordable healthcare.

#### **Child and Health Initiatives Funded in AZ, CA, and NV**

The Del E. Webb Foundation provides support to nonprofit organizations in Arizona, Nevada, or California for programs that create or enhance opportunities for permanent improvements.

### **Federal Opportunities**

#### **Grants Available for Research on Artificial Intelligence**

The Humanities Research Centers on Artificial Intelligence program aims to support a more holistic understanding of artificial intelligence in the modern world through the creation of new research centers at eligible institutions.

### **Program Supports a Free and Open Internet**

The Supporting Critical Open Source Technologies That Enable a Free and Open Internet program supports projects to strengthen the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms online through an open, interoperable, reliable, and secure global internet.

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Literary Society of the Southwest

The mission of the Literary Society of the Southwest is to celebrate contemporary literature and authors and promote the cause of literacy throughout Arizona. Through the Society's Literacy Grant program, grants of up to \$15,000 are awarded to programs that work to improve the ability to read and write for children and youth from birth through twelfth grade. Learn more about the funding guidelines and application process.

THE SKATEROOM: Social Skate Project

THE SKATEROOM unites art and skateboarding to create a better world. THE SKATEROOM's Social Skate Project provides grants to non-governmental organizations using skateboarding as a social tool for the empowerment of at-risk youth and integration of marginalized communities. Learn more about the funding guidelines and application process.

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**SBA** announced this week that bond agencies and surety company partners helped facilitate over \$2.2 billion in contracts and supported more than 37,000 jobs through the Surety Bond Guarantee Program. This past fiscal year marks the best-performing year in 25 years for guaranteeing bid and final bonds.

SBA-backed surety bonds can help small businesses in the construction, supply or service sector compete for larger contracts. Find authorized agents in your state. [Learn more](#)

Help for your business is just a few clicks away. Get business mentoring, counseling, and training through SBA resource partners near you. SBA's local resource partner network includes [Small Business Development Centers](#), [Women's Business Centers](#), [SCORE chapters](#) and [Veterans Business Outreach Centers](#). [Learn more](#)

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Social Enterprise World Forum

The Social Enterprise World Forum (SEWF) is the largest convener of social enterprises in the world. Founded in 2008, it brings together sector leaders and ecosystem builders to ensure growth for enterprises that put people and planet first. The global SEWF verification system was launched in 2022, with partner networks from around the globe. It aims to bring public awareness to the sector as well as unlocking discounts, pro-bono services, and preferential sourcing opportunities for verified social enterprises.

Yves Rocher Foundation: Women of the Earth Awards

The Yves Rocher Foundation's Women of the Earth Awards honor women who are striving to preserve biodiversity and change the world. The International Award rewards on-the-ground actions carried out by a woman or a group of women within a nonprofit organization on the theme "Insects For A Living Planet." Learn more about the Award guidelines and application process.

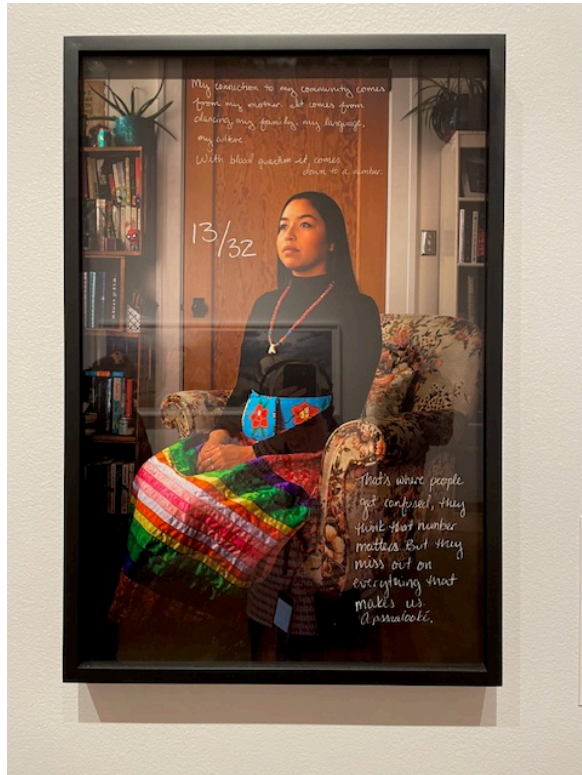
‘Hearts are the strongest when they beat in response to noble ideals.’ — Ralph Bunche

Native American Exhibit – Minneapolis Institute of Art

- 1) Métis
- 2) Indian by San Francisco
- 3) love this photo by Hermosa Beach
- 4) teepees in blizzard near Standing Rock

The museum loans visitors a cell phone and earphones to hear each of the photographers explain their photos.

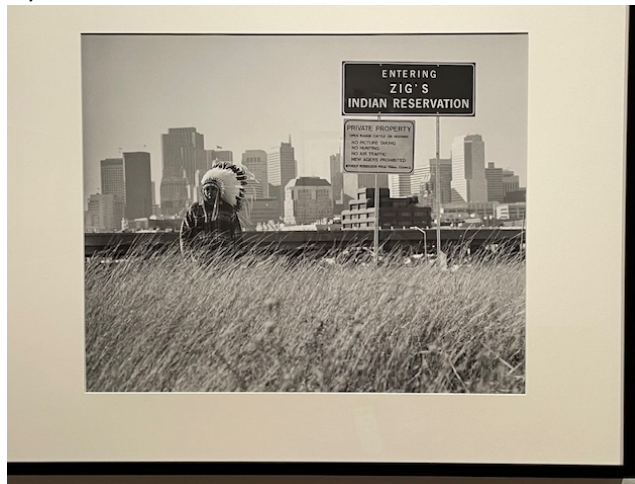
1)



3)



2)



4)



The Eleven Steps for Archive Addiction

1. We admit we are powerless over archive addiction. Once it gets in your blood, it never leaves.
2. Only finding a document, manuscript or photograph will restore us to sanity.
3. We have made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to this pursuit.
4. We have a fearless moral commitment to these searches.
5. We freely admit the nature of this addiction
6. The hot pursuit of an archive will not allow time for any other activities or defects of character.
7. We humbly ask to be forgiven for how long each search might take, how incomplete the information might be.
8. Our amends are the joy and thanks those that receive the bounty of our work enjoy. For those for whom a search has been unfruitful, we offer hope: "It has to be somewhere."
9. We will continue to wrack our brains and go all over the country and world to track down an item.
10. We seek through prayer and meditation to improve our understanding of world records chaos, so that we may make lemonade out of lemons.
11. Having a spiritual understanding of the importance of our search, we try to carry this message to other addicts so that practice of these principles enhances all of those laboring with this addiction.

What's in a Name?

Everywhere you look outdoors, there are animals and features named after people. But, that is changing.

Extract:

By contrast, Indigenous communities already living in the West named birds, animals, peaks, rivers, or other natural features in order to communicate something about their characteristics – not after individual tribal leaders or members.

<https://sierranevadaally.org/2023/11/27/whats-in-a-name-2/>

A very important read:

They fought a big water company and won: During the drought, a scientist was alerted by a retired biologist about a bottled-water company draining a waterway out of a national forest on an expired permit. That led to an unwavering curiosity as she dug through archives and **did the legwork to unravel a mystery.**

Bid underway to win accreditation for tribal college

https://enewspaper.eastbaytimes.com/infinity/article_popover_share.aspx?guid=c18d2b1b-0d6b-4e8e-9653-ee28dff7a67

Indigenous peoples' dissenting views on Arctic drilling fuels debate



Members of Congress agree that the administration needs to consider the concerns of indigenous communities when taking actions on oil and gas leasing in the Arctic. There is just disagreement on whose concerns should be prioritized. [Read more...](#)

[How does climate change threaten where you live? A region-by-region guide.](#)

By [Grist Staff](#) • [Environment](#) • November 19, 2023

The U.S. government's most comprehensive report on the effects of climate change details challenges for every part of the country.





In November, 1864, the Cheyenne and Arapaho experienced terrible atrocities at the hands of Governor John Evans of the Territory of Colorado (Colorado wasn't a state yet).

The Sand Creek Massacre, where more than 230 Cheyenne and Arapaho people were murdered, most of whom were women, children, and elders, took place under policy implemented by Evans.

In September of this year, and after years of pressure, the U.S. Geological Survey's Board on Geographic Names finally voted to take Evens' name off of the 14,265-foot tall mountain west of Denver. **They renamed it Mount Blue Sky.**

This name recognizes the Cheyenne people, whose annual ceremony of renewal of life is called Blue Sky, and the Arapaho people, who are also known as the Blue Sky People.

Now, we have an historic opportunity to extend this name change to include the Mount Evans Wilderness. We can honor the Cheyenne and Arapaho people, whose historic roots include the region, further by also renaming this beautiful 75,000-acre preserve the **Mount Blue Sky Wilderness.**

Unlike with the mountain renaming effort, only Congress can change the name of the Wilderness land -- and four members of the Colorado congressional delegation, Sens. John Hickenlooper and Michael Bennet, and U.S. Reps. Joe Neguse and Brittany Pettersen, have introduced legislation to make it happen.

"Tribes and local communities led the process to rename Mount Blue Sky, an important step to address the atrocities committed against the Cheyenne and Arapaho people," said **Senator Michael Bennet**, one of the bill's sponsors. *"This legislation to rename the surrounding wilderness area is an important next step to reaffirm our commitment to tribes and honor their legacy."*

The proposed renaming follows years of negotiations with hundreds of Coloradans, Tribal leaders and communities, and state and local lawmakers to remove the Evans name from the mountain.

After two years of review by the Colorado Geographic Naming Advisory Board, and under pressure from Colorado Governor Jared Polis to get it done, the federal naming board followed the Colorado board's recommendations and made the name change official.

Renaming Mount Evans to Mount Blue Sky helped to honor and recognize the legacy of the Tribes in the region who call the mountain their home. Renaming the wilderness area the peak overlooks is the logical next step to heal the ongoing harms of the Cheyenne and Arapaho people who are forced to endure living each day reminded of the Governor responsible for the massacre of hundreds of their ancestors.

[We must build bipartisan support for the Mount Blue Sky Wilderness Act from members of Congress nationwide. Sign and send a direct message to your senators and representative to co-sponsor and pass the bill now.](#)

Ahéhee' (thank you),

Tremayne Nez (Navajo), Policy Director