

Journal #5638

The Owyhee

Museum of Northern California

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The Owyhee, the most remote and isolated undeveloped land in the lower 48 encompassing three states, Oregon, Nevada, and Idaho, is filled with mystery and spiritual significance. I sometimes find Native American hunting blinds and petroglyphs in the Owyhee, a testament to the ancient ones that lived here in unity with the land. Their ancestors still occupy these grand lands. I'm always mindful to keep these places private and give thanks and gratitude for allowing me to share special moments here.



Museum of Northern California



Mechoopda Indian tribe of Chico Rancheria

“You have to know who you are.”—Henry Azbill (1899 –1973) MECHOOPDA MAIDU

The ancestral village of the Mikéapdo was located on Little Butte Creek, less than 4 miles south of downtown Chico. The people of Mechoopda survived based on strategies, technologies and knowledge associated with a "hunting and gathering" economy. Today, the Mechoopda Indian Tribe is a federally recognized tribe comprised of 560 Tribal Members and governed by a Tribal Council elected by the General Membership. We welcome you to learn more about our people, history and culture.

History

Mechoopda was a village community formerly located on Little Butte Creek, about 3 ½ miles south of today's downtown Chico. The people of Mechoopda spoke a language related to Maidu, one of the more than 175 languages and dialects once spoken in native California.

Mechoopda oral tradition does not include a story of migration, but rather makes reference to the beginnings of this world at a place known as Tadoiko, a few miles south of the village. It was here that a raft carrying Kodoyampeh (Earth Maker) and Turtle first came ashore on the soft, newly created earth. A large depression was visible there for centuries until leveled for agriculture in the early 20th century.

By 1850, following John Bidwell's acquisition of the Spanish Land Grant, Rancho Arroyo Chico, the Mechoopda moved to a former summer camp site located on the south side of Chico Creek near First and Flume Streets in what is now downtown Chico. A few years later the village was

moved downstream, closer to Bidwell's residence. In 1868, the village was moved ½ mile west to its final location, eventually becoming the Chico Rancheria.

The people called this last settlement Bahapki ("unsifted"), rather than Mechoopda, because Indians from several different villages, and neighboring tribes, resided there as members of the Rancho Arroyo Chico work force.

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ICYMI

**The Washoe County Board of County Commissioner's Notice of Meeting and Agenda now includes the statement:**

We begin by acknowledging that we gather today on the ancestral homelands of the Waší·šiw (Washoe), Numu (Northern Paiute), Newe (Western Shoshone), Nuwu (Southern Paiute), and Pipa Aha (Mojave), the original caretakers of the land that we now call Nevada.

Washoe County, formally named after the Washoe people in 1861, continues to be a gathering place and home for Indigenous Peoples, and we recognize their rich history and deep connections to these lands.

May we honor their past, present, and future stewardship by remembering that the health of the land and its people are inextricably linked.

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The Discovery: "Social Science is just 3 weeks away! Are you ready for Sci-Fi Strikes Back, Again?! 🤖 🤖 🤖 The first Social Science event of the year is preparing to take you on a journey full of science fiction fun. Build your very own DeLorean out of..." ([Instagram](#))

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[insideevs.com](https://insideevs.com)

[The U.S. Is Deploying 125 New EV Chargers Every Single Day](#)

[The EV charger rollout in the U.S. is happening very quickly. At the close of 2023, the U.S. averaged 125 new EV chargers every single day.](#)



Experience the enchantment of the Egret Flower, a captivating orchid that mirrors the elegance and grace of avian beauty, creating a mesmerizing spectacle in the botanical realm

**Where to Attend Pow Wows in California** (not a penultimate list)

[https://www.visitcalifornia.com/experience/pow-wows-california/?kwp\\_0=2327464&kwp\\_4=6556236&kwp\\_1=2804507](https://www.visitcalifornia.com/experience/pow-wows-california/?kwp_0=2327464&kwp_4=6556236&kwp_1=2804507)

Throughout California, tribes, nonprofits, cities, and universities host traditional Pow Wows. For a schedule of California Pow Wows, you can conduct a search at [powwows.com](http://powwows.com) or [newsfromnativecalifornia.com](http://newsfromnativecalifornia.com). There's also an updated list of Southern California events on the San Manuel tribe's [SoCal Pow Wow page](#).

The following Pow Wows are all multiday events organized and administered by specific tribes.  
**January**

**Pechanga Band of Indians** [Pechanga Pow Wow, Temecula](#)

**June**

**San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians** [Intertribal Pow Wow, Oceanside](#)

**Susanville Indian Rancheria** [SIR Pow Wow, Susanville](#)

**September**

**Barona Band of Mission Indians** [Barona Powwow, Lakeside](#)

**Bishop Paiute Tribe** [Bishop Pabanamanina Pow Wow, Bishop](#)

**Morongo Band of Mission Indians** [Morongo Thunder and Lightning Powwow, Cabazon](#)

**San Manuel Band of Mission Indians** [San Manuel Pow Wow, San Bernardino](#)

**Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation** [Sycuan Pow Wow, El Cajon](#)

**Tule River Indian Tribe of California** [Tule River Powwow, Porterville](#)

**October**

**Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians** [Chumash Intertribal Pow-Wow, Santa Ynez](#)

**Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians** [Chukchansi Pow Wow, Coarsegold](#)

**Redding Rancheria** [Redding Rancheria Stillwater Pow Wow, Redding](#)

**November**

**Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians** [Cabazon Indio Powwow, Indio](#)

Jaeden King on the tribal land where she grew up. “It’s where my mom grew up and her mom and my grandma’s mom.” Photo courtesy of Jaeden King

## **Language keeper**

### **Jaeden King wants to preserve the Ojibwe language by bringing it to schools in her community**

**By Kim Kiser**

Growing up on Mille Lacs tribal land, Jaeden King spent a lot of time with her grandmother. “She was always speaking Ojibwe,” King recalls.

In addition to listening and learning, King, who graduated from Onamia High School, took two years of post-secondary Ojibwe classes at Bemidji State University. Now in her fourth year at the University of Minnesota, she is double majoring in American Indian Studies and the Ojibwe language in the College of Liberal Arts.

King says she originally planned to study business. While doing an internship at Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, her boss, an attorney and U of M graduate, encouraged her to consider the American Indian Studies program. “He did American Indian Studies as an undergraduate. He told me to do something I’m passionate about,” she says.

At her high school graduation party, King’s grandmother encouraged her to continue studying the Ojibwe language. “She said I was going to be a language keeper and that I’m not going to let the language die. She made me feel like it was the thing to do,” King says.

The Tobin and Susan Jones Scholarship and others have made it possible for King to pursue those passions. Funded with IRA distributions and an estate gift, the scholarship is directed toward undergraduate students attending the University of Minnesota Twin Cities who are enrolled or eligible for enrollment in a federally recognized tribe.

“My grandmother said, when she was my age, college wasn’t possible. It was so expensive. It’s not something people on the reservation did,” she says. “In high school, I spent a lot of time working, studying, and volunteering. It means a lot to me that someone wanted to give me a scholarship for my hard work.”

After college, King, a member of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and a descendant of the Red Lake Nation, plans to return to Mille Lacs. “I have a lot of hopes and dreams for the language in my home,” she says.

She would like to open an Ojibwe immersion day care center and write children’s books in Ojibwe. She also wants to get the language into the Onamia and Hinckley schools and open an Ojibwe immersion school in Minnesota like Waadookodaading in Hayward, Wisconsin.

“Because the Ojibwe language is an endangered language,” she says, “it’s really important for my people to work on bringing it back to life.”

Support the [\*Ojibwe Language Program\*](#) in the Department of American Indian Studies in the College of Liberal Arts.

<https://www.spokesman.com> > stories > 2023 > jan > 29 > [inside-the-movement-to-revitalize-tribal-languages](#)

### [\*\*Inside the movement to revitalize tribal languages in WA schools\*\*](#)

Jan 29, 2023 State data shows just 25 schools offered tribal language courses last school year, serving a little more than 6,000 students out of the roughly 1 million enrolled in Washington's schools.

<https://seattleglobalist.com> > 2019 > 05 > 29 > [six-ways-northwest-natives-are-using-tech-to-save-their-languages](#) > 85189

### [\*\*Six ways Northwest Natives are using tech to save their languages\*\*](#)

The UN reported that at least 40% of the world's estimated 6,700 languages are in danger of disappearing by 2040 — and the majority languages at risk belong to indigenous peoples. The list of threatened languages includes almost all of the Native American languages found in the Pacific Northwest. The Endangered Languages Project, currently ...

<https://cla.umn.edu> > ais > undergraduate > [language-programs](#) > [ojibwe-language-program](#)

### [\*\*Ojibwe Language Program | American Indian Studies - College of Liberal Arts\*\*](#)

The Ojibwe Language Program offers a financial aid program for University of Minnesota degree-seeking undergraduates and nondegree-seeking continuing education students who demonstrate strong dedication to learning to speak and teach the Ojibwe language.

<https://www.uwec.edu> > academics > programs > undergraduate > [ojibwe-language](#)

### [\*\*Ojibwe Language Certificate | UW-Eau Claire Programs Undergraduate Ojibwe Language\*\*](#)

Explore the Ojibwe language certificate at UW-Eau Claire Become part of the global movement to revitalize endangered Indigenous languages with an Ojibwe language certificate from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

<https://www.miinojibwe.org>

### [\*\*Home - Midwest Indigenous Immersion Network \(MIIN\)\*\*](#)

Our mission is to assist Ojibwe language immersion programs to communicate and collaborate to collectively address common needs. We are currently working with more than 10 Ojibwe immersion programs in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Canada. By working together, we are constantly increasing communication & collaboration between administration and ...

<https://cla.umn.edu> > ais > undergraduate > [degree-programs-and-courses](#) > [ba-ojibwe-language](#)

### [\*\*BA in Ojibwe Language | American Indian Studies - College of Liberal Arts\*\*](#)

Majoring in the **Ojibwe language program** will prepare you to: be ready to fill an ever-growing need for immersion teacher positions; begin bringing the **Ojibwe language** back into the home graduate with a more sophisticated knowledge of the **Ojibwe language** in general; increase your fluency under instructor supervision;

<https://cla.umn.edu> > [ais](#) > [undergraduate](#) > [dakota-ojibwe-language-programs](#)

### **[Dakota & Ojibwe Language Programs - College of Liberal Arts](#)**

The Dakota and Ojibwe Language Programs revitalize the knowledge and understanding contained in Minnesota's indigenous languages. You can be a part of the global indigenous movement to revitalize indigenous languages and culture—because all languages transmit a valuable perspective of the world. ... In 2009, it was estimated that there were ...

<https://www.mnsu.edu> > [about-the-university](#) > [news-and-events](#) > [ojibwe-language-consortium](#)

### **[Ojibwe Language Consortium | Minnesota State University, Mankato](#)**

Mankato, Minn. - Minnesota State University, Mankato's American Indigenous Studies Program, in partnership with Bemidji State University, has been awarded a \$64,208 multicampus collaboration grant through the Minnesota State system for an Ojibwe Language Consortium. The grant will support an ongoing collaboration with Bemidji State ...

<https://cla.umn.edu> > [ais](#) > [story](#) > [preserving-people-reversing-decline-ojibwe-language](#)

### **[Preserving a People: Reversing the Decline of Ojibwe Language](#)**

With as few as 1,000 Native speakers of Ojibwe remaining, preserving the language is more important than ever. It's "a big effort to not lose who we are; how we view the world is in the language," says Professor Brendan Fairbanks, who works tirelessly to revitalize the language through teaching, research, and special programming.

<https://www.rrdsb.com> > [programs](#) > [learning](#) > [indigenous](#) > [education](#) > [ojibwe](#) > [language](#) > [program](#)

### **[Ojibwe Language Program - Rainy River District School Board](#)**

Ojibwe Language Strategy: As of the 2017-2018 school year, the Rainy River District School Board is in year one of a seven year Ojibwe Language Strategy to help develop future teachers of Ojibwe in schools and communities.

<https://nehforall.org> > [projects](#) > [bringing-indigenous-language-courses-online](#)

### **[NEH for All | Bringing Indigenous Language Courses Online](#)**

Bringing Indigenous Language Courses Online Participants taking a study break during NILI's face-to-face summer institute. Image courtesy of Northwest Indian Language Institute, University of Oregon.

<https://www.7000.org>

### **[Empowering Communities To Teach, Learn & Sustain Their Languages](#)**

We are 7000 Languages. We create free online language-learning courses in partnership with Indigenous, minority, and refugee communities so they can keep their languages alive. More than 7000 languages are spoken worldwide... and due to colonization and violence, nearly half of these languages are endangered. Each language itself is valuable.

\* \* \*

Search: **free indigenous language courses online**

## Inaugural NATRO@Soboba Race Encouraging Native American Participation in Trail Running by Tayte Pollmann



*Sheldon Subith is realizing his dreams of bringing more Native runners to trail running. Subith, an Armenian raised near the Soboba Indian reservation in San Jacinto, CA, is an accomplished masters' trail runner, cross country coach at the Noli Indian School (also located in San Jacinto, CA), and recently founded the Native American Trail Running Organization (NATRO) with support from a group of Native race directors.*

In 2021, I chatted with Subith when NATRO was still only an idea (read our article here). Now, NATRO is hosting its first sponsored event, the NATRO@Soboba Trail races in La Jacinta, CA, on February 24, 2024, which aims to increase Native participation in trail running races. The event will host both 25 and 5-kilometer distances with Open and Native divisions. A portion of race proceeds will go to the Noli Indian School Cross Country and Track programs.

In the following article, I reconnect with **Subith** to discuss this inaugural event, the future of NATRO, and why it's important to include Native populations in trail running.



*Sheldon Subith is an accomplished masters' trail runner, cross country coach at the Noli Indian School, and recently founded the NATRO with support from a group of Native race directors.*

**[TAYTE POLLMANN] What has the experience been like of leading NATRO and has it been what you expected so far?**

**[SHELDON SUBITH]** NATRO was just an idea until your article was published in 2021. The exposure was very positive. The experience has been a little more than expected due to the time it has taken to actually have the inaugural NATRO Trail Race on the Soboba Indian Reservation. Soboba has been very receptive. The race was originally planned for November 18, 2023, but the



COVID caught me, so I had to postpone it to February 24, 2024. This has been a dream of mine for some time.

**[TAYTE] You introduced event director Keira Henninger to Cahuilla Tribal members so she could host races on tribal lands. How important is building bridges and connections between Native populations and existing race directors?**

[SHELDON] It is very important to build these connections so the Native populations can have a healthy lifestyle through trail running in their own backyards. I believe making connections with race directors that have the tribe themselves in their heart should be paramount before anything else and they have respect for the tribe and their land. Plus, they can introduce the outside trail running community in a good and respectful way. Tribal Lands are unique.

**[TAYTE] What are the main differences between organizing races on tribal lands versus not on tribal lands?**

[SHELDON] The most significant difference is fees. Working with Tribal Councils vs state, county, and federal entities is not as complicated. You are not as restricted.

**[TAYTE] What are some of NATRO's main goals this year?**

[SHELDON] The main goal is to have a productive inaugural NATRO Trail Race first then build a following amongst other tribes through Social Media (Strava/Facebook) and get other tribes involved in hosting events. The future goal is to have a Native American Trail Running National Championship. There are quite a few Native race directors now and a lot of Native trail runners. The more of both would double the cause.

**[TAYTE] What is the history behind the NATRO@Soboba race? Can we expect more events like this in the future?**

[SHELDON] The inaugural NATRO@SOBOBA Trail Race is the beginning of its own history. Actually the first Soboba Trail Race was in 2015 being a 5k and 10k then later adding a 25k and 50k. It was run through Soboba Parks and Recreation when I was the Director there. It continued for a few years.

Yes, please expect more events in the future as long as I am breathing.

**[TAYTE] Why is trail running a great activity for Native youth populations?**

[SHELDON] Trail running for Native youth is a positive activity for them to feel good about themselves in a positive healthy way. Trail running builds discipline and character which they can use throughout their life no matter the endeavor.

I am a cross country coach at Noli Indian School and Ed Tech. and I will always be involved working with Native Youth for as I said in the above question, "*as long as I am breathing.*"

**[TAYTE] What advice would you have for Native people seeking to put on their first trail races? What advice would you have for first time trail runners?**

[SHELDON] Be prepared, organized, advertise, seek volunteers and get your tribe involved. Basically, putting your heart into it knowing what you are doing is a good thing.

For first time runners, know that your first race will not be your last race. Running is lifelong no matter the pace. Keep moving, don't be that boulder with moss on its back.

**[TAYTE] Trail running is an ancient practice in many Native tribes. Could you explain the cultural significance of trail running for Native peoples?**

[SHELDON] I, not being Native, can't answer that question. However, I do know that running is a sacred form of prayer for many tribes. I feel privileged to be able to be a part of that by directing and facilitating trail races on tribal land.

**[TAYTE] Have you had any role native models in your running/coaching career?**

[SHELDON] My role models I would say are Billy Mills and Jim Thorpe. One person that comes to mind for athletics in general for the tribe would be former Tribal Chairman Bobby Salgado.

**[TAYTE] Anything else we missed that we should cover?**

[SHELDON] Yes, please follow NATRO-Native American Trail Running Organization on [Facebook](#) and Strava. Register for the [NATRO@SOBOBA Trail Races](#) on the SOBOBA INDIAN REZ February 24, 2024.

*All the photos used here have been generously provided by Sheldon Subith. To see all: <https://trailrunner.com/trail-news/inaugural-natrosoboba-race-encouraging-native-american-participation-in-trail-running/>*

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Join Grand Canyon National Park's Superintendent, Ed Keable, and me (Theresa McMullan, Chief Executive Officer) this evening for a free virtual discussion about current projects and priorities at the park. We'll share highlights from 2023 and what we have planned for 2024.

You'll have a chance to ask questions, engage directly with us, and receive the most up-to-date information on what's happening at Grand Canyon. If you wish to submit a question in advance of the event, you can do so via the registration form. We would love to hear from you!

Thursday, January 18, 2024 5 p.m. MST (7 p.m. EST, 6 p.m. CST, 4 p.m. PST)

Zoom virtual presentation

REGISTER NOW

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**"Public libraries are the last free form of entertainment, knowledge, arts, culture and civilization," she wrote in her application. "We can't allow political discord to eliminate the freedom to read various content and authors by choice. We need to celebrate our library system and all these buildings have to offer." Ann Silver, Washoe County Library Board**

The Library Board of Trustees needs a new member, supportive of basic library principles. Is that you? <https://washoecountylibrary.us/about/board.php>

**[Library Board of Trustees - Washoe County Library System](#)[The Board of Washoe County Commissioners is accepting applications for one vacancy on the Washoe County Library Board of Trustees. Application and description of](#)**

*Have nothing to do? Check these out; one never knows where one will find a needle in the haystack! (Not a complete list but enough of one to take you on a journey. Bon voyage.)*

**Some Western U.S. Historical Societies**

**more to come**

|                                                                               |                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">Arizona Historical Society (Tempe)</a>                            | <a href="#">Colorado Aviation Historical Society****</a>          |
| <a href="#">History Colorado</a>                                              | <a href="#">Bessemer Historical Society</a>                       |
| <a href="#">Pueblo Historical Aircraft Society</a>                            | <a href="#">Adventures in Preservation (Boulder)</a>              |
| <a href="#">Society for French Historical Studies (Colorado Springs)</a>      | <a href="#">t. Vrain Historical Society (Longmont)</a>            |
| <a href="#">Idaho State Historical Society (Moscow)</a>                       | <a href="#">Montana Historical Society</a>                        |
| <a href="#">Society of Montana Pioneers</a>                                   | <a href="#">Las Vegas Historical Society (Las Vegas)</a>          |
| <a href="#">New Mexico Historic Preservation Division (Santa Fe)</a>          | <a href="#">Church History Library (Salt Lake)</a>                |
| <a href="#">Daughters of Utah Pioneers</a>                                    | <a href="#">Utah State Historical Society</a>                     |
| <a href="#">Mormon History Association (Heber City)</a>                       | <a href="#">Utah Aviation Hall of Fame (Roy)</a>                  |
| <a href="#">Wyoming Division of State Parks and Historic Sites (Cheyenne)</a> |                                                                   |
| <a href="#">Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association</a>                   | <a href="#">Berkeley Historical Society</a>                       |
| <a href="#">Association of Ancient Historians</a>                             | <a href="#">La Jolla Historical Society</a>                       |
| <a href="#">Association of Moving Image Archivists</a>                        | <a href="#">Chinese Historical Society of Southern California</a> |
| <a href="#">Getty Conservation Institute</a>                                  | <a href="#">Los Angeles Conservancy</a>                           |
| <a href="#">Society for the Preservation of Downtown Los Angeles</a>          | <a href="#">West Adams Heritage Association</a>                   |
| <a href="#">The Conference on Faith and History</a>                           | <a href="#">San Diego History Center</a>                          |
| <a href="#">Save Our Heritage Organisation</a>                                | <a href="#">California Historical Society</a>                     |
| <a href="#">GLBT Historical Society</a>                                       | <a href="#">Native Sons of the Golden West</a>                    |
| <a href="#">San Francisco Museum and Historical Society</a>                   | <a href="#">Society of California Pioneers</a>                    |

\*\*\*\* *the needle in a haystack; from Colorado Aviation Historical Society to*

**Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space Museum**

November is National Native American Heritage Month! Meet U.S. Marine Capt. Annaliese Satz, a member of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and the first female F-35B pilot. Satz started off her career in aviation by earning her commercial pilots license and flying a Robinson R44 Helicopter. She later joined the Marine Corps and took her first flight in the F-35B in October of 2018. "The first flight in an F-35 is by yourself," Satz says, "...it's an exhilarating experience." She became the first female Marine to complete the F-35B syllabus in June 2019. Annaliese is a source of inspiration as she exemplifies strength, resilience, and dedication! We celebrate Annaliese, as well as all Native Americans for their leadership and contributions to aviation and beyond. ✈️ <https://buff.ly/46sfTVn> #wingsmuseum #nativeamericanheritagemonth #f35 #aviation #airandspace #museum



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