

THE MUSIC SETTLEMENT
IDEA COMMITTEE



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

NOVEMBER 2022



The Music Settlement
OHIO CITY • UNIVERSITY CIRCLE

INTERESTING FACTS...

Native American Heritage Month first evolved from "American Indian Week," which President Reagan proclaimed on the week of November 23-30, 1986. In 1990, President George H.W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 as National American Indian Heritage Month. It was later changed to Native American Heritage month under President Barack Obama.

Lewis and Clark Expedition

The Native American experience with Lewis and Clark is as varied and diverse as the Native American tribes themselves.

<https://www.nps.gov/lecl/learn/historyculture/american-indians-and-the-lewis-and-clark-expedition.htm>

The Native American story is the story of the trail. Come and learn more about Native Americans and the Trail. Lewis and Clark and the Nez Perce:

<https://www.nps.gov/articles/chieftwisted-hair.htm>

The Corps of Discovery succeeded with the help of Native Americans and showed the value of collaboration between people.

<https://www.nps.gov/articles/watkuweis-and-the-lewis-and-clark-expediton.htm>

The #LewisandClarkTrail is near many tribal lands. Let the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Experience website assist you in planning. <https://lewisandclark.travel/>



- ✓ The Trail of Tears was part of a series of forced displacements of approximately 60,000 Native Americans between 1830 and 1850. During that time, nearly 4,000 people died of disease, exposure and malnutrition. To recognize and remember their history, you can walk parts of the Trail of Tears in Springfield, Missouri.
- ✓ It wasn't until 1924 that Native Americans were granted citizenship after Congress enacted the Indian Citizenship Act. While Native Americans were also given the right to vote in 1924, it took another 40 years for all 50 states to allow them voting rights.
- ✓ Native people have many unique languages. There are approximately 175 Indigenous languages spoken in the United States today.

DID YOU KNOW?

- During World War I and World War II, hundreds of American Indians were native American code talkers, who joined the United States armed forces and used words from their traditional tribal languages as weapons.
- There are over four thousand archaeological sites at Mesa Verde National Park that together tell the story of more than 700 years of Native American history and that while the structures are centuries old, the park is still an important place for American Indian communities today.
- Contemporary Indigenous art helps shed light onto histories and truths in ways that leave lasting impressions. From forced relocation to the generational traumas of residential schools to internal strength and self-awareness, Indigenous contemporary artists add to our understanding of such histories, truths, and lived experiences.
- Contemporary Inuit ceramic, masterfully hand-modeled ceramics created by the artist of Rankin Inlet (Kangirliniq, Nunavut), offer a glimpse into their rich cultural legacy. Inuit narratives, identity, and ethos; admiration for the land and the creatures that roam it; reverence for past traditions, and devotion to their communities lie at the heart of these artists' inspiration.
- If you travel to Vera Cruz, Mexico, you can learn about Totonac Spiritual Cuisine and meet the Mujeres de Humo (Women of Smoke). The knowledge is passed down from generation to generation and is used to cure illnesses or treat symptoms in a natural way.
- Kayapó women are known in Brazil as Warrior Women, fighting for justice for their land and people.
- The print shop at New Echota, which was the home of the Cherokee Phoenix, was the first newspaper published by Native Americans in the United States, and the first newspaper to be printed in the Cherokee language.
- You can honor Native American women's contributions in building and sustaining America through a selection of objects and images from the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian collections, highlighting the creativity and determination of Native American women.
- Throughout the 21st century, Indian Country has been a part of a renaissance of governmental successes. From health care and community development, to justice and education, Native Nations are (re)building their communities.
- For thousands of years, Natives Americans hunted bison and relied heavily upon them for their survival. Every part of the bison was used for some purpose; nothing ever went to waste. Today, the bison remains as a symbol of resourcefulness, survival, and a deep connection to nature.



FAMOUS NATIVE AMERICANS



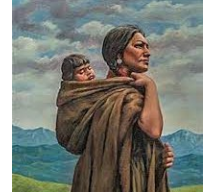
Sitting Bull - While Sitting Bull fought alongside Red Cloud in the 1860s, he diverged from the former over his refusal to commit his Hunkpapa Lakotas to the terms of a treaty. As a result, he became a central figure in the Great Sioux War of 1876, his vision of a military triumph presaging the historic defeat of General George Custer at the Battle of the Little Bighorn. After surrendering in 1881, Sitting Bull briefly leveraged his celebrity as a member of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, but he never fully overcame his renegade urges and was killed after resisting arrest at the Standing Rock Reservation in 1890.

Crazy Horse - Often mentioned in the same breath as Red Cloud and Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse featured prominently at the Fetterman Massacre and led the charge at the Battle of the Little Bighorn. But the Oglala Lakota warrior stands on his own as a figure of mythical proportions, from his legendary fighting prowess to his refusal to be photographed during his lifetime. His own life was relatively short, as he was killed shortly after surrendering in 1877 for attempting to help his sick wife with her parents, but his outsized memory lives on through the ongoing construction of an enormous monument in his honor in South Dakota.



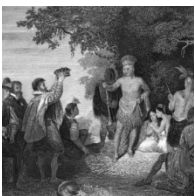
Chief Joseph - In contrast with contemporaries who became famous for defending their lands, Chief Joseph is remembered for a valiant effort to lead his Nez Perce Native Americans out of harm's way. The retreat came after years of resisting attempts to relocate to a small Idaho reservation, a deadly skirmish forcing his band of 700 people on the run from their Wallowa Valley home. They nearly made it to safety in Canada amid the pressure applied by 2,000 U.S. troops, until Joseph delivered a memorable speech of surrender in October 1877. Although the "Red Napoleon" earned the respect of American military leaders, his hope of being allowed to return to the Northwest never came to fruition.

Sacagawea - A Lemhi Shoshone Native American who was abducted by an enemy tribe and found herself married to a French Canadian trapper, Sacagawea stepped into the limelight when she joined the Lewis and Clark expedition, baby boy in tow, in April 1805. Along with serving as a translator for negotiations with the Shoshones, the teenage mother contributed to the mission's success with her knowledge of vegetation and geographical checkpoints, enduring illness and the elements until returning to her South Dakota home in August 1806.



Geronimo - A shaman of the Chiricahua Apaches, Geronimo spent much of his life fighting off the Mexicans, Americans and competing tribes who sought control of modern-day Arizona and New Mexico. He was largely successful in those endeavors, his reputation bolstered by alleged mystical abilities to slow time and stop flying bullets. It took the efforts of 5,000 U.S. troops – one-quarter of the standing Army – and another 3,000 Mexicans to force Geronimo and his followers out of hiding in September 1886, making him the last Native American leader to surrender to the military.

Wilma Mankiller - Named the first female chief of the Cherokee Nation in 1985, Mankiller spearheaded an array of health and education initiatives and is credited with boosting tribal membership and revenues by nearly 200 percent during her 10 years in charge. She also helped establish the federal Office of Tribal Justice, authored two books and taught at Dartmouth College, her lifelong commitment to activism rewarded with the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1998.



Powhatan - Also known by his proper name of Wahunsenacawh, Powhatan is perhaps best remembered as the father of Pocahontas, a woman (also called Matoaka) known for her role in English colonial settlement at Jamestown, Virginia in the early 1600s. He was also a massively powerful chief at the time, his authority extending over 30 tribes and some 15,000 Algonquian-speaking people of the coastal Virginia area. Powhatan had a mixed relationship with the newcomers, his early assistance giving way to open warfare as they battled for control over the territory, though their relations were largely peaceful by the time of his death in 1618.

Pocahontas - (born Matoaka and later known as Rebecca Rolfe) was a Native American woman who is known for helping English colonists in America and for her role as an ambassador between the Powhatan Chiefdom and the Jamestown colony. Later having been captured, converted to Christianity and married to an Englishman, she is also remembered as an example of a Native American who assimilated to the English way of life, which was used as propaganda in the early 17th century.



MEDIA

Books

Walking the Trail: One Man's Journey Along the Cherokee Trail of Tears *By Jerry Ellis*

In 1989, Jerry Ellis became the first person in the 20th century to walk the entire 900-mile route of the Trail of Tears. In 1838, US soldiers forced thousands of Native people in the Southeast out of their homes and marched them out to Indian country in modern-day Oklahoma. Ellis recounts his journey tracing the trail in reverse in an attempt to honor his ancestors and draw attention to the horrors they endured in the 19th century. Ellis interweaves his story with Cherokee history and myth in order to paint a full portrait of the people who originally walked the trail, to show who they were beyond the tragedy.

Lakota Woman *By Mary Crow Dog*

When Mary Brave Bird was a teenager, she ran away from the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota as a sign of rebellion against her Catholic missionary school and the violent nature of life there. When she was 18 she joined the American Indian Movement to fight for Native rights. During her time with AIM, she participated in several historic acts of protest, including the occupation of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1972 and the 1973 occupation of Wounded Knee. Brave Bird recounts all of these events in *Lakota Woman*, as well as her marriage to Leonard Crow Dog, AIM's chief medicine man and the man who revived the Ghost Dance.

Everything You Wanted to Know about Indians But Were Afraid to Ask *by Anton Treuer*

What have you always wanted to know about Indians? Do you think you should already know the answers—or suspect that your questions may be offensive? In matter-of-fact responses to over 120 questions, both thoughtful and outrageous, modern and historical, Ojibwe scholar and cultural preservationist Anton Treuer gives a frank, funny, and sometimes personal tour of what's up with Indians, anyway. Asserting that White/Indian relations are often characterized by guilt and anger, *Everything You Wanted to Know about Indians but Were Afraid to Ask* cuts through the emotion and builds a foundation for true understanding and positive action.

Videos

Dawnland

This film documents the work of the first government-sanctioned truth and reconciliation commission in the US as members travel across Maine, gathering testimony on the impact of the state's child welfare practices of removing children from Wabanaki families and placing them in white family foster home.

Our Fires Still Burn: The Native American Experience

This compelling documentary invites viewers into the lives of contemporary Native Americans. It dispels the myth that American Indians have disappeared from the American horizon and reveals how they continue to persist, heal from the past, confront the challenges of today, keep their culture alive, and make significant contributions to society.

Songs My Brothers Taught Me

The directorial debut of Academy Award Winning director, Chloé Zhao. A compelling and complex portrait of modern day life on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation that explores the bond between a brother and his younger sister, who find themselves on separate paths to rediscovering the meaning of home.

True Whispers: The Story of the Navajo Code Talkers

The stories of the young Navajo men who were recruited from harsh government boarding schools into the Marines during World War II. The Code Talkers devised an unbreakable code in their native language and transmitted vital messages in the midst of combat against the Japanese.

Unconquered: Allan Houser and the Legacy of One Apache Family

This program depicts Alan Houser's tribal ancestry, his rise to regional and national acclaim, and the continuing success of his sons as they expand upon and depart from their father's achievements.





AHÉHÉE*

IDEA Committee

*Ahéhee means thank you in Navajo