

The
Native American
Literature Symposium

March 21-23, 2013
Minneapolis, MN



Studies in American Indian Literatures

Edited by Chadwick Allen

SAIL is the official journal of the Association for the Study of American Indian Literature (ASAIL) and members receive the journal automatically as a benefit of membership. For more information, visit <http://www.asail.org>.

Coming Summer 2013: A special joint issue of *Studies in American Indian Literatures* and *American Indian Quarterly*. This issue reflects on the recent symposium held to mark the centennial of the founding of the Society of American Indians. Subscribers to both journals will automatically receive this issue. Others may order copies through the University of Nebraska Press. Pre-orders received before July 15, 2013 qualify for a \$5 discount.

Studies in American Indian Literatures (SAIL) is the only journal in the United States that focuses exclusively on American Indian literatures, defined broadly to include all written, spoken, and visual texts created by Native peoples. *SAIL* publishes scholarly, critical pedagogical, and theoretical manuscripts focused on all aspects of American Indian literatures as well as poetry and short fiction, bibliographical essays, review essays, and interviews.

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The Native American Literature Symposium is organized
by an independent group of Indigenous scholars
committed to making a place where Native voices can be heard.

Since 2001,
we have brought together some of the most influential voices in Native America
to share our stories—in art, prose, poetry, film, religion, history, politics, music,
philosophy, and science—from our worldview.

Gwen N. Westerman, Director
Minnesota State University, Mankato

Virginia Carney, Tribal College Liaison
Leech Lake Tribal College

P. Jane Hafen, Awards Chair
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Gordon Henry, Jr., Publications Editor
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University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Denise Cummings, Film Wrangler
Rollins College

Theo Van Alst, Film Wrangler
Yale

Jodi Byrd
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Jill Doerfler
University of Minnesota, Duluth

James Sinclair
University of Manitoba

Jason Zahn, Assistant to the Director
Minnesota State University, Mankato



The Native American Literature Symposium
PO Box 541 Mankato, MN 56002-0541
www.mnsu.edu/nativelit

Wopida, Miigwech, Mvto, Wado, Ahe'ee, Yakoke

We thank the sponsors of the 2013 Symposium for their generous funding and continued support that made everything possible.

The People of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community

???

The Redd Center for Western Studies

Mystic Lake Casino Hotel

???, *CEO*

The American Indian Studies Series, Michigan State University Press

The Association for the Study of American Indian Literatures

Michigan State University Press

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We also extend our gratitude to the following people who work behind the scenes at **Minnesota State University, Mankato** to keep everything functioning and who provide invaluable encouragement for our cause:

Department of English

Kate Voight, Office Manager

John Banschbach, Chair

College of Arts and Humanities

Walter Zakahi, Dean

And we appreciate the kindness of the following people who contributed support for our student participants:

TBA

21 March 2013

Book Exhibits and Vendors

Visit the vendors and book exhibits in Grand Ballroom B
Thursday and Friday 10:00 am to 5 pm
Saturday 10 am to 2 pm

Thank you to the following presses and vendors for their contributions:

Presses

TBA

Vendors

TBA

Thursday, March 21

8:00

Registration (until 4 pm)

8:45

Welcome and Traditional Blessing

10:00

Vendors and Exhibits (until 5 pm)

Session 1: Plenary

Engaging Resistance in the Reddest of Red States

Red (Artists) on Red
(Folks) in Red (State
Oklahoma)
Tol Foster
Marquette University

The Red Dirt Beneath
Our Feet: LeAnne Howe
and Don L. Birchfield's
Indigenous Oklahoma
Steven Sexton
University of Oklahoma

Ugido Wado, Mr. Roboto
Scott Andrews
*U. of California,
Northridge*

Response: Poetry in
Oklahoma, Poetry in
Oklahoma
LeAnne Howe,
*University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign*

Dean Rader,
U. of San Francisco

8:30 - 9:45

Session 2

A (Little Crow I)

**Canoes, Buses, and Hitchhiking,
or, the Planes, Trains, and
Automobiles of Indigenous
Literatures**

Songs Her Paddle Sings:
E. Pauline Johnson's *Sovereign
Canoes*
Susan Bernardin,
SUNY-Oneonta

The Trail of the Thunderbird:
Mobility in *The Exiles*
Laura Furlan,
U. of Massachusetts, Amherst

Walking the Roads Between
Worlds in Louise Erdrich's Novels
Amy Hamilton,
Northern Michigan State U.

B (Little Crow II)

Reclaiming Literary Genres

"Move Over, Tony Hillerman!":
Decolonizing American Indian
Mystery Writing
Connie Jacobs,
San Juan College

Indigenous Fluency: Articulating
Production of an American Indian
Anthology
Grace Chaillier
Northern Michigan University

C (Wabasha I)

**Shaping/Shifting/Forming
Identities**

The Terror Dream in Sherman
Alexie's Post-9/11 Fiction
Levin Arnsperger,
Emory University

"The Lamanites shall blossom as
the rose": Racial Formations and
Mormon Colonialism
Elise Boxer,
University of Utah

Louis Riel and Metis Self-
Identification Survival in
the Evolution of Canadian
Nationhood
Robin White,
Goldsmiths, University of London

10:00 - 11:15

Thursday, March 21

Session 3: Lunch

A Conversation with Alex Smith and Andrew Smith Producers and Directors of *Winter In The Blood*

11:30 - 1:00



Twin brothers Alex Smith and Andrew Smith grew up in Missoula, Montana. They wrote the screenplay and filmed the adaptation of James Welch's "Winter in the Blood" novel in 2012. They also wrote "The Slaughter Rule" (2002) and "Career Opportunities in Poetry" (2008). The novel takes place on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation and along the Hi-Line of Montana. The location is based on where Welch lived as a child.

Session 4

1:30 - 2:45

A

Critical Collections

Nancy Ward: The Canon Is Incomplete Without Her
Kim Hales,
Utah State University

"History, like geography, lives in the body": History, Trauma and the Corporeal Imagery in Linda Hogan's *The Woman Who Watches Over the World*
Joanna Ziarkowska,
University of Warsaw, Poland

Hybridity and Womanhood: Creating Story in Betty Louise Bell's *Faces in the Moon*
Elizabeth Toombs,
University of Oklahoma

B

Violence and Native Women

Telling Bernice Bell's Story: Violence and Choctaw Women in Twentieth Century Neshoba County, Mississippi
Jacki Rand,
University of Iowa

"A Sweep of Sorrow": Sexual Violence in *The Round House*
Julie Tharp,
UW-Marshfield/Wood County

C

International Study of American Indian Literature

New Notions of Text: Expanding the Conversation in Our Indigenous Studies Classrooms
Becca Gercken,
University of Minnesota Morris

Stephanie Fitzgerald
University of Kansas

Julie Pelletier
University of Winnepeg

Nancy Peterson
Purdue University

This roundtable is sponsored by the Pedagogy Committee of ASAIL

Break

3:00 - 3:30

Sponsored by the Association for the Study of American Indian Literatures



Thursday, March 21

Session 5

A

California Indian Literatures

Sovereignty in the Cahuilla
Storyway

David J. Carlson,
*California State U.,
San Bernardino*

Mary Tall Mountain: A Life of
Survivance

Carol Zitzer Comfort
California State U., Long Beach

Californian Landscapes in the
Work of Gerald Vizenor

James Mackay
European University Cyprus

B

Never Forget

Beyond Betwixt and Between
History and Liminal Space in
Sherman Alexie's *Flight*

Thomas Krause,
University of Oklahoma

Pauline in *Tracks* and Beloved
in *Beloved* as Characters
Representing History in Danger of
Being Forgotten

Marie Nigro,
Lincoln University

The Intimate Record The Use of
Memory in American Indian and
Palestinian Literatures

Eman Ghanayem,
Birzeit University, Jordan

C

Portraying Relationships

Mikwendagzejek: Shared
Experience through Shared
Existence

Michael Zimmerman Jr.,
Independent scholar

Eric Gansworth Storying
Relationships into Being through
Wampum

Nicholle Dragone,
Black Hills State University

Storyteller: An Anthology of Okla
Nowa (A People Walking)

Greg Rodgers,
*University of Illinois at Urbana-
Champaign*

3:30 - 4:45

5 - 6

Dinner on your own

Session 6

Film Screening and Teaching Demonstration: *Winter in the Blood*

Denise K. Cummings, *Rollins College*
Theo Van Alst, *Yale*



Scene from *Winter in the Blood*

Synopsis: Virgil First Raise wakes with a shiner and a hangover in a roadside ditch on the stark but beautiful plains of Montana. As he rises to face the day he sees a vision of his father lying dead at his feet. Impossible--his father froze to death in a snowdrift years earlier. Virgil returns home to find that his wife, Agnes, has left him. Worse, she's taken his electric razor and his beloved rifle. Virgil sets out to find her--beginning a hi-line odyssey of inebriated encounters, sexual skirmishes, and improbable cloak-and-dagger intrigues with the mysterious 'Airplane Man'. Virgil's quest also brings him face-to-face with childhood memories and visions of his beloved, lost brother Mose--some glorious, some tragic. Only when Virgil seeks the counsel of an old, blind man named Yellow Calf, does he grasp the truth of his origins and begin to thaw the ice in his veins.

6:00 - 10:00

Friday, March 22

8:00

Registration (until 4 pm)

10:00

Vendors and Exhibits (until 5 pm)

8:00 - 9:15

Session 7

A Book Blitz

B Positioning

C Engaged Resistance to Colonizing Ideology in Indigenous Contemporary Culture

Native American
Transnationalism in Sherman
Alexie's *The Absolutely True Diary
of a Part-Time Indian*
Heongyun Rho,
Dongguk University, Seoul, Korea

How Stories Move Readers
to Political Positioning and
Connection Sherman Alexie's *The
Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in
Heaven*
Jessica Anderson,
Marshall University

Revenge, Restoration, and the
Problem with the Postcolonial
Architecture of Louise Erdrich's
Four Souls and Thomas King's
Truth & Bright Water
David Stirrup,
University of Kent

Video Games, Tootsie Roll Pops,
and Math Homework: Resisting
Colonizing Ideology and Cultural
Appropriation
Brian J Twenter,
The University of South Dakota

Reimagining Resistance: The
Novum in Birchfield's *Field of
Honor*
Miriam Brown Spiers
University of Georgia, Athens

This is Our Story: Healing
Through the (Re)Narrativization
of Indigenous Trauma
Angela Semple
Simon Fraser University

Friday, March 22

Session 8

A

Picturing Change: New Work on Native American Picture Stories

Worth 1000 Words: Competing Histories in Plains Ledger Art and 19th Century Advertising

Becca Gercken
University of Minnesota, Morris

Indigenous Literacy: The Continuous Narrative in Glyphs

Denise Low
Baker University

Women and Ledger Art: Four Native American Women Artists

Richard Pearce,
Wheaton College, Mass.

B

If You Haven't Read Her Novels, You Should: The Understated Brilliance of Frances Washburn

Of Women and Animals: Frances Washburn as an Indigenous Ecofeminist

Brianna R. Burke,
University of Iowa

The Endless Adaptability of American Indian Literature

Frances Washburn,
Arizona State University

The Presence of the Unspoken: Silence and Agency in *Elsie's*

Business
Trisha Henderson,
Arizona State University

C

Shifting the Lens

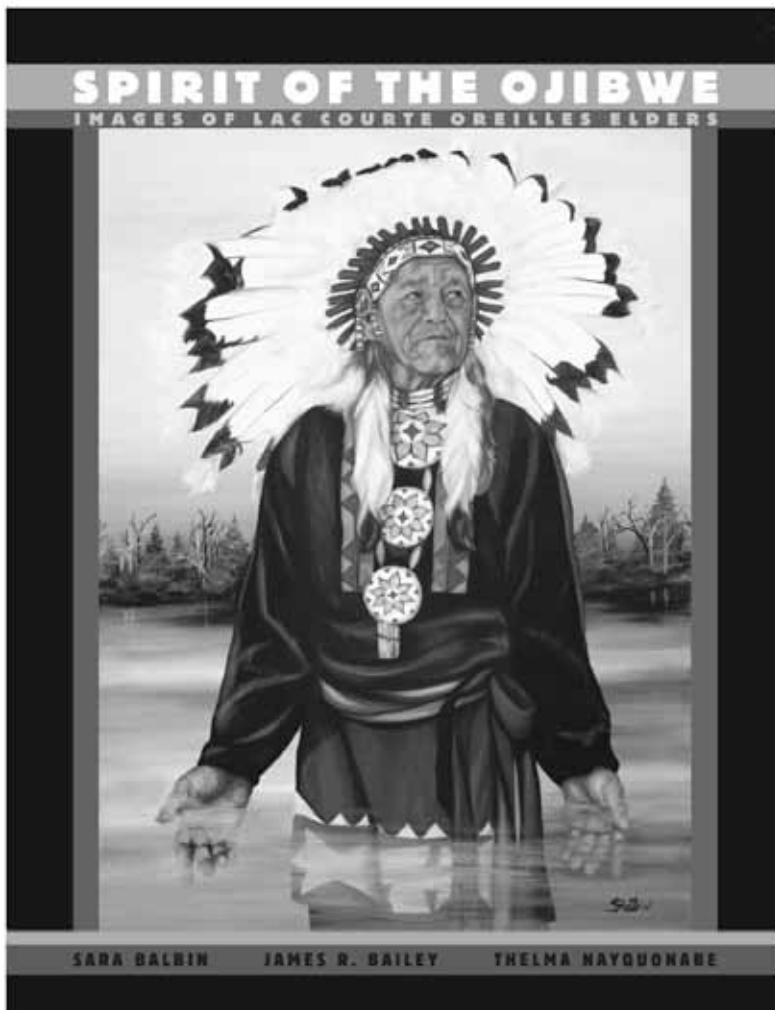
The Land of Infinite Variety On the Rez with Frazier and Fraser

Raul B. Moreno,
University of South Dakota

"First a story": Aesthetics, Life and Writing in the work of Craig Womack & Greg Sarris

Padraig Kirwan,
Goldsmiths, University of London

9:30 - 10:45



HOLY COW! PRESS ANNOUNCES THE
PUBLICATION OF

SPIRIT OF THE OJIBWE IMAGES OF LAC COURTE OREILLES ELDERS

by

Sara Balbin, James R. Bailey, and Thelma Nayquonabe

••••• ••••• ••••• ••••• •••••

In the 1740s a group of Ojibwe Indians left Madeline Island, in Lake Superior, and traveled south to Odaawaa Zaaga'igan, the place where they found the dead Ottawa.

Like other tribes and bands in the area, these people, who became the Lac Courte Oreilles Band, had most of their land taken by legal chicanery and were relegated to a reservation.

Confronting this challenge, the thirty-two elders whose stories are told here, and many others, with courage and quiet determination, maintained their traditions and rebuilt their heritage.

It is to tell their story that this book was written.

"These extraordinary portraits of Ojibwe elders convey the warmth, the kindness, the humor, and the ongoing endurance of our people. What a thoughtful celebration."

- Louise Enrich (Turtle Mountain Ojibwe)

••••• ••••• ••••• ••••• •••••

Publication: June, 2012

Four-color painted portraits by Sara Balbin, 280 pages, perfectbound, \$28.95
ISBN 978-0-9823545-0-6 (Please add \$4.00 for postage and handling)

For bookstore orders, please contact
Consortium Book Sales & Distribution, 1-800-283-3572

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Friday, March 22

Session 9

A

Poem Films of Heid E. Erdrich and Gordon Henry, Jr.

Heid E. Erdrich,
Independent Scholar

Gordon Henry, Jr.
Michigan State University

Miriam Schacht
University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh

B

Creating Story

Semiotics of the Indigenous Text
K J Keller,
California State U., Fresno

Ceremony's Yellow Women
Barbara Kernan,
U. of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

Orality Is Literature Because
Literature Is Knowledge
Melissa Michal Slocum,
Pennsylvania State University

C

Teaching American Indian Literatures Online

Teaching American Indian
Literatures Online
Ellen Arnold,
East Carolina University

Janis Johnson
University of Idaho

Susan Brill de Ramirez
Bradley University

Annette Van Dyke
U. of Illinois at Springfield

This roundtable is sponsored
by the Pedagogy Committee of
ASAIL

11:00 - 12:15

Session 10: Lunch

TBA

12:30 - 1:30

Friday, March 22

Session 11: Plenary

Ethics In Native Studies Roundtable

LeAnne Howe, *University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign*

Jill Doerfler, *University of Minnesota, Duluth*

Patrice Hollrah, *University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

P. Jane Hafen, *University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

Gordon Henry, Jr., *University of Michigan*

Gwen Westerman, *Minnesota State University, Mankato*

Jodi Byrd, *University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign*

1:45 - 3:00

Break

3 - 3:30

Session 12

A

Shedding Skins: Four Sioux Poets

Trevino Brings Plenty

Steve Pacheco

Kurt Schweigman

Joel Waters

B

Identity and Gender Construction

Writing Around: Embodied
Erotic Sovereignty in Two-Spirit
Literature

Scott R. Aichinger,
University of Nebraska at Omaha

Gender Construction in Lakota
Literature

Kathryn Shanley,
University of Montana

Transcending Gender
Confrontations: Gender Harmony
in Leslie Marmon Silko's
Ceremony and Storyteller
Wenkai Kang,
*Nanjing University of Posts and
Telecommunications*

C

Wellbound Storytellers Narrating a Commitment to Health & Wellness in Indian Country

Barbara K Robins,
University of Nebraska at Omaha

Teresa Lamsam
University of Nebraska at Omaha

Rhonda LaValdo
Haskell Indian Nations U.

Stacy Braiuca
U. of Kansas Medical Center

Chantelle Yazzie
Calvin College

3:30 - 4:45

Saturday, March 23

8:00

Registration (until 4 pm)

10:00

Vendors and Exhibits (until 5 pm)

Session 14

8:00 - 9:15

A Anishinaabeg Legacy and Gerald Vizenor's *Bear Island*

Kimberly Blaeser,
U. of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

Niigaanwewidam James Sinclair
University of Manitoba

Brenda Child
University of Minnesota

Heid Erdrich
Independent Scholar

B International Views of Native American Literature

Emergence and Growth An
Overview of American Indian
Literary Studies in China
Wenshu Zhao,
*Nanjing University/University of
Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

Perception of Native American
Literature in post-Soviet Literary
Circles
Yuliya Bjorgan,
Independent Scholar

Parody, Rewriting and Survivance:
An Interpretation of Vizenor's
Hybridized Standpoint as
Reflected in *Griever* and *Heirs of
Columbus*
Huiling Zou,
Jiangsu Normal University

C Issues of Sovereignty

Liberalism, Sovereign Immunities,
and, of course, *Shell Shaker*
Joseph Bauerkemper,
University of Minnesota, Duluth

Collaborative Sovereignty
in Indigenous Young Adult
Literature
Mandy Suhr-Sytsma,
University of Connecticut

Using Social Media in the Native
Literature Classroom
Carrie Sheffield,
University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Saturday, March 23

Session 15

A Legacies of Removal

Decolonizing The Autobiography of Delfina Cuero: A Kumeyaay Allegory of Cultural Survivance
Theresa Gregor,
University of San Diego

“Children of Absent Mothers”:
Giving Voice to Residential and Boarding School Children, 1900-2012
Susan Dominguez,
Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH

Narrating Indigenous Experiences: Native American Adoptees and the Activism of the First Nations Repatriation Institute
Amy Lonetree,
U. of California, Santa Cruz

B Theoretical Interpretations

Ways of Reading and Representing the Sun Dancer
Karen Poremski,
Ohio Wesleyan University

Land/Language Speaking: Heidegger, Native American Philosophy, and Linda Hogan’s *A Different Yield*
Jim Wohlpart,
Florida Gulf Coast University

Philosophy in Fiction Gerald Vizenor’s Interactions With Postmodern Alphabet Soup
Meghan R. Glass,
Durham University

C Integral Environmentalities

Integral Epistemologies: Indigenous Knowledge through Language and Text in American Indian Literature
Gordon Henry,
Michigan State University

Gwen Westerman
Minnesota State U., Mankato

Jesse Peters
U. of North Carolina Pembroke

Meg Noori
University of Michigan

Michael Zimmerman
Independent Scholar

9:30 - 10:45

Session 16: Plenary

Staged Reading of *Indian Radio Days* by LeAnne Howe & Roxy Gordon

Ryan Winn, *College of Menominee Nation*

LeAnne Howe, *University of Illinois*

11:00 - 12:15

Lunch on your own

12:15 - 1:30

Session 17

ASAIL Business Meeting (Room TBA)

12:15 - 1:30

Saturday, March 23

Session 18

A Indigenous Knowledge

Wailing Tides of Voiced Realities and Sacred Stories: Reviving Our Roles as Keepers and Creators of Sacred Knowledge in the Indigenous Twenty-First Century

Royce K. Freeman,
University of Oklahoma

Stories that Nourish:
Anishinaabe Wild Rice Narratives

Amelia Katanski,
Kalamazoo College

I Have Written This in Dakota Myself: An Exploration of Dakota Language Literacy since the 1830s

Jameson R. Sweet,
University of Minnesota

B Storytelling in Word and Image: Teaching Native Graphic Novels

Introduction: Building Audience, Building Community

Linda Helstern,
North Dakota State University

Working Together: Governance and Communitism in Eric Gansworth's *Smoke Dancing*

David Lemke
North Dakota State University

Survivance: Power, Desire, and Resistance in Eric Gansworth's *Smoke Dancing*

Emily Bartz
North Dakota State University

Laughing in Safe Spaces: Community, Violations, and Native Humor in *The Dead DOG Cafe Comedy Hour*

Davin Waite
North Dakota State University

Respondant
Susan Bernardin
SUNY-Oneonta

C In Another's Eyes

Selling Indians: How Covers, Blurbs, and Headshots Market Native Authors

Kenneth Roemer,
University of Texas, Arlington

Standing at the Western Door: Eric Gansworth as the Voice of the People

Urszula Piasta-Mansfield,
University of Buffalo

Civilization? A Glimpse of English and French Cultures through Ojibwa and Iowa Eyes

Birgit Hans,
University of North Dakota

1:45 - 3:00

Saturday, March 23

Session 19

3:00 - 4:45

A New Native American Film

Martha Viehmann,
Sinclair Community College

Channette Romero
University of Georgia

B Readings

Spirits of Allen, S.D.
Monica Jackson,
Univ. of Texas, Arlington

Bad Indians: A Memoir
Deborah Miranda,
Washington and Lee University

C Parody

LeAnne Howe's Hollywood
Indians and Other Simulations
Kirstin Squint,
High Point University

Against Appropriation: Lynn
Riggs and the Politics of Allusion
Elizabeth Barnett,
Vanderbilt University

Challenges for an Indigenous
Hemispheric Turn: NMAI, Joy
Harjo, Rigoberta Menchú Tum
and the Problematic of Borders
Reginald Dyck,
Capital University

6:00 - 10:00

Session 20: Dinner

TBA

We Remember Those Who Have Made the Road Easier For Us



Phillip Martin (1926 - 2010), longtime chief of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, and visionary who lifted the tribe from stifling poverty with casinos and other businesses.

Martin's 28-year tenure saw the construction of an industrial park and the \$750 million Pearl River Resort, complete with two casinos, a golf club and a water park, on tribal land in rural east central Mississippi, about 65 miles northeast of Jackson. He was praised for creating thousands of jobs. He also set up a scholarship that pays 100 percent of college costs for tribal youth.

Max Mazzetti (1921 - 2010), one of the founders of the National Congress of American Indians, Inter-Tribal Council of California and many other Indian rights organizations. He is best remembered for his leadership and commitment to stopping the takeover of Indian lands by the state of California, dissolution of tribal governments, and removal of 117 California tribes from federal trust, ending all federal funding and tribal support programs.



Lolly Vegas (1939 - 2010), the lead singer and guitarist for Redbone, a Native American rock band that had a million-selling hit in 1974 with "Come and Get Your Love." In 1973, Redbone released "We Were All Wounded at Wounded Knee" which charted in Europe and reached #1 in The Netherlands. The song was initially withheld from the release and banned by several radio stations in the U.S.

Helen Scheirbeck (1935-2010), an activist who expanded educational opportunities and led efforts for greater self-determination by American Indians, and who later became a top official of the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington.

Dr. Scheirbeck, a member of the Lumbee tribe of North Carolina, began working for the rights of American Indians in the early 1960s, when she was a staff member of the Senate Judiciary Committee. She helped gain recognition for Native Americans in the War on Poverty of the 1960s and led efforts to establish Indian educational programs, from Head Start to tribal colleges.



Allen Dale June (1921 - 2010), one of the 29 original Navajo code talkers who confounded the Japanese during World War II by transmitting messages in their native language. Several hundred Navajos served as code talkers during the war, but a group of 29 that included Mr. June developed the code based on their native language. Their role in the war was not declassified until 1968.

Mr. June attained the rank of sergeant in the United States Marine Corps. He and other original code talkers received Congressional Gold Medals in 2001.



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John T. Williams (1950 - 2010), was a seventh-generation woodcarver of the Ditidaht tribe on Vancouver Island. He lived in Seattle, in housing created by the Downtown Emergency Center and was deaf. He was shot and killed by a police officer on his way to sell his art at Pike Place Market.

List of Presenters

March 20 Pre-Conference Workshop

List of Events

Statement on Ethnic Fraud

The NEW Low Residency MFA in Creative Writing at the Institute of American Indian Arts

IAIA
INSTITUTE OF
AMERICAN INDIAN ARTS
The College of
Contemporary Native Arts



Faculty mentors, clockwise from top left: Natalie Diaz, Joseph Boyden, Susan Power, Sherwin Bitsui, Joan Kane, Sherman Alexie, and Eden Robinson.

FACULTY

Jon Davis, Director
Sherman Alexie
Sherwin Bitsui
Amanda Boyden
Joseph Boyden
Natalie Diaz
Melissa Febos
Santee Frazier
Sterlin Harjo
Geoff Harris
Joan Kane
Chip Livingston
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Orlando White

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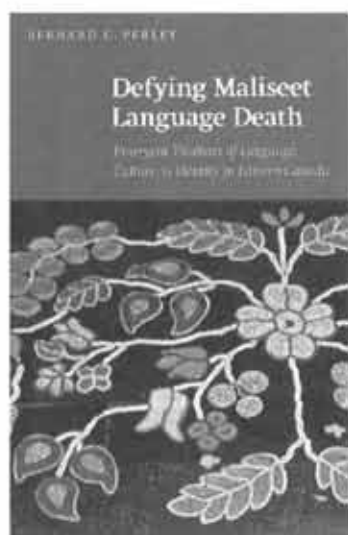


RECOVERING LANGUAGES & LITERACIES OF THE AMERICAS

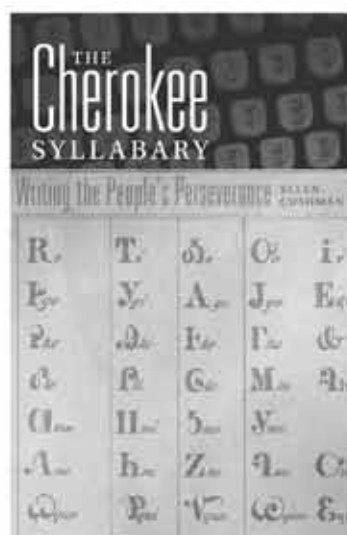
The world's linguistic diversity is diminishing, with more than 200 languages declared extinct and thousands more endangered. The Recovering Languages and Literacies of the Americas initiative will provide scholars who study endangered languages of North America, South America, and Central America an opportunity to publish indigenous language grammars and dictionaries, literacy studies, ethnographies, and other linguistic monographs through the three participating presses.

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226 pages • \$19.95 Paperback

FORTHCOMING SUMMER 2013

FORTHCOMING SUMMER 2013

A Reference Grammar of Kotiria (Wanano)

BY KRISTINE STENZEL

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