The
Native American
Literature Symposium

March 12-14, 2015
Albuquerque, NM
Studies in American Indian Literatures

Edited by Chadwick Allen

A journal of American Indian literatures, defined broadly to include all written, spoken, and visual texts created by Native peoples.

SAIL is the official journal of the Association for the Study of American Indian Literature. Members receive the journal as a benefit of membership.

SAIL is available online on Project MUSE bit.ly/SAIL_MUSE and JSTOR Current Scholarship bit.ly/SAIL_JSTOR

Both offer free access via library subscriptions and pay-per-view options for those without library connections.

Native Daughters and Native Daughters: Oklahoma. In-depth reporting by students in the College of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Includes profiles of Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve and Joy Harjo. Written primarily for a young adult audience. Order copies at bit.ly/UNP_ND.
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, President Emerita

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

Gordon Henry, Jr., Publications Editor
Michigan State University

Patrice Hollrah, Vendor/Press Coordinator
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

LeAnne Howe, Arts Liaison
University of Georgia, Athens

Evelina Lucero, Site Coordinator
Institute of American Indian Arts

Denise Cummings, Film Wrangler
Rollins College

Theo Van Alst, Film Wrangler
Yale

Jodi Byrd, Associate Advisor
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Jill Doerfler, Associate Advisor
University of Minnesota, Duluth

Margaret Noodin, Associate Advisor
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

Niigaanwewidam James Sinclair, Associate Advisor
University of Manitoba

Dennis Scott Herbert, Assistant to the Director
Minnesota State University, Mankato

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

Albuquerque, New Mexico
We thank the sponsors of the 2015 Symposium for their generous funding and continued support that made everything possible.

The Pueblo of Isleta  
Frank Lujan, President

The Redd Center for Western Studies

Isleta Resort and Casino  
Maria Otero, CFO  
Tammy Abeita and George San Miguel, Resort Sales

The American Indian Studies Series, Michigan State University Press

The Association for the Study of American Indian Literatures

Institute of American Indian Arts

University of Nebraska Press

University of Syracuse Press

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  
Matthew Sewell, Chair  
Liz Olmanson

College of Arts and Humanities  
Kimberly Contag, Dean

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

Jim Wohlpart  
Becca Gercken  
Connie Jacobs  
Diane Glancy
Haŋ mitakuyapi,

Welcome back to Isleta Resort and the beautiful landscape of New Mexico. We have much to be thankful for as we gather together again to share our ideas, our dreams, and our stories. We extend our gratitude to the Pueblo of Isleta for their wonderful hospitality, generous support, and sponsorship of the traditional feast on Saturday evening. Wopida taŋka!

This year, our regular program begins on Thursday with a discussion of how Native peoples have been improperly and inappropriately subjected to western ways of thinking that reflect an unethical denial of the humanity and sovereign rights. We will then work together in the next session to “Indigenize Wikipedia”! Our keynote speakers are Stephen Graham Jones and Franci Washburn who will share their ideas about the contemporary modes of Indigenous writing.

Friday evening, we are especially pleased to present students in the inaugural class of the MFA in Creative Writing at the Institute of American Indian Arts. These gifted writers are our next generation of voices. In addition, as a special treat, we have the Ojibwe After-Dinner theater performance of two of Kimberly Blaeser’s one-act children’s plays, directed by Ryan Winn.

Our dear friend Greg Rodgers planned to tell us about “The Choctaw Literary Renaissance.” In his accepted proposal, he described it as the beginning of a contemporary Choctaw literary movement that inspired more Choctaws, like Tim Tingle, Ron Querry, Phillip Morgan, and Jim Barnes to follow suit. And, in turn, it sparked the efforts of dozens from a new generation of writers, filmmakers, and artists to contribute to the wider body of Choctaw narratives. Let’s keep him close in our hearts and listen for his laughter over the next few days.

The Mazinaate Book Blitz is on Saturday morning where publishers and press representatives will participate in a lightning round to talk about their new Native titles for 2014 and 2015. And we will announce the winner of our first Flash Fiction Contest judged by Linda Hogan.

We have travelled from across the globe—Jordan, China, England, Canada, Cyprus, Italy—and from Florida to Connecticut to California and Washington. Our topics represent the vibrant discourse in our fields, and recognize the integral role of indigenous ways of knowing and telling our stories. In the end, it is always about our stories, because our stories will always bring us home.

Wopidapi kta ota unyuhiapi. Henana epe kte.

Gwen Westerman
Book Exhibits and Vendors

Visit the vendors and book exhibits in Grand Ballroom B.
Thursday and Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

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

Presses

Michigan State University Press
Syracuse University Press
University of Arizona Press
University of Nebraska Press
University of New Mexico Press
University of Oklahoma Press

Vendors

Institute of American Indian Arts
JJ Ahboah and Elle Curley-Jackson
Cassandra Billy, Cassy’s Arts & Craft
Ina Garcia
Arthur Short Bull

Conference Rooms

Meals and film screening will be in Grand Ballroom C

Breakout Session Rooms
Session A - Rio Grande
Session B - Manzano
Session C - Bosque

Vendors & Exhibitions
Grand Ballroom B
Thursday, March 12

8 am - 4 pm  Registration Table  9 am - 5 pm  Vendors and Exhibits

8:30 am  Welcome and Traditional Blessing

Session 1: Plenary (Grand Ballroom)

Native Subjects: Euro-American Impositions and Subjectifixations on the Life, Culture, and Thought of Indigenous People

Gordon Henry,  
*Michigan State University*

David Stirrup,  
*Kent University*

Jesse Peters,  
*University of North Carolina, Pembroke*

Francesco Melfi,  
*Independent Scholar*

Ned Watts,  
*Michigan State University*

9:00 - 10:15

9 am - 5 pm  Vendors and Exhibits

Session 2: Plenary (Grand Ballroom)

**Indigenize Wikipedia!**

James Mackay,  
*European University Cyprus*

Skye Hill,  
*Independent Scholar*

Siobhan Senier,  
*University of New Hampshire*

Bring your laptops, tablets, and other devices for this interactive session!

10:30 - 11:45

12-1:15  Session 3: Lunch

Wikithon Observations and Discussions
## Thursday, March 12

### Session 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A (Rio Grande)</th>
<th>B (Manzano)</th>
<th>C (Bosque)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mvskoke Divas II: Embodied Tribalography</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Transformative Power of Indigenous Literature</strong></td>
<td><strong>Transmotion: Vizenorian Readings of Indigenous Literature and Art</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chair:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Chair:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tee Shawnee, <em>Native Daughters Oklahoma</em></td>
<td>Kevin McPherson, <em>Emory University</em></td>
<td>David J. Carlson, <em>California State University, San Bernardino</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presenters:</strong></td>
<td><strong>All We Have to Ward Off Illness and Death—or Why This White Man Reads Indigenous Literature</strong></td>
<td><strong>Presenters:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rain Goméz, <em>St. Gregory's University</em></td>
<td>Rick Waters, <em>San Juan College</em></td>
<td>Nancy Peterson, <em>Purdue University</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolyn Dunn, <em>Central Michigan University</em></td>
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<td>Billy Stratton, <em>University of Denver</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeanetta Calhoun Mish, <em>Oklahoma City University</em></td>
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<td>Patricia Killelea, <em>University of California, Davis</em></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### 3:00 - 3:30 Break

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**Birchbark Books**

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Session 5

A
Approaches to Storytelling

Changing the Ceremony: Betonie’s Hogan and Ben Pease’s “Last Good Man” as Mnemonic Sites
Olena McLaughlin, Oklahoma State University

Making the Most of Mixed Media Storytelling: Adapting Winter in the Blood
Amy Fatzinger, University of Arizona

Never Alone in the Classroom: An Exploration of Gameplay as Storytelling
Chelsea Murdock, University of Kansas

B
Controlling Identity

“Searching Through Our Pasts for Answers”: Tribal Epistemology and Identity in Miko Kings
Tammy Wahpeconiah, Appalachian State University

Colonial Resistance through Cooperation: Sarah Winnemucca’s “Inappropriate Appropriation” of the Indian Princess
Shannon Toll, University of Oklahoma

Performing Pocahontas: Disney, Settler Colonialism, and the Mythologizing of Native Women’s Experiences
Jennifer Stern, University of Arizona

C
Innovative Strategies for Native Studies and Native Students

Chair:
Becca Gercken, University of Minnesota, Morris

Gateway Bridge Program
Presenters:
Hilda Ladner
Simon Franco

Service Learning in American Indian Studies
Presenter:
Liv Klemek

Hybrid Learning Shared Curriculum
Presenter:
Virginia Godfrey

Dinner on your own

Session 6

Film and Poetry Night

Short Readings by Benjamin Burgess and Mark Shaw

Rhymes for Young Ghouls, a film by Jeff Barnaby
Curated by Denise Cummings and Theo Van Alst

Synopsis:
Red Crow Mi’g Maq reservation, 1976: By government decree, every Indian child under the age of 16 must attend residential school. In the kingdom of the Crow, that means imprisonment at St. Dymphna’s. That means being at the mercy of “Popper,” the sadistic Indian agent who runs the school.

At 15, Aila is the weed princess of Red Crow. Hustling with her uncle Burner, she sells enough dope to pay Popper her “truancy tax,” keeping her out of St. D’s. But when Aila’s drug money is stolen and her father Joseph returns from prison, the precarious balance of Aila’s world is destroyed.

Her only options are to run or fight ... and Mi’gMaq don’t run.
### Friday, March 13

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>8 am - 4 pm</th>
<th>Registration Table</th>
<th>9 am - 5 pm</th>
<th>Vendors and Exhibits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### Session 7

**A (Rio Grande)**

**Literature of Protest and Struggle**

Dehumanizing by Myth: Colonial Construction of Native Womanhood and Canada’s Murdered and Missing Aboriginal Women

Robin White, *Independent Scholar*

Deer Woman or Descendant of Eve? The White Feminist Gaze in *Elsie’s Business*

Pamela Balogh, *University of Arizona*

Native American Literature and Protest in the Long Sixties

Renata Gonçalves Gomes, *University of California, Berkeley*

**B (Manzano)**

**Literary Intersections**

Shakespeare’s ReZ-urrection in Louise Erdrich’s *Tracks*

Delilah Orr, *Fort Lewis College*

The Politics of Aesthetics: A Comparative Approach to American Indian and Palestinian Literary Intersections

Eman Ghanayem, *The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

Situating Vizenor’s *Chair of Tears* in the Canon of Academic Novels

David Weiden, *Metropolitan State University of Denver*

**C (Bosque)**

**Teaching Place-Based Literature on the Rosebud Reservation**

Roundtable Discussion Featuring educators and students from Sinte Gleska University, the tribal college located on the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota

Chair:

Tria Andrews, *University of California, Berkeley*

Speakers:

Sammie Bordeaux-Seeger, *Sinte Gleska University*

Mary Henson, *Sinte Gleska University*

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### Statement on Ethnic Fraud

The Native American Literature Symposium supports the Indigenous Professors Association Statement on Ethnic Fraud

“We the Indigenous Professors Association hereby establish and present our position on ethic fraud and offer recommendations to ensure the accuracy of American Indian/Alaska Native identification in American colleges and universities. This statement is developed over concern about the racial exploitation of American Indians and Alaska Natives in American colleges and universities. We think it is necessary to establish our position on ethnic fraud because of documented incidents of abuse.

This statement is intended to assist universities in their efforts to develop culturally diverse campus communities. The implications of this statement are threefold: (1.) to assist in the selection process that encourages diversity among students, staff, faculty, and administration; (2.) to uphold the integrity of institutions and enhance their credibility with American Indian/Alaska Nations/Tribes; and (3.) to recognize the importance of American Indian/Alaska Native Nations/Tribes in upholding their sovereign and legal right as nations to determine membership.

The following prioritized recommendations are intended to affirm and ensure American Indian/Alaska Native identity in the hiring process. We are asking that colleges and universities (1.) Require documentation of enrollment in a state or federally recognized nation/tribe with preference given to those who meet this criterion; (2.) Establish a case-by-case review process for those unable to meet the first criterion; (3.) Include American Indian/Alaska Native faculty in the selection process; (4.) Require a statement from the applicant that demonstrates past and future commitment to American Indian/Alaska Native concerns; (5.) Require higher education administrators to attend workshops on tribal sovereignty and meetings with local tribal officials; and (6.) Advertise vacancies at all levels and on a broad scale and in tribal publications.”

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8 The Native American Literature Symposium 2015
Stephen Graham Jones is the author of 15 novels, six collections, and more than 200 stories. He has been a Shirley Jackson Award finalist three times and a Bram Stoker Award finalist. He also received a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship in fiction.

His most recent books include Floating Boy and the Girl Who Couldn’t Fly (Dzanc, with Paul Tremblay), After the People Lights Have Gone Off (horror collection, Dark House), and Growing up Dead in Texas (MP publishing). He teaches creative writing at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

This session is generously sponsored by the Redd Center for Western Studies and is open to the public.
Friday, March 13

Session 10

A
Readings from
*Dawnland Voices* and the
*Yellow Medicine Review*
Co-chairs:

- Siobhan Senier, *University of New Hampshire*
- Scott Andrews, *California State, Northridge*

Readers:

- Theo Van Alst, *University of Montana*
- Royce Freeman, *University of Oklahoma*
- Jane Haladay, *University of North Carolina, Pembroke*
- Gwen Westerman, *Minnesota State, Mankato*

B
Teaching Positive
Representations through
Native Literature
Teaching Positive Images of Disability in Native American Young Adult Literature
Laura Decker-Huggins, *UNLV*

Identity Formation & Indigenous Representation in Young Adult Literature
Celeste Trimble, *University of Arizona*

“My Hometowns”: Competing Identities in Sherman Alexie’s *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*
Alex Miller, *Independent Scholar*

C
Re-Approaching Indigenous Archives
Moderator:

Kathleen Washburn, *University of New Mexico*

Speakers:

- Frank Kelderman, *University of Michigan*
- Steven Pelletier, *University of Michigan*
- Kiara Vigil, *Amherst College*

3:00 - 3:30 Break

Special Friday Evening After-Dinner Event

**After-dinner Theatre**
Abinoojiinyag Dibaajimowag: Ojibwe Theater for Children

Combined staged reading of two of Kimberly Blaeser’s one act children’s plays:
*Woodpecker’s Love Song* and *This Dance Among Dances*

Featuring:
Ryan Winn, Kimberly Blaeser, Margaret Ann Noodin, Mike Zimmerman, Amber Blaeser-Wardzala
**Friday, March 13**

### Session 11

#### A
**Images of American Indians in Popular Culture**

- More than Blood Brothers: Homosociality and the Traumas of an Unstable National Identity and the Erasure of Native American Culture in the Cold War Era Comic Book Series, *White Indian*
  - Brett Burkhart, *University of Oklahoma*

- The Indian Episode: American Indian Stereotypes on Television
  - Brian Twenter, *University of South Dakota*

- The Sounds of Silence
  - Joely Proudfit, *California Indian Culture & Sovereignty Center*

  - Linda Sue Warner, *California Indian Culture & Sovereignty Center*

#### B
**Original Languages in Literary Texts**

- Repatriating California Indian Stories, Voices, and Histories
  - Theresa Gregor, *California Indian Culture and Sovereignty Center*

- Coming Home Conscious: Symbolic Representation in Contemporary Mayan Poetry
  - Manya Wubbold, *University of Denver*

- Revisiting the Neshnabe World of Simon Pokagon
  - Mike Zimmerman, *University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee*

#### C
**Environmental Ethics and Activism in Canadian Indigenous Literature and Film**

- The Power of Dirty Water: The Crisis of Lake Winnipeg and Indigenous Poetics
  - Niigaanwewidam
  - James Sinclair, *University of Manitoba*

- Petrography: Indigenizing Environmental Vision in the Athabasca Tar Sands
  - Warren Cariou, *University of Manitoba*

- Performing and Filming Protest: Land, Law and Affect in *Blocus 138 - Innu Resistance*
  - Isabelle St-Amand, *University of Manitoba*

- 3 Parts of Life: Joseph Boyden's *Three Day Road* and Environmental Ethics
  - Shauna Mulligan, *University of Manitoba*

### Break

**5:00 - 6:00**

### Session 12: Dinner with MFA Inaugural Class from IAIA

**Introduction by Jon Davis, Director of Creative Writing**

**Featuring:**

- Christosos Apache
- Ramona Emerson
- Paige Buffington
- Celeste Adame
- Byron F. Aspaas
### Saturday, March 14

#### 8 am - 12 pm

| Registration Table Open |

#### 8:00 - 8:45

| Maazinaate Book Blitz (Vendor & Exhibit Hall) |

**MC:** Niigaanwewidam James Sinclair

Mazinaate is an opportunity for book publishers and authors to share some of the newest and most exciting work emerging in Native American literature.

In a fun and informal environment, presenters are invited to share the beauty and brilliance of any published text by a Native American author/editor from 2014 or afterwords, using their allocated time to articulate what their book is about and give a “snapshot” of its contents.

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### Session 13

#### A (Rio Grande)

- **Voice and Literary Traditions**
  - *Green Grass, Running Water* as Dialogue: The Multiple Ways in which Thomas King Tells the Story
    - Diana Filar, *University of New Mexico*
  - “One Voice is Not Enough to Tell a Story”: Writing as Creation in Native American Women’s Fiction
    - Julie Williams, *University of New Mexico*
  - Colonizing and Decolonizing the Dakota Literary Tradition
    - Sarah Hernandez, *University of Colorado, Boulder*

#### B (Manzano)

- **The Power of Words**
  - Raymond Bonnin’s Rhetorical Agency: Legal Texts and Tribal Representation in the Nation’s Capital
    - Julianne Newmark, *New Mexico Technical College*
  - Adaptive Rumors in Silko’s *Almanac of the Dead: Power in Re-enunciation*
    - Tyler Detloff, *Northern Michigan University*
  - The Sacred in Susan Power’s *Sacred Wilderness*
    - Patrice Hollrah, *UNLV*

#### C (Bosque)

- **Toward a New Native American Literary Aesthetic: YA Fantasy Fiction**
  - Writing Native American Fantasy Fiction for Young Adults
    - VR Janis, *Independent Scholar*
### Session 14

**A**

**Our Animal Relatives in Texts**

- Hunger on the Prairie: Navigating the Paradoxes of John Joseph Mathews's Animal Writings
  - Michael Snyder, *Oklahoma City Community College*

- Animism: Examples from the Quran and Leslie Marmon Silko's *Gardens in the Dunes*
  - Dalia Ebeid, *University of Arizona*

- First Beings and Ethical Literary Representation
  - Bill Huggins, *Independent Scholar*

**B**

**Moving within and outside of Our Homelands**

- The Land That Bred Us: Food, Epigenetics and Ethics of Human-Nonhuman Interrelation in the Poetry of Heid Erdrich
  - Ryan Rhadigan, *University of California Berkeley*

- In the Master's Maison: Native Protagonists in France
  - John Gamber, *Columbia University*

- Lasting Effects of “Columbus’ Footprints” and the Diaspora of Native American Women
  - Mariah Beauford, *St. Gregory’s University*

**C**

**Perspectives on Teaching Native American Literature in an Urban Middle School**

Chair:

- Valerie Siow, *Native American Community Academy*

Presenters:

- Michelle Sprouse, *Native American Community Academy*
- Sarah Caldwell, *Native American Community Academy*

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**12:00 - 1:15**

**Session 15**

ASAIL Business Meeting (Lunch provided in Rio Grande)

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**Save the Date**

March 17-19, 2016

The Native American Literature Symposium

Isleta Resort. Albuquerque, New Mexico
### Session 16

**A**

**Future Directions for Native Literary Studies**

- Trivial Matters: Writing the Future of Tribal Courts  
  Joseph Bauerkemper,  
  *University of Minnesota, Duluth*

- Native American Women’s Autobiographies as Postcolonial Articulations  
  Susan Brill de Ramirez,  
  *Bradley University*

- Digital Humanities and Native/Indigenous Literary Studies  
  Stephanie Fitzgerald,  
  *University of Kansas*

**B**

**Four Quarters**

An independent film about the imprint of the American education system on traditional culture.

Made in conjunction with the Southern California Indian Center and the IAIA film school, and shot on the Viejas Reservation.

- Diane Glancy,  
  *Macalester College*

**C**

**Self-Imaginings: The Affirmation of Indigenous Identities through Story**

- Chair:  
  Angela Semple,  
  *Trent University*

- Presenters:  
  - Miriam Brown Spiers,  
    *University of Miami, Ohio*
  
  - Steve Sexton,  
    *University of Oklahoma*

### Break

### Session 17

**A**

**Yes, Zombies & Aliens**

- “R U ZomB?”: On Zombie Theory & Native Survivance  
  Jane Haladay,  
  *University of North Carolina, Pembroke*

- Indigenous Aliens: Science Fiction/Fantasy and Native America  
  Meredith James,  
  *Eastern Connecticut State University*

**B**

**Resisting Residential Schools**

- Killing the Indian, and What Is Saved: Embodied Violence and Resistance in Native American Residential Schools  
  Rebecca Fullan,  
  *CUNY*

- “It Started After He Went To School”: Federal Indian Boarding Schools in D’Arcy McNickle’s The Surrounded  
  Danica Sterud Miller,  
  *University of Washington, Tacoma*

- Indian Agencies: Native Literary Activism and the Figure of the Truant  
  Joshua D. Miner,  
  *University of Iowa*

**C**

**Red Readings**

- Chair:  
  Scott Andrews,  
  *Cal State Northridge*

- Presenters:  
  - Ken Roemer,  
    *University of Texas Arlington*
  
  - Margaret Noodin,  
    *UW, Milwaukee*
  
  - James Mackay,  
    *European University Cyprus*
  
  - Becca Gercken,  
    *University of Minnesota, Morris*
Saturday, March 14

5:00 - 6:00
Break

6:00 - 10:00
Session 18: Dinner with Franci Washburn

Franci Washburn (Lakota/Anishinabe) is the author of *The Red Bird All-Indian Traveling Band* (2014). Washburn was born and raised on Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, and got her literary start reading the neighbor boys’ unwanted comic books. She has two other novels, *Elsie’s Business* and *The Sacred White Turkey*, and is now Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the American Indian Studies department at the University of Arizona.

*Sponsored in part with the generous support of ASAIL.*

### List of Presenters

| Andrews, Scott 10A, 17C | Henry, Gordon 1 |
| Andrews, Tria 7C       | Henson, Mary 7C |
| Balogh, Pamela 7A      | Hernandez, Sarah 13A |
| Baukerkemper, Joseph 16A | Hill, Skye 2 |
| Beaupre, Mariah 14B    | Hollrah, Patrice 13B |
| Blaeser-Wardzala, Amber 12 | Huggins, Bill 14A |
| Blaeser, Kimberly 1, 12 | James, Meredith 17A |
| Bordeaux-Seeger, Sammie 7C | Janis, VR 13C |
| Brill de Ramirez, Susan 16A | Jones, Stephen Graham 9 |
| Brown Spiers, Miriam 16C | Jong, Lisa 8A |
| Burgess, Benjamin 6    | Kalb, John 8C |
| Burkhart, Brett 11A    | Kelderman, Frank 10C |
| Caldwell, Sarah 14C    | Killelea, Patricia 4C |
| Cariou, Warren 11C     | Kim, Jungmin 8A |
| Carlson, David J. 4C   | Klemek, Liv 5C |
| Cummings, Denise 6     | Ladner, Hilda 5C |
| Decker-Huggins, Laura 10B | Mackay, James 2, 17C |
| Detloff, Tyler 13B     | McLaughlin, Olena 5A |
| Dunn, Carolyn 4A       | McPherson, Kevin 4B |
| Ebeid, Dalia 14A       | Melfi, Francesco 1 |
| Fatzinger, Amy 5A      | Miller, Alex 10B |
| Filar, Diana 13A       | Miner, Joshua D. 17B |
| Fitzgerald, Stephanie 16A | Mish, Jeanetta Calhoun 4A |
| Franco, Simon 5C       | Mulligan, Shauna 11C |
| Freeman, Royce 10A     | Murdock, Chelsea 5A |
| Fullan, Rebecca 17B    | Newmark, Julianne 13B |
| Gamber, John 14B       | Niigaanwewidam, James Sinclair 11C |
| Gercken, Becca 5C, 17C | Noodin, Margaret Ann 12, 17C |
| Ghanyem, Eman 7B       | Orr, Jesse 1 |
| Glancy, Diane 16B      | O’Leary, Nina 8B |
| Godfrey, Virginia 5C   | Pelletier, Steven 10C |
| Gomes, Renata Gonçalves 7A | Peters, Jesse 1 |
| Gomez, Rain 4A         | Peterson, Nancy 4C |
| Gore, Amy 8B           | Porembski, Karen 8A |
| Gregor, Theresa 11B    | Proudfoot, Joely 11A |
| Haladay, Jane 10A, 17A | Rhadigan, Ryan 14B |
| Henry, Gordon 1        | Roemer, Ken 17C |
| Henson, Mary 7C        | Semple, Angela 16C |
| Hernandez, Sarah 13A   | Senier, Siobhan 2, 10A |
| Hill, Skye 2           | Sexton, Steve 16C |
| Hollrah, Patrice 13B   | Shaw, Mark 6 |
| Huggins, Bill 14A      | Shawnee, Tee 4A |
| James, Meredith 17A    | Siow, Valerie 14C |
| Janis, VR 13C          | Snyder, Michael 14A |
| Jones, Stephen Graham 9| Sprouse, Michelle 14C |
| Jong, Lisa 8A          | St-Amand, Isabelle 11C |
| Kalb, John 8C          | Stern, Jennifer 5B |
| Kelderman, Frank 10C   | Sterud Miller, Danica 17B |
| Killelea, Patricia 4C  | Stirrup, David 1 |
| Kim, Jungmin 8A        | Stratton, Billy 4C |
| Klemek, Liv 5C         | Suhr-Sytsma, Mandy 8C |
| Ladner, Hilda 5C       | Toll, Shannon 5B |
| Mackay, James 2, 17C   | Trimble, Celeste 10B |
| McLaughlin, Olena 5A   | Twenter, Brian 11A |
| McPherson, Kevin 4B    | Van Alst, Theo 6, 10A |
| Melfi, Francesco 1     | Viehmann, Martha 8C |
| Miller, Alex 10B       | Vigil, Kiara 10C |
| Miner, Joshua D. 17B   | Wahpeconiah, Tammy 5B |
| Mish, Jeanetta Calhoun 4A | Warner, Linda Sue 11A |
| Mulligan, Shauna 11C   | Washburn, Franci 18 |
| Murdock, Chelsea 5A    | Washburn, Kathleen 10C |
| Newmark, Julianne 13B  | Waters, Rick 4B |
| Niigaanwewidam, James Sinclair 11C | Watts, Ned 1 |
| Noodin, Margaret Ann 12, 17C | Weiden, David 7B |
| Orr, Jesse 1           | Westerman, Gwen 10A |
| O’Leary, Nina 8B       | White, Robin 7A |
| Pelletier, Steven 10C  | Winn, Ryan 12 |
| Peters, Jesse 1        | Williams, Julie 13A |
| Peterson, Nancy 4C     | Wubbold, Manya 11B |
| Porembski, Karen 8A    | Zimmerman, Mike 11B, 12 |

Albuquerque, New Mexico
Arthur J. Hubbard, Sr.  
(1912-2014)  
A member of Navajo Nation, Hubbard volunteered to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps as a Navajo Code Talker during WWII. Hubbard also served in the Arizona Legislature from 1972 - 1984 as a Senator. In 2001 he was awarded a Gold Congressional Medal.

Elizabeth Cecelia Laverdure (1932 - 2014)  
Born on the Turtle Mountain Ojibwe Reservation in North Dakota, “Betty” was a true outdoors woman and nature-lover. A proud member of the Bear Clan of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, Laverdure served as Chief Tribal Justice and was Vice President of the National American Indian Court Judges Association.

Edmond Harjo  
(1917 - 2014)  
A member of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, Harjo received a Congressional Gold Medal for serving as one of the original American Indian code talkers. Harjo was a school teacher for most of his life and a classical pianist.

Chester Nez (1921 - 2014)  
The last remaining of the original 29 Navajo Code Talkers recruited by the Marine Corps during WWII, Nez was acknowledged for his service with the Gold Congressional Medal. He was discharged in 1945 but later volunteered to fight in the Korean War.

Gregory Rodgers (1968 - 2014)  
Tim Tingle eloquently expressed the impact of Greg’s work and life when so many of us could not find words. Here is part of Tim’s tribute:

As a writer Greg Rodgers authored three books, “The Ghost of Mingo Creek and Other Spooky Oklahoma Legends,” “One Dark Night in Oklahoma,” and the highly popular children’s book, “Chukfi Rabbit’s Big, Bad Bellyache,” plus dozens of yet-to-be-published stories. Over the holidays Greg intended to focus on his upcoming novel, a powerful and difficult piece of Choctaw historical fiction, the story of Hotema, a protestant preacher who died in prison.

Greg recently created a term, a “brand” which he hoped to promote: The Choctaw Literary Renaissance. He planned to discuss the emergence of contemporary Choctaw writers at a series of conference panels and discussions in the Spring of 2015. I know in my heart that Greg will be with us for many years, as a Rabbit Trickster, a protective Panther, and a spirit Canine, with a friendly and supportive look for those who need one. We already miss you more than you will ever know, Brother Greg. Too soon, you left us staggering far too soon. But we forgive you, on the sole condition that you work your magic through the fingers of young Choctaw writers, doing their best to continue your work. You are family to thousands of Choctaws, and Nahullos, too.
Laura Cornelius Kellogg

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Edited by Kristina Ackley and Cristina Stanciu

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—Scott Manning Stevens, director, Native American Studies Program, Syracuse University

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—A. LaVonne Brown Ruoff, author of American Indian Literatures

Laura Cornelius Kellogg was an eloquent and fierce voice in early twentieth-century Native American affairs. An organizer, author, playwright, performer, and linguist, Kellogg worked tirelessly for Wisconsin Oneida cultural self-determination when efforts to Americanize Native people reached their peak. She is best known for her extraordinary book Our Democracy and the American Indian (1920) and as a founding member of the Society of American Indians.

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