Indigenous Updates - October

APS-Indian Education Department would like to share with you our monthly messaging flier in building connections and relationships with our Native American students, families, and communities. Taking this time to celebrate and empower your Indigenous students will create harmonious and supportive schools.

"Hotda:kwe a:wan dewa"-Grandmother's Day

Ko' don dewan a:deya:ye? How have you all been these days? " K'ettsanishhi" would be the response! Mi:yashe:nak'ya (harvesting corn) is the literal translation Shiwi'ma (Zuni) and it signifies the Fall season. Important cultural events take place in our village. One of these events is "Hotda:kwe a:wan dewa," (Grandmother's day). As a Shiwi'ma Bena:we Yanikk'e:nona (Zuni Language) teacher, it is important that I share not only the language learning with students but cultural history as well. This is an example.

The standard set up by the Zuni tribe to teach Shiwi'ma Bena:we, the A:shiwi follow the cultural calendar of our people. A:shiwi (Zuni) continue to practice the rich, cultural traditions which have been in place since time immemorial. This means right now, our cultural leaders are setting time for "Hotda:kwe a:wan dewa," grandmother's day. Since A:shiwi are matrilineal, our grandmothers are honored, those who have passed on and those who are still living. My father told me this is just like how the other Pueblos honor "All Souls Day,".

Ever since I can remember, Grandmother's day was an important time in my mother's family. My mother's family have been caretakers of the Patron Saint of Zuni (Sandu) or Santo Nino, which the Spanish brought long ago. Sandu was rescued when the old church was burned to the ground during the Pueblo Revolt. This cultural tradition is one of the only traditions which blends Catholicism and the Shiwi ways. It is a time of harvest and to pay homage to our female ancestry. The dakkya:kwe a:wokya (Frog clan women) have always been the primary caretakers of Sandu (Santo Nino). Therefore, it is the grandmothers who are honored on this day.

Dakkya:kwe (Frog clan) men hang an old iron bell outside the old Mission church, and males of all ages can go and ring the bell, ringing the bell signifies this special day. Then as the sun sets, prayers and food offerings are made to our ancestors by feeding the cedar fires. Then A:shiwi a:wottsi (Zuni males) go around to homes in the same style of "trick or treating". When Shiwi (Zuni) males go to the homes, the person greeting them will say "bolesikkya" then the males sing a song that is Latin derived: it goes like this: "Ansalammo, mosalammo, ansalammo mosalammo, salammo, salammo," then households give out the treats of the harvest such as squash, fruit or chile.

Some northern New Mexican villages (Spanish and possibly other Pueblos) still practice this. This unique cultural tradition happens during the full moon.

I shared this important cultural event with the students last year and some have not ever heard of it. Oftentimes, when students do not experience something that is uniquely "Shiwi," I try my best to explain it. The best experience is to visit Shiwina (Zuni) and see it for yourself!

Ma: wans le:wi, Elahkwa don Yadon k'okshi sunhhak'yanapdu!

Mila V. Padilla -Shiwi'ma Bena:we Yanikk'ye:nona

You can help:

We are looking for a Tribal Representative & a Student Representative for the IPC

The Indian Parent Committee meets monthly throughout the school year to insure that planning, development, implementation, and evaluation of the operational and supplemental programs for Native American students in the Albuquerque Public School occur in a consistent and sustained manner. The Indian Parent Committee also works to comply with the rules and regulations governing Title VI and Title VIII funding. Check Flyers or contact: jacqueline.malone@aps.edu

Indigenous Peoples' Day

10/14

Celebrate today and Everyday!

As of 2023, 29 states do not observe Columbus Day, opting instead for Indigenous Peoples Day or similar celebrations. Some states recognize it officially, while others do so through proclamations. States like Alaska, Minnesota, California, and **New Mexico**, along with Washington, D.C., celebrate this holiday. Additionally, South Dakota honors Native Americans' Day, Hawaii recognizes Discoverers' Day, and Alabama observes American Indian Heritage Day.

In 2021, President Biden became the first U.S. president to issue a proclamation for Indigenous Peoples Day, highlighting the resilience and contributions of Indigenous peoples to American society.

Activists argue that holidays and memorials honoring Columbus obscure his role in the enslavement of Native Americans and falsely credit him with "discovering" lands inhabited for millennia. Leo Killsback, a professor of American Indian Studies, states that Columbus Day symbolizes the violent legacy of colonization in the Americas.

Established as a federal holiday in 1937, Columbus Day was championed by Roman Catholic Italian Americans seeking recognition in American history, often sidelining proposals for a holiday honoring Leif Erikson. However, Killsback notes that the debate over who arrived first is less important than the need for a holiday that truly reflects American values, suggesting that Indigenous Peoples' Day offers a more honest perspective.

Teaching Resources:

- Why More People are Celebrating Indigenous Peoples' Day
- Indigenous Peoples' Day Lesson Plan
- Zinn Education - Indigenous Peoples' Day lesson
- Challenging How History is Written
- History of Indigenous Peoples' Day
- Indian Pueblo Cultural Center: IPD Celebrations
- Rethinking Columbus
- Albuquerque adopts IPD 2015- Indian Country Today

Get Involved: Events & Happenings

- Traditional Foods Workshop, October 19, 10 am - 12, Register here.
- Alamo indian Day Celebration, Alamo Navajo Reservation Walter's Park, Fri October 11 - Sat 12
- AIO Indigenous Peoples' Day, Tiguex Park, Abq, Monday, October 14, 11 - 2pm
- Tribal Leaders Summit, October 3, Berna Facio Room 100, 8:30 - 3:30
- Third Annual Urban Indigenous Education Summit, Berna Facio, October 4, 9 - 2:30
- Senior Information Night, Wednesday, October 23, 6 - 8pm
- Indigenize Your Mind Book Club: , Saturday, October 12, 2024 San Pedro Library, 3 - 5pm
- Diné (Navajo) Baby-Toddler Storytime, San Pedro Library Wednesday, October 2, , 11:15 -12
- Moving Indigenous Critical Theories to Action in Indigenous Teacher Education with Valerie Shirley, Ph. D., October 26, 1 - 2pm
- Navajo Rug Weaving Craft, San Pedro Library, October 26, 11 - 1pm
- Ethnomathematics Workshop with Henry Fowler, San Pedro Library, Tuesday, October 22, 3 - 5pm
- 4th Annual Indigenous Education Curriculum Fair, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Saturday, October 26
- IAIE UNM Native American Teacher Preparation Program 2024
- Moccasin Bouquet Craft, San Pedro Library, Friday, November 8, 11 - 1:00
- Indigenous Families Weekend,Petroglyph National Monument Info Center, Saturday and Sunday November 16 - 17

OUR CULTURE IS NOT A COSTUME

ENJOY HALLOWEEN EQUITABLY BECAUSE APPROPRIATION IS SCAAARRY.

- Native Halloween Costumes Are Offensive, Support Native Designers Instead
- That Indian Princess Costume is Not Honoring Native Culture
- Indigenous students speak out on Halloween: We are people, not costumes
- My culture is not your Halloween costume

Culturally Responsive Resources

Helpful reflections to consider when selecting Native American lessons or activities.
Be mindful of where and by whom resources have come from. Is it written in past tense?
Is the creator a Native person?
Are othering or stereotypical terms used?
Be critical of sites like TeacherspayTeachers.

When in doubt check out: American Indians in Children's Literature by Debbie Reese

Indigenize your library

- Ancestor Approved: Intertribal Stories for Kids
- Turtle Island: The Story of North America's First People
- Loaf the Cat goes to the Powwow
- The Water Lady: How Darlene Arviso Helps a Thirsty Navajo Nation
- Finding my Dance
- First Laugh Welcome Baby!
- Me'tis Like Me
- Maple Moon
- The Porcupine Year
- Fishing with Grandma
- Autumn Peltier, Water Warrior
- Elatso
- My Powerful Hair
- Apple in the Middle
- A Man Called Horse: John Horse and the Black Seminole Underground Railroad
- Fire Keeper's Daughter
- A Girl Called Echo: Pemmican Wars Vol. 1
- The Marrow Thieves
- My Heart is a Chainsaw
- Moon of the Crusted Snow
- The Only Good Indians
- The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee
- Never Whistle at Night
- Native America from 1890 to the Present
- An Indigenous Peoples History of the United States
- Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States: A Graphic Interpretation
- Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples
- Reclaiming Youth at Risk (Native Values/ Circle of Courage)

Online Resources

- American Indians in Children's Literature
- Indian Pueblo Cultural Center Wisdom Curriculum
- Native Knowledge 360
- Teaching Native Histories
- Zinn Education: Native American Lessons
- Indigenous New Mexico
- All My Relations Podcast
- Indigenous Food Sovereignty Organizations
- Library of Congress: Indigenous Research Guides
- Lessons from Earth and Beyond
- Indigenous Education K-12
- American Indian Library Association
- Indigenous books for Kids and Teens
- The Internet Archive

Need further help?

Reach out to IED Materials Specialist,
Jill Hutcheson for a tour of our library or for help with Indigenous resources.
jill.jurkiewicz@aps.edu