



ASSOCIATION ON AMERICAN INDIAN AFFAIRS

**9th Annual Repatriation Conference**  
**November 7, 8 & 9, 2023**



**BUILDING  
A NEW  
FIRE**



**PROGRAM**

CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION  
GRAND CASINO HOTEL & RESORT  
777 GRAND CASINO BLVD, SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA 74855



# Association on American Indian Affairs 9th Annual Repatriation Conference: Building a New Fire

**The Association on American Indian Affairs welcomes you to the 9th Annual Repatriation Conference hosted in partnership with the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.**

The Association welcomes all Conference attendees in-person and virtually for this 3-day hybrid interactive training event that will provide educational opportunities through keynote speakers, workshops and interactive panels, and special cultural events. The Conference is intended for Native Nation and Native Hawaiian Organization leaders, practitioners, Elders and representatives, museums, institutions, government agencies, academics, attorneys, collectors, artists, cultural preservationists and others engaged or interested in the return and reinvigoration of our diverse cultures.

The Conference continues our longstanding legacy providing training and expertise at a grassroots level to strengthen our collective futures. The theme invites participants to come together to build a new fire that will support new laws and regulations as well as more collaborative methods for undertaking the return of Ancestors, their burial belongings, and sensitive cultural heritage.

Things have changed. Repatriation - the return of Native Ancestors and their burial items, as well as the return of tangible and intangible cultural heritage - has changed. If your institution, agency or uncle is holding sensitive Native items without the consent and direction from Native Nations, then you are on the wrong side of history. The Safeguard Objects of Cultural Patrimony Act has been signed into law, a brand-new version of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act regulations are in the process of becoming final, and institutions are being called out for failing to repatriate. It is time for us to come together and build a new fire that will elevate our collective healing from this theft against humanity and human rights. We must re-commit to work together and pass forward intergenerational healing, so that we are no longer holding on to the trauma of our past.

**We all have a place around this new fire. Won't you help us build a new fire?**

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# Thank You to Our Host Citizen Potawatomi Nation

The story of Potawatomi and other Neshnabe Peoples stretches back to times that precede written histories, beginning on the East Coast of what is now known as North America. By the time Europeans arrived, a great migration was complete and the Tribes were living around the Great Lakes, with a social structure that included a strong communal lifestyle and seasonal lifeways. The people were bound together through ties of kinship, custom and mutual necessity. Several removals devastated the Potawatomi People after Europeans moved to present-day America, but a resilient group, the Citizen Potawatomi refused to give up hope.

Today, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is a federally-recognized government and represents over 38,000 citizens. It acts under a ratified Constitution and includes executive, legislative, and judicial branches. The Citizen Potawatomi are a living and dynamic people with a bright future. Their spiritual beliefs, values, and the celebration of unique traditions, language, and sovereignty must be protected and nurtured to understand the past and to thrive in the future.

## Explore Our Establishments

### Visit

- Cultural Heritage Center
- Eagle Aviary

### Shop

- Firelake Discount Foods
- Cultural Heritage Center Gift Shop

### Eat

- Firelake Fry Bread Taco
- Firelake Pizza

### Listen

- Classic Hits KGFF 100.9-FM and 1450-AM

### Play

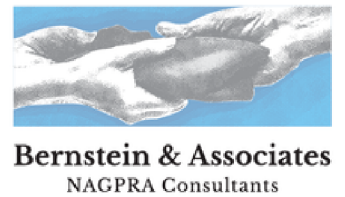
- Firelake Golf Course
- Firelake Bowling Center

Learn more at: [potawatomi.org/enterprises](http://potawatomi.org/enterprises).

[potawatomiheritage.com](http://potawatomiheritage.com)

# Thank You to Our Sponsors

Thank you to the University of Denver Museum of Anthropology for partnering with the Association on American Indian Affairs to provide funding for registration scholarships for the annual Repatriation Conference since 2020. Funding comes from a Master Cooperative Agreement between DUMA and the National Park Service.



Join the Repatriation Movement and support the Association by purchasing a limited-edition shirt or hoodie!

Limited supply available for sale during the Conference, or buy online until December 31, 2023 at: [Indian-Affairs.org/9thannualrepatriationconference](https://Indian-Affairs.org/9thannualrepatriationconference)



Online Prices (+ shipping)  
T-shirts: \$29.99  
Long Sleeve T-shirt: \$34.99  
Hoodie: \$49.99



# Agenda

Monday, November 6, 2023 | Pre-Conference

**3:00-5:00 pm**

**Volunteer Check-in and Prepare for Conference**

All volunteers meet at the Grand Event Center Foyer to prepare materials and finalize volunteer schedule.

**5:00-7:30 pm**

**Registration Open!**

Come say hello, pick up your registration and ask questions.

- If you brought an item to donate for the raffle, please bring that with you to the registration desk.
- Get logistics for special events!
- Meet the Association's staff and volunteers!
- Buy RAFFLE tickets!
- Let us know if you have any dietary restrictions.
- Vendors & Exhibitors, please check in now or Tuesday morning.
- Buy T-shirts!
- Network!

## Housekeeping

### Meeting Space Available

Private meeting rooms will be available for Conference participants to support your repatriation efforts and meet with museums, agencies and others. Please sign up on the door outside of each room.

### Participants

We are a diverse community coming together. Please note that participants at the Conference may include representatives of federal and state agencies. There will also be lawyers, museums, auction houses, dealers, artists, academics, Native Nation leaders, spiritual practitioners and others present. Be respectful. Be considerate. We will have individuals that can help us be peaceful and make sure we can share a safe space.

### Media

The Association reserves the right to request closed sessions at anytime during the Conference where media representatives will be asked to leave in order to respect the privacy of Conference attendees. If this should happen during the Conference, an announcement will be made.



# Agenda

Tuesday, November 7, 2023 | NAGPRA Regulations Training Day

**7:30 am**

**Registration Open**

- Vendors & Exhibitors check in
- Buy RAFFLE tickets
- If you brought an item to donate for the raffle, please bring that with you to the registration desk.

**7:45-9:00 am**

**Breakfast provided for registered attendees**

**9:00-9:30 am**

**Opening & Welcome**

Citizen Potawatomi Veterans Group  
Citizen Potawatomi Nation Vice Chairperson Linda Capps  
Association on American Indian Affairs President Frank Ettawageshik  
Association on American Indian Affairs CEO & Attorney Shannon O'Loughlin

**9:30-11:00 am**

**Advocating With Our Stories: Journalists Discuss Investigating NAGPRA Compliance**

**Ericca "CC" Hovie**, Ojibwe/Anishinaabe, Public Affairs & Communications Director, Association on American Indian Affairs; **Graham Lee Brewer**, Cherokee Nation, Investigative Journalist; **Jenna Kunze**, Senior Reporter, Native News Online  
**Mary Hudetz**, Crow Tribe, Reporter, ProPublica

*This insightful conversation will explore the challenges, successes, and evolving narratives surrounding NAGPRA and repatriation, shedding light on these complex issues of repatriation, boarding schools, cultural heritage preservation, and Native rights. Gain valuable perspectives from journalists at the forefront of uncovering untold stories and promoting NAGPRA compliance. Discover how investigative journalism can help us drive awareness and catalyze change.*

**11:00-12:00 pm**

**Learning to Heal: The Importance of a Mindfulness Practice**

**Dr. JoAnne Riegert**, PhD, LPCC, Ojibwe from the White Earth Indian Reservation, and Faculty and Supervisor, Center for Mind-Body Medicine

*Repatriation is an emotional, mental, physical and spiritual activity. The constant convincing that our Ancestors and cultural items come home can be degrading and demoralizing as we work to persuade others who we are and what our rights are. For institutions and others that hold our Ancestors and cultural items, they face a different kind of stress. Though the outcome of repatriation is healing, it is important that we understand how to take care of ourselves emotionally, mentally, physically and spiritually. Join us for this important mind and body practice.*



# Agenda

Tuesday, November 7, 2023 | NAGPRA Regulations Training Day

12:00-5:00 pm

## Lunch and NAGPRA Regulations Training

Take your box lunch to your Training Track.

Move to Indigenous Track or Institution Track rooms

There are 2 TRACKS for NAGPRA Regulations Training:

**TRACK 1: Indigenous Track moves to the Conference Hall and includes Native Nation or Indigenous Representative, Elder, Leader, Practitioner including non-Native representatives of Native Nations**

**TRACK 2: Institution Track stays at the Grand Event Center and includes Museum, University, Agencies, and all others**

**Melanie O'Brien**, Program Manager, National NAGPRA Program, National Park Service, U.S. Department of Interior; **Shannon O'Loughlin**, citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, CEO & Attorney, Association on American Indian Affairs

*For almost 33 years, the NAGPRA process for repatriation has been defined by institutions. The practice that has been built over the last three decades has benefitted institutions and burdened Native Nations, the opposite of Congress' intent for passing the law. With the new NAGPRA regulations set to be published any day, it is time for all of us to build a new fire regarding how to repatriate under NAGPRA. The new regulations seek to clear a path where lineal descendants, Native Nations, and Native Hawaiian Organizations, rather than museums or federal agencies, define what "expeditious" repatriation means. This will be a comprehensive training on the NAGPRA regulations and will walk through the repatriation process from start to finish and highlight what is required, what is not required, and where there is discretion. This training will provide practical knowledge and necessary tools to improve repatriation in line with Congress' intent.*



## Auction Alerts

In 2022, we investigated and reported on at least 130 domestic and international auctions selling almost 6,000 potentially sensitive items.

We monitor and provide notices about potentially sensitive cultural items in domestic and international auctions, and maintain a list of current auctions on our website at: [Indian-Affairs.org/auctions-and-collections](https://www.indian-affairs.gov/auctions-and-collections)

If you would like to be on the auction alert list and receive these notifications, please email [general@Indian-Affairs.org](mailto:general@Indian-Affairs.org)

# Agenda

Tuesday, November 7, 2023 | NAGPRA Regulations Training Day

**5:30 pm**

**OPTIONS: Talking Circle OR Tour Cultural Center**

**Talking Circle Led by Dr. JoAnne Riegert**

*Dr. JoAnne Riegert from the Center for Mind-Body Medicine will follow up in a smaller group session, a talking circle format, so that we can build community while we explore breathing, movement and a drawing exercises to support our body, mind, and spirit. Please be on time. Late attendees may not be admitted after 5:45 pm. This talking circle will not be streamed or recorded. Dinner will be provided.*

**5:30-7:30 pm**

**Citizen Potawatomi Cultural Center Guided Tour  
1899 S Gordon Cooper Dr, Shawnee, OK 74801 (17 minute drive)**

*Attendees will participate in a guided tour. There is no arranged transportation and can carpool to the Cultural Center. The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center offers a variety of interactive exhibits beginning with Citizen Potawatomi oral traditions, continuing through early ways of life, conflict, and forced removals before examining more recent history, including the Nation's time in Kansas and Indian Territory, and ending with the Citizen Potawatomi Nation today.*

## Tribal Partners Working Group

The Tribal Partners Working Group is a closed working group limited to Native Nation officials and representatives who represent Native Nations on matters involving domestic and international repatriation, NAGPRA, cultural heritage protection, historic preservation, and sacred site matters. This group exists to create a protected space for Native Nation representatives to come together and discuss important and sensitive issues such as understanding laws and policies, repatriation protocols, staying safe and healthy, developing relationships, building best practices and strategies, and supporting our Nations and Peoples. If you would like to join the TPWG, please email [general@Indian-Affairs.org](mailto:general@Indian-Affairs.org)

### Survey

Please scan the QR Code to complete the daily survey to help us improve your Conference experience. If you need a paper survey, please let us know.





# Agenda

Wednesday, November 8, 2023 | Domestic Repatriation

7:45-9:00 am

Breakfast provided for registered attendees

8:45-9:00 am

Opening Remarks

9:00-10:00 am

**Angeline Boulley - Warrior Girl Unearthed**



Angeline Boulley, an enrolled member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, is a storyteller who writes about her Ojibwe community in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Firekeeper's Daughter*, Angeline takes us back to Sugar Island in her new high-stakes thriller about repatriation and the power of discovering your stolen history in *Warrior Girl Unearthed*. In this second adventure, Perry Firekeeper-Birch has always known who she is - the laidback twin, the troublemaker, the best fisher on Sugar Island. Her aspirations won't ever take her far from home, and she wouldn't have it any other way. But as the rising number of missing Indigenous women starts circling closer to home, as her family becomes embroiled in a high-profile murder investigation, and as greedy grave robbers seek to profit off of what belongs to her Anishinaabe tribe, Perry begins to question everything. In order to reclaim this inheritance for her people, Perry has no choice but to take matters into her own hands. She can only count on her friends and allies, including her overachieving twin and a charming new boy in town with unwavering morals. Old rivalries, sister secrets, and botched heists cannot - will not - stop her from uncovering the mystery before the ancestors and missing women are lost forever. Sometimes, the truth shouldn't stay buried.

10:00-10:15 am

Break

10:15-11:45 am

**Repatriation and Hidden Health Hazards**

**Alyce Sadongei**, Kiowa and Tohono O'odham, Executive Director of Mission Garden, Friends of Tucson's Birthplace; **Brandy Howard**, PE, CIH, CSP is the Group Manager of Industrial Hygiene and Asbestos at Terracon's Denver Office; **Holly Cusack-McVeigh**, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Museum Studies at Indiana University **Lee Wayne Lomayestewa**, Hopi, NAGPRA Repatriation Coordinator & Researcher for the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office; **Melodi McAdams**, Tribal Heritage Manager, Tribal Historic Preservation Department, United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria; **Nancy Odegaard, PhD, FAIC, FIIC**, Conservator Professor Emerita, School of Anthropology, Department of Materials Science & Engineering **Paulette Reading**, Textile Conservator

*In the 1800s, museums treated items with heavy-metal contaminants like arsenic and mercury. By the 1940s, pesticides such as DDT were employed. This panel will introduce the complex history of chemical treatments, highlight Native Nations that have addressed this issue in repatriated items, share resources and explore ways forward in addressing these concerns.*

# Agenda

Wednesday, November 8, 2023 | Domestic Repatriation

11:45am-  
1:00 pm

**Lunch provided for registered attendees and social time**

1:00-2:00 pm

**A New Fire at the National Museum of Natural History**

**Dorothy Lippert**, citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Program Manager, Repatriation Office, National Museum of Natural History

*In the fall of 2023, Dorothy Lippert, a Choctaw citizen, became the third program manager for repatriation at the National Museum of Natural History. Dorothy will speak about the new vision for the evolution of repatriation at the NMNH. Dorothy will be introduced by Jackie Swift, Comanche and Fort Sill Apache, Repatriation Manager, National Museum of the American Indian.*

2:00-2:15 pm

**Break**

2:15-3:45 pm

**Aspiration and Practice: Closing the Expectation Gap between Tribes and Institutions**

**Melodi McAdams**, Tribal Heritage Manager, United Auburn Indian Community  
**Nakia Zavalla**, THPO Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians; **Wendy Teeter**, Cultural Resources Archaeologist, Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians

*There is an ongoing gap between what Native Nations expect of NAGPRA consultation and what institutions provide. This panel will discuss and share how Native Nations should strategize their initial requests for information from institutions to accommodate the ever-expanding list of places where Ancestors are found after repatriation is presumably completed. There is harm and heartache that comes from receiving calls of new "finds." This panel will share and discuss a current template letter, a checklist, and experiences.*

3:45-4:00 pm

**Break**





# Agenda

Wednesday, November 8, 2023 | Domestic Repatriation

4:00-5:30 pm

## Well That is What it Says, But...: A Policy Focused Discussion of NAGPRA and its Application in Medical Examiner and Coroner Offices

**Dr. Ellen Lofaro**, Director of Repatriation at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; **Megan Kleeschulte**, Doctoral Candidate at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; **Ryan Wheeler**, Director, Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology; **William Johnson**, Saginaw Chippewa, Curator and Operations Manager for the Ziiibwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways

*As repatriation efforts change and grow, so too it seems do the institutions in which we discover Ancestors. To contribute to expanding repatriation efforts our work focuses on the U.S. medicolegal system, specifically medical examiner and coroner offices, as institutions that require education and training in order to comply with NAGPRA regulations. Medicolegal offices receive federal funding and often come into the possession of Native Ancestors that have been misidentified as forensic cases; therefore, they are defined under NAGPRA as a museum. However, many offices are unaware of NAGPRA and as a result handle Ancestors contrary to the law.*

6:00-8:00 pm

## Celebrate the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Event & Honoring

Hosted by Citizen Potawatomi Nation and its Cultural Heritage Center

Join us for this special event to celebrate the vibrant culture of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, and Potawatomi Peoples, at this evening event including a special honoring. A plated dinner will be served.



CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION  
CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER



## Survey

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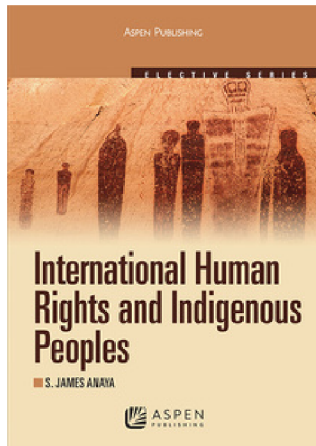
# Agenda

Thursday, November 9, 2023 | International Repatriation

**7:45-9:00 am**      **Breakfast provided for registered attendees**

**8:45-9:00 am**      **Opening Remarks**

**9:00-10:00 am**      **S. James Anaya - International Standards and Mechanisms to Support Repatriation**



Professor Anaya has been involved in advocating for the rights of Indigenous Peoples in international and domestic courts, and he served as the United Nations Human Rights Council's Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples from 2008 to 2014. Professor Anaya will be sharing an overview of the international human rights framework concerning Indigenous Peoples and how it came about as a result of Indigenous Peoples' own advocacy. International human rights laws, reflected in international treaties and declarations, such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples can provide support for repatriation advocacy both domestically and internationally. How can these international mechanisms support repatriation?

**10:00-10:15 am**      **Break**

**10:15 am-12 pm**      **Developing Strategies for International Repatriation**

**Amy Shakespeare**, PhD Candidate at the University of Exeter and Founder of website Routes to Return; **Ashley Fry**, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Indigenous Affairs Officer, Cultural Heritage Center, U.S. Department of State

**Dr. Fiona Batt**, Repatriation of Cultural Heritage Division lead, University of Bristol Law School, UK; **Martin Earring**, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Staff Assistant, Office of Tribal Justice, U.S. Department of Justice; **Martin Schultz**, North American Curator, National Museums of World Culture, Sweden; **Sam Kohn**, Crow Tribe of Montana, Senior Counselor to the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior; **Shannon O'Loughlin**, citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, CEO & Attorney for the Association on American Indian Affairs

*Repatriation of Ancestors and sensitive cultural items from foreign institutions occurs intermittently and generally involves few items and few affiliated Native Nations. It can be a long and arduous process dependent on a particular country's laws, and a particular institution's policies, among many other considerations.*

*The Association on American Indian Affairs and federal partners will discuss current strategies to move international repatriations forward.*



# Agenda

Thursday, November 9, 2023 | International Repatriation

- 12:00-1:30 pm**      **Lunch provided for registered attendees, social time and RAFFLE DRAWING**
- 1:30-3:00 pm**      **Bringing Ancestors and Cultural Items Home from Foreign Lands: What Happens After Repatriation Is Approved**  
**Ashley Fry**, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Indigenous Affairs Officer, Cultural Heritage Center, U.S. Department of State; **Catherine Bechard**, Metis, Regional Indigenous Affairs Advisor, Canadian Border Services Agency, Indigenous Affairs Secretariat, **Jackie Swift**, Comanche and Fort Sill Apache, Repatriation Manager, National Museum of the American Indian; **Laurel Iron Cloud**, Oglala Sioux Tribe, Director of Tribal Affairs, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; **Marie Trottier**, Tribal Liaison, Senior Policy Advisor, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security  
*This government panel will discuss the practical and logistical aspects of coordination and collaboration among U.S. government and foreign government agencies after a foreign institution or entity has agreed to repatriate Ancestors and cultural items to a Native Nation. Contact with the appropriate government agencies in advance of the repatriation dates will provide necessary information for border crossings, transportation of ceremonial items, and help ensure Ancestors and cultural items return home safely.*
- 3:00-3:15 pm**      **Break**
- 3:15-4:45 pm**      **Hlaa Hiyukwhl Gwildim-Gooda'm Dim Dip Luu-diyalkwhl Hli Haykwhl Ganiye'etgu'm - Preparing to Bring Our Ancestors Home: Rematriation of the Wilps Ni'isjoohl Memorial Pole from Scotland to Nisga'a Lands**  
**Sim'oogit Ni'isjoohl | Chief Earl Stephens**, Wilps Ni'isjoohl, Nisga'a Nation, **Sigidimnak Noxs Ts'aawit | Dr. Amy Parent**, Nisga'a, Associate Professor & Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Education & Governance, and Associate Director, Cassidy Centre for Educational Justice, Faculty of Education, Simon Fraser University; **Hlgu Aama Gat | Donald Leeson**, Nisga'a, Chief Councillor, Laxgalt'sap Village Government; **Apdii Laxha | Andrew Robinson**, Nisga'a, Industry Relations Officer, Nisga'a Lisims Government; **Theresa Schober**, Director and Curator, Hli Goothl Wilp-Adokshl Nisga'a, Nisga'a Museum, Nisga'a Lisims Government; **Dr. John Giblin, Keeper**, Department of Global Arts, Cultures & Design, National Museums Scotland; **Mmihlgum Maakskwhl Gakw | Pamela Brown**, Nisga'a Child and Family Services  
*On September 29, 2023, a long-stolen memorial totem pole was returned to Nisga'a Lands in British Columbia, Canada from the National Museums Scotland. This panel discussion will share the Ni'isjoohl Memorial Pole rematriation story as an exemplar for Indigenous Nations seeking the return of their stolen belongings from UK institutions.*

# Agenda

Thursday, November 9, 2023 | International Repatriation

**4:45 - 5:00 pm**      **Conference Wrap Up & Closing**

**6:00-8:30 pm**      **INK & IMPACT: Our Stories Make a Difference**  
**The Association's 101st Annual Membership Meeting & Native Author Event**  
*All are welcome to attend! You do not need to register for the Conference to attend this free public event. The event will also be streamed live on Facebook. Learn more about the Association, meet board members, grab a bite to eat, and be a part of the Association's governance. Stay and enjoy a panel with some amazing Native women authors. Dinner will be provided.*



**Angeline Bouley | [angelinebouley.com](http://angelinebouley.com)**

A citizen of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, and a New York Times best-selling author of *Firekeepers Daughter* and *Warrior Girl Unearthed*.



**Kim Rogers | [kimrogerswriter.com](http://kimrogerswriter.com)**

An enrolled member of Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, and author of *Just Like Grandma*, *A Letter for Bob*, and *I Am Osage: How Clarence Tinker became the First Native American Major General*.



**Andrea L. Rogers | [andrearogers.com](http://andrearogers.com)**

A citizen of the Cherokee Nation, and author of children's book "Mary and the Trail of Tears," short story "The Ballad of Maggie Wilson," and essay "My Oklahoma History".



**Sarah Elisabeth Sawyer | [sarahelisabethwrites.com](http://sarahelisabethwrites.com)**

A citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, and writer of historical fiction and creator of the Fiction Writing: American Indians digital course.



**GREEN FEATHER**  
*book company*

Visit the Green Feather Book Company booth during the Conference and purchase your favorite author's books! Green Feather is owned and operated by Heather Hall, a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation.

## Survey

Please scan the QR Code to complete the daily survey to help us improve your Conference experience. If you need a paper survey, please let us know.



# Speakers



Alyce Sadongei is Kiowa and Tohono O’odham, and has worked at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of the American Indian, the Arizona State Museum and the American Indian Language Development Institute located at the University of Arizona. During her tenure at ASM she worked collaboratively with colleagues to increase awareness of pesticide residue on objects subject to repatriation. She is Executive Director of Mission Garden, a living agricultural museum highlighting the agricultural heritage of the Tucson basin.



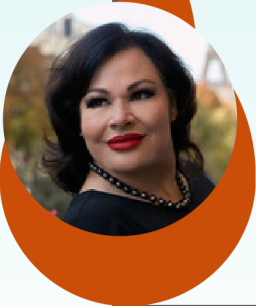
Dr. Amy Parent, Sigidimnak’ Noxs Ts’aawit, is an Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Education & Governance in the Faculty of Education at Simon Fraser University. She is also the Associate Director for the SFU Cassidy Centre for Educational Justice. On her mother’s side of the family, she is from the House of Ni’isjoohl and is a member of the Ganada (Frog) clan in the village of Laxgalts’ap in the Nisga’a Nation.



Amy Shakespeare is a UK Arts and Humanities Research Council funded Ph.D. candidate at the University of Exeter, England. Her research aims to enable more European museums to undertake repatriation. In 2023, she founded Routes to Return - a website that aims to share information and create global networks to enable international repatriation. Amy is a museum professional with over a decade’s worth of experience, and she is currently Repatriation Officer for the Museum Ethnographers Group.



Andrew Robinson, Apdii Laxha, is Chief Executive Officer for Nisga’a Lisims Government and has previously served as Industry Relations Officer and Manager for the Ayuukhl Nisga’a Department of NLG and Chief Administrative Officer for the Laxgalts’ap Village Government. As a member of the House of Ni’isyuus, Mr. Robinson brings forth cultural teachings that were taught to him as a young man growing up with his great grandparents, extended family, and community members.



Angeline Bouley, an enrolled member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, is a storyteller who writes about her Ojibwe community in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. She is a former Director of the Office of Indian Education at the U.S. Department of Education. *Firekeeper’s Daughter* is her debut novel and was an instant #1 NYT Bestseller. The book has been named the Walter Dean Myers Award for Outstanding Children’s Literature, the Printz Award, the William C. Morris award for YA debut literature, and was an American Indian Youth Literature Award Honor Book. Angeline’s latest book released in May, *Warrior Girl Unearthed*, is about repatriation. It was an instant NYT bestseller, a #1 Indies Bestseller, an Amazon Best Book of the Month, Indigo Teen Staff Pick of the Month, and Indie Next Pick.



Ashley Fry is a citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and an Indigenous Affairs Officer with the U.S. Department of State's Cultural Heritage Center, where she serves as co-lead on the White House Council on Native American Affairs International Repatriation subcommittee and manages the Arctic Indigenous Cultural Heritage Initiative and the International Repatriation Museum Exchange. Previously, she was with the U.S. Department of the Interior, where she served as the Senior Advisor for International Affairs to the Assistant Secretary–Indian Affairs.



# Speakers



Brandy Howard, PE, CIH, CSP is the Group Manager of Industrial Hygiene and Asbestos at Terracon's Denver Office. Brandy works with clients in various industries to deliver cost-effective environmental, health, and safety solutions to support their operations. Brandy currently serves as the Secretary for the National AIHA Museums and Cultural Heritage Industry Working Group and was a research partner on the Museum Poisons Test Kit project.



Catherine Bechard is Metis and a Regional Indigenous Affairs Advisor with Canada Border Services Agency's Indigenous Affairs Secretariat. The Indigenous Affairs Secretariat has formed a working group to develop operational guidance and comprehensive approaches to support the repatriation of Indigenous sacred and ceremonial items across the Canadian border.



Donald Leeson, Hlgu Aama Gat, is Chief Councillor for Laxgalt'sap Village Government and is from the House of Aama Gat. He holds a Master of Educational Administration and Leadership from University of British Columbia. Working for the Nisga'a Valley Health Authority's Mental Health Department and Crisis Response Team for the last 17 years, he is passionate to deepen Nisga'a law, ethics, and virtues to restore and revive Nisga'a language, identity, harmony and balance.



Dorothy Lippert, a citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, is the incoming Program Manager for the Repatriation Office of the National Museum of Natural History. She is the first woman and the first Native American in this role. Lippert has served on the Boards of Directors for Society for American Archaeology and the World Archaeological Congress. In 2011, she was appointed by President Obama to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, serving two terms.



Chief Earl Stephens, Sim'oogit Ni'isjoohl, was raised in the village of Laxgalts'ap and later moved away to attend secondary school. He returned to the village of Laxgalts'ap over thirty years ago, where he works with School District 92. He received the name Sim'oogit Ni'isjoohl from his late uncle, Chief Horace Stephens (former Sim'oogit Ni'isjoohl) - one of nineteen uncles and three aunts in his matrilineal line. Sim'oogit Ni'isjoohl is the proud father of three children and five grandchildren.



Dr. Ellen Lofaro became the Director of Repatriation at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 2020 after previously serving as NAGPRA Coordinator and Curator of Archaeology. She actively consults, collaborates and partners with Native Nations to repatriate all Native Ancestors and cultural items. Ellen also facilitates international repatriation requests and works to integrate collaborative community research and traditional care requests into university standards and policies.



Dr. Fiona Batt is an independent human rights consultant and is presently assisting the Association on American Indian Affairs, as well as Indigenous communities and museums, through research and advice on the repatriation of cultural heritage processes. Additionally, she is the lead of the Repatriation of Cultural Heritage Division at the University of Bristol Human Rights Implementation Centre, UK. She has published several articles regarding legal frameworks in repatriation, using strategic human rights litigation and protecting intellectual property.



Graham L. Brewer is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation and was most recently a national investigative reporter for NBC News and the current president of the Native American Journalists Association. Before joining NBC, Brewer was an associate editor for Indigenous affairs at High Country News and a regular contributor to NPR and the New York Times. He lives in Norman, Oklahoma.

# Speakers



Holly Cusack-McVeigh is an associate professor of anthropology and museum studies at Indiana University. She holds appointments as a public scholar of collections and community curation in the Native American and Indigenous Studies program. Her work focuses on repatriation, cultural heritage, looting, toxic heritage, and social justice. Holly has worked in the field of repatriation with and for Native Nations and Indigenous Peoples for decades, including the United States, Canada, New Zealand, Peru, and South Africa.



Jackie Swift is Comanche and Ft Sill Apache and is the Repatriation Manager for the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian. Her role includes implementing the NMAI's repatriation policy and procedures, with an emphasis on the return of Ancestral remains and their burial accompaniment, both domestically and internationally. More recently, Jackie participated on the Smithsonian's Ethical Returns Working Group and the Implementation Working Group tasked with developing a formal policy that would allow for the shared stewardship arrangements and the return of collections based on ethical considerations.



S. James Anaya is a University Distinguished Professor and the Nicholas Doman Professor of International Law at the University of Colorado Law School, where he teaches and writes in the areas of international human rights and issues concerning Indigenous Peoples. Professor Anaya is a graduate of the University of New Mexico (B.A. in Economics, 1980) and Harvard Law School (J.D., 1983). Among his numerous publications is his acclaimed book, *Indigenous Peoples in International Law* (Oxford Univ. Press, 1996, 2d. ed. 2004) and his widely-used co-authored textbook, *International Human Rights: Problems of Law, Policy and Practice* (Aspen, 7th ed. 2023) (with Hurst Hannum and Dinah Shelton). Professor Anaya served as the United Nations Human Rights Council's Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples from 2008 to 2014. In that capacity, he examined and reported on conditions of Indigenous Peoples worldwide and responded to allegations of human rights violations against them, including through country visits and direct contacts with governments. In addition, Professor Anaya has litigated major Indigenous rights and human rights cases in domestic and international tribunals, including the U.S. Supreme Court and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. Among his noteworthy activities, he participated in the drafting of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and was the lead counsel for the Indigenous parties in the case of *Awas Tingni v. Nicaragua*, in which the Inter-American Court of Human Rights for the first time upheld Indigenous land rights as a matter of international law.



Jenna Kunze is a reporter for Native News Online. Her bylines have appeared in *The Guardian*, *The Arctic Sounder*, *High Country News*, *Indian Country Today*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, and *Anchorage Daily News*. In 2020, she was one of 16 U.S. journalists selected by the Pulitzer Center to report on climate change. Her collaborative work was named 'Best Environmental Reporting' by the Alaska Press Club in 2020, and "Best Audio Reporting" in the 2021 Covering Climate Now Journalism Awards, presented by Columbia Journalism Review and NBC's AI Roker. Kunze is based in New York.



# Speakers



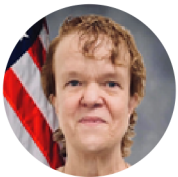
Dr. JoAnne Riegert is Ojibwe of the Crane Clan from the White Earth Indian Reservation, and her spirit name is Lead White Cloud Woman. Dr. Riegert is certified in Mind-Body Medicine, and is a member of the Center for Mind-Body Medicine Faculty and Supervision Teams. She is a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor. She educates and trains new clinicians, following the principles of the Seven Grandfather Teachings of the Anishinaabe. She is professionally trained in Indigenous trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy, Indigenous restorative justice circle processes, suicide prevention and intervention, eye movement desensitization and reprocessing therapy, grief and loss, and men's domestic violence re-education.



Dr. John Giblin is Keeper for the Department of Global Arts, Cultures and Design at the National Museums Scotland. His research interests lie in Archaeology, Anthropology, Art, Critical Heritage Studies, Empire and Participatory Practice. Dr. Giblin leads participatory collections-based research into empire, migration, and life in Britain. In partnership with descendant communities around the world and diaspora communities in the UK, Dr. Giblin also leads projects that reveal and connect collections in Scottish museums with stakeholders.



Lee Wayne Lomayestewa is a member of the Hopi Tribe of Arizona and a member of the Bear Clan. He is the NAGPRA Repatriation Coordinator & Researcher for the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office. He was also a team member on the NAGPRA Hopi Pesticide Testing Project. He serves as the president of the Native Nations Southwest Advisory Panel at the Arizona State Museum and as a member of the Indian Advisory Panel at the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture in Santa Fe, New Mexico.



Marie Trottier is a Senior Policy Advisor and the Outreach & Engagement Program Manager and Tribal Affairs Liaison for the Transportation Security Administration component of the Department of Homeland Security. Prior to moving to Washington, DC, she served as the Chief Accessibility Officer for Harvard University, in Cambridge, MA, USA, for more than twenty years. Marie also serves as an International Liaison for disability advocacy organizations, engaging and collaborating with International NGOs, families, individuals, and medical professionals throughout the world.



Martin Earring is an enrolled member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and staff assistant at the Office of Tribal Justice, Department of Justice. Before coming to DOJ, Martin was an employee at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian for over a decade. He is a former board member of the International Committee for Museums and Collections of Ethnography, International Council of Museums. Mr. Earring has BAs in Anthropology and French Studies from the University of South Dakota, and Dartmouth College for a MA in Liberal Studies.



Martin Schultz is currently the Curator of collections from North America at the National Museums of World Culture in Sweden. Martin has studied ethnology, history, and archaeology in Hannover, Bonn and holds a Master's Degree in Ethnology from the University Frankfurt, Germany. He has been working in museums in Europe in various capacities since 2012 and began working with international repatriation related matters in 2015.



Mary Hudetz is an enrolled member of the Crow Tribe and a reporter with ProPublica investigating Native issues throughout the Southwest. Previously, with the Seattle Times, and she was also a law enforcement reporter for the Associated Press in Albuquerque, and an editor for AP's West Regional Desk in Phoenix. Hudetz is a past president of the Native American Journalists Association. She has extensive experience investigating and writing about issues facing Native Nations and Peoples, particularly in the Southwest. In 2019, her collaborative reporting about missing and murdered Indigenous women won several awards, including a Dori J. Maynard Award for Justice in Journalism from the News Leaders Association.



# Speakers



Megan Kleeschulte is a Doctoral Candidate at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Her research focuses on the implementation of NAGPRA in the U.S. Medicolegal System, working specifically with medical examiners, coroners, and forensic anthropologists regarding how Ancestral remains enter medicolegal offices, are handled, and returned. Megan also works at the Forensic Anthropology Center at UTK on forensic cases and training various law enforcement agencies on forensic anthropology methods.



Melodi McAdams is the Tribal Heritage Manager for the United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria where she has worked for over 10 years coordinating repatriation, Tribal Monitoring, and protection of cultural sites through environmental law. She has undergraduate and graduate degrees in Anthropology, with focuses in ethnography and archaeology. As part of that repatriation work, Melodi has reached out to experts from Native Nations, Museums, Conservators, Toxicologists, Industrial Hygienists and others in order to build capacity for identifying and addressing contaminants in the repatriation process, based on Tribal preferences and needs.



Melanie O'Brien is the Manager of the National NAGPRA Program for the U.S. Department of the Interior in Washington, DC. Melanie is responsible for carrying out all duties assigned to the National NAGPRA Program by the Secretary of the Interior and serves as the Designated Federal Officer to the NAGPRA Review Committee. Throughout her career, Melanie has specialized in federal Indian law and policy, applying her master's degree in public history from Loyola University Chicago to the work of the federal government.



Nakia Zavalla is Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians, and is the THPO and Culture and Language Director for her Nation since 2007. Nakia is the NAGPRA Coordinator under the direction of the Elders Council. Growing up in her Nation's traditional ways, she brings a range of knowledge and a passion for her language, culture and cultural resources preservation. In her position, she is credited with creating the S'amala Language Apprentice Program and in the co-development of the Teaching Credential: American Indian Languages and Culture.



Dr. Nancy Odegaard is a Conservator and Professor Emerita at the Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona. She led major research on the issue of pesticide residues involving documenting pesticides used, residue testing techniques, safe handling, labeling, storage practices, mitigation, and removal methods. Among her publications, the book "Old Poisons New Problems: Information and Resource Guide for Contaminated Cultural Materials in Museum Collections" (AltaMira) was created to help museums and Native Nations.



Paulette Reading has worked as a textile conservator in private practice for seventeen years. Clients include museums, historic houses, and private clients. She has presented workshops and lectures for museum staff in health and safety practices with a focus on artifact contamination. She is a professional associate of the American Institute for Conservation and has held a leadership role with the AIC Health and Safety Network since 2019, and serves on the newly formed Contamination & Pesticides Repatriation Working Group. She has an M.A. in Art Conservation.

# Speakers



Pamela Brown, Mmihlgum Maakskwhl Gakw, is from the House of Duuk and is a member of the Laxgibuu (wolf) clan in the Nisga'a Nation. Pamela works with Nisga'a Child and Family Services based in Terrace, BC.



Ryan Wheeler became the eighth director of the Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology in 2012. At Phillips Academy, an independent college preparatory school in Andover, Massachusetts, Ryan has advanced a strategic vision focused on collaborative collections care, education, and repatriation. Prior to moving to Massachusetts, Ryan was Florida's State Archaeologist, where he led efforts in historic preservation, collections care, museum and park design, and land manager training.



Samuel Kohn is a Senior Counselor in the office of the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs. He was born and raised on the Crow Reservation in rural Montana and is an enrolled member of the Crow Tribe. Sam has served as a judicial law clerk in the United States District Court for the District of Montana, a Managing Associate at Dentons US LLP, and as Assistant Regional Counsel in the Office of General Counsel for the Department of Health and Human Services.



Theresa Schober serves as Director and Curator of the Hli Goothl Wilp-Adokshl Nisga'a, Nisga'a Museum for Nisga'a Lisims Government. She has held leadership positions in the archaeological and museum communities, including Associate Curator in Anthropology at Florida State University. Ms. Schober collaborates with Indigenous communities to facilitate sharing, understanding, and preservation of their history and culture. She also supports repatriation and rematriation of Ancestral remains and cultural belongings to First Nations through museum practice.



Wendy Teeter is the Cultural Resources Archaeologist for Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians and retired Senior Curator of Archaeology/Repatriation Coordinator for UCLA Fowler Museum. She is Co-PI on two community-based digital projects, Mapping Indigenous Los Angeles (2015) and Carrying our Ancestors Home (2019), and co-director of the Pimu Catalina Island Archaeology Project (2007). She serves on several boards and committees including the Indigenous Archaeology Collective, Chair of the Society for California Archaeology Curation Committee and as a founder and advisory board member for the UCLA Tribal Learning Community & Educational Exchange Program.



William Johnson is Saginaw Chippewa and the Curator and Operations Manager for the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways. He is one of two Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan NAGPRA Designees and has worked at Ziibiwing for 25 years. William is the Chairman of the Michigan Anishinabek Cultural Preservation and Repatriation Alliance and is serving his fourth 4-year term. William also serves on the University of Michigan's Advisory Committee on Culturally Unidentifiable Human Remains under NAGPRA since 2011. William is committed to the cultural and historic preservation of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and the Great Lakes Anishinabek.





**ASSOCIATION ON  
AMERICAN INDIAN AFFAIRS**  
**1922 YEARS 2022**

## **Protecting Sovereignty | Preserving Culture Educating Youth | Building Capacity**

The Association on American Indian Affairs is the oldest non-profit serving Native Country. The Association was formed in 1922 to change the destructive path of federal policy from assimilation, termination and allotment, to sovereignty, self-determination and self-sufficiency. Throughout its more than 100-year history, the Association has provided national advocacy on watershed issues that support sovereignty and culture, while working at a grassroots level with Native Nations to support the implementation of programs that affect lives on the ground.

The Association is currently engaged in a comprehensive strategic planning process to prepare the organization for its next 100 years to achieve its vision to ensure "A world where diverse Native American cultures and values are lived, protected and respected." The Association's current programs are devoted to protect Native children, youth and families, preserve sacred and cultural sites as well as repatriate Ancestors, their burial items and sacred and cultural patrimony, and protect Native identity, lands and treaty rights. The Association also provides scholarships, grant opportunities for Native youth summer camps, fellowships, and internships to Native students of all ages.

### **How You Can Help**

Native Nations, companies, foundations, individuals, trusts, estates and other organizations or entities are all invited to take advantage of various opportunities to become a part of the Association's legacy of healing and advocacy. Your contribution supports grassroots and national efforts in partnership with Tribes and Indigenous peoples to seek solutions and policies that empower self-determination and sustainability in Native Country. Relationships are crafted in many ways and we look forward to building a relationship with you to invest in Native Country.



**Donate Now!**

### **Join the Association!**

Anyone can be a part of the Association's family by becoming a member. As a member you will receive our bi-annual journal that has been published since the 1930s! Members will also receive special "calls for action" and invitations to participate in the governance of the organization. Membership governs our organization and you can vote for members of the Association's Board of Directors and vote for changes to the Association's corporate charter and by-laws.



**Join Now!**

**\$25 Annual Membership | \$500 Lifetime Membership**



# Association on American Indian Affairs

The Association is governed by an all-Native American Board of Directors from across Native Country. As a membership organization, the Association speaks with unified voices from all over the country, both Native and non-Native together, to protect sovereignty, preserve culture, educate youth and build capacity.

## Board of Directors Diverse Native Country Advocates



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President  
(Odawa)



**Jonathan Perry**  
Vice President  
(Wampanoag)



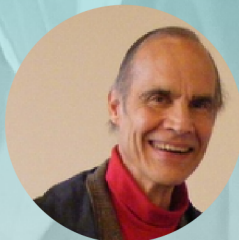
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# ALL ARE WELCOME!



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## DECEMBER 2-9

LIVE Online Event: Saturday, December 2 at 2 p.m. CT



### VISIT A TRIBAL MUSEUM TO ENJOY:

- Special exhibits
- Gift shop discounts
- Art markets
- Cultural demonstrations

Some museums  
may offer  
**FREE admission!**

## Meet Team Indigenous Rising Roller Derby

The Association on American Indian Affairs recently partnered with Team Indigenous to support their mission and promote the team's advocacy for Indigenous rights and visibility. The partnership is a natural fit, as both organizations are dedicated to promoting Indigenous rights. For example, Team Indigenous is working to raise awareness about issues like Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples, water rights, culture and sovereignty. Through the Association and Team Indigenous' partnership, we will be working together to inspire a new generation of Indigenous athletes and to raise awareness about the importance of honoring Native culture and traditions.

**SMUDGE  
FIRST,  
ROLLER  
DERBY  
AFTER**



**100** ASSOCIATION ON  
AMERICAN INDIAN AFFAIRS  
1922 YEARS 2022





# 100



1922 YEARS 2022

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