

**Journal #5849 from sdc 11.8.24**

*"This is sacred land to us Hawaiians."*

*The California Native Vote Project*

*Explore Native American culture with the following lessons, activities, and resources.*

*Sam Knew Them When*

*Scholarships (N-Y) with December 31 Deadlines*

*Sacramento State Makes History with new Native American College*

*Wildlife KILLER Sentenced – LOCK HIM UP!*

"This is sacred land to us Hawaiians."



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

[Mystery buyer saves sacred Hawaiian land from development](#)

[A development project was destined for Pololu Valley on the North Kohala coast of Hawaii Island. Then came a surprising turn.](#)

As we process the election of a president who has openly opposed human rights, Native sovereignty, and the foundational safety our communities need to thrive, we stand in solidarity with you. We recognize the deep hurt and frustration this news brings to Native peoples, people of color, allies, and all those who envision a just, liberated future. This moment is heavy, and we feel the weight of it alongside you. Let us give ourselves the space to grieve, recover, and reflect on what this means for our journey toward liberation, self determination, and safety.

Yet even in difficult times, we know that our communities are rooted in strength and resilience and that we continue to make strides that honor our future generations. Thanks to our collective action, we saw significant wins, like the passage of Measure A in Los Angeles, a crucial step toward housing solutions for our disproportionately impacted houseless relatives. We saw the re-election of James Ramos (Serrano/Cahuilla) to the California State Assembly and the election of Jackie Fielder (Lakota, Mandan, Hidatsa) to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Together, we have shown that change is possible and that our voices matter. Let this moment remind us that our work remains critical, and our unity, collective action, and determination are more powerful than any opposition we face.

As we look ahead, let's recommit to one another. Let's continue to build a path forward grounded in community care, action, resistance, and collective healing. We are here, we are strong, and we will keep moving forward together—building a future rooted in hope, trust, and unwavering solidarity. Stay tuned for upcoming opportunities to gather, strategize, and take action together.

In community, The California Native Vote Project

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This is just FYI, lesson plans for Native American education

### **Native American and Alaska Native Heritage Month**

**Explore Native American culture during November or any time during the school year with the following lessons, activities, and resources.**



By: NEA Published: November 9, 2020 Last Updated: October 5, 2023

During November, we celebrate the history, culture, and contributions of Native Peoples. To help educators with their curriculum plans, we've compiled Thanksgiving lessons and resources on learning about the tribes indigenous to North America.

Educators should be mindful of [cultural appropriation](#) when teaching about other cultures and understand that Native American students in class may experience lessons differently than non-Native students.

### **Lesson Plans**

[Student-Centered Digital Learning Activities](#)

Check out these digital education tools, lesson plans, and resources available for free and downloadable from the National Indian Education Association.

### [Interdisciplinary Stories, Webinars, Films, and Lesson Plans](#)

The Global Oneness Project offers a library of multimedia stories comprising award-winning films, photo essays, and essays, many with companion curriculum and discussion guides.

### [Native Americans Today](#)

Students in **grades 3-5** compare prior knowledge of Native Americans with information gathered while reading about contemporary Native Americans.

### [Alaska Native Stories: Using Narrative to Introduce Expository Text](#)

Students in **grades 3-5** use traditional stories of Native peoples to begin a study of animals in Alaska.

### [Amplify the Voices of Contemporary Native Peoples in Your Classroom](#)

The Lesson Plans section of Illuminative's site contains several digital education tools, activities, and resources about Native American art, culture, history, and contemporary life. Students will learn about contemporary Indigenous changemakers fighting against invisibility and their many important contributions to this country.

### **Thanksgiving Lesson Plans from a Native American Perspective**

#### [A Story of Survival: The Wampanoag and the English](#)

A Thanksgiving Lesson Plan Booklet from a Native American Perspective (Oklahoma City Public Schools)

[Harvest Ceremony: Beyond the Thanksgiving Myth, A Study Guide](#) (National Museum of the American Indian)

[American Indian Perspectives on Thanksgiving, Grades 4-8](#) (NMAI)

### **Additional Lesson Plan Units**

[Native American Dolls](#) (PDF, 1.7 MB, 28 pgs.)

Students in grades K-12 explore the perspectives and experiences of Native doll makers from five tribal groups and discover how their work is keeping old traditions and developing new ones.



### **Resources for Teaching About Indigenous Peoples**

Find more resources to help you educate students honestly and accurately about Native history and the people whose land we occupy. [Learn more](#)

### [Pourquoi Stories: Creating Tales to Tell Why](#)

Students in **grades 3-5** study three tales and learn about their cultures of origin, then work cooperatively to write and present an original pourquoi tale.

### [Prehistoric Native American Lesson Plan: Pottery-making Methods](#) (PDF, 295 KB, 5 pgs.)

Students in **grades 3-12** experiment with three methods ancient people used to make pottery before the invention of the pottery wheel.

### [Picaria: a Zuni Math Game](#) (PDF, 2 pgs)

Students in **grades 6-8** will learn how to play Picaria, a Zuni Pueblo math game similar to modern tic-tac-toe at first, but involving more movement and strategy. Create your own game board and practice mathematical thinking skills while having fun.

### [The Cultural Significance of Naming](#) (PDF, 2 pgs)

Explore the Native American tradition of naming a person and the cultural meaning behind sacred names. This activity features an example from a historic Lakota Sioux chief, a Navajo elder, and a well-known Mexican American writer. (**grades 6-8**)

## **Background Resources**

### [Native American Heritage Month](#)

Resources provided by the Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Features audio and video files.

### [A History of Native Voting Rights](#)

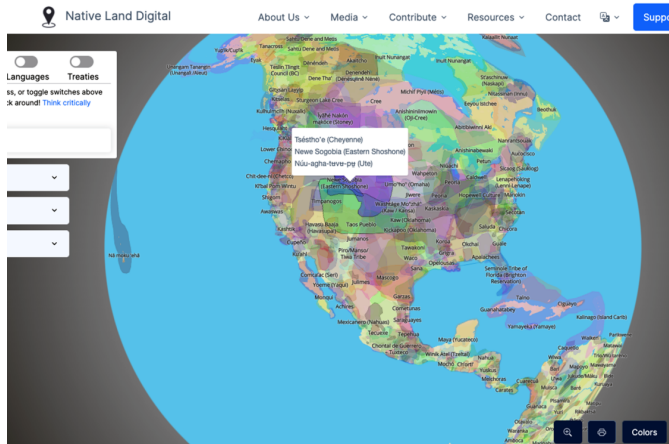
Provides a brief history of the difficulties Native Americans have faced in voting since the passage of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

### [The National Museum of the American Indian Native Knowledge 360 Educational Resources](#)

Choose from featured resources in history, civics, geography, and STEM, or search for resources by language, nation, subject, grade, and topic.

## [1491](#)

Charles C. Mann, author of *1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus* and *1493: Uncovering the New World Columbus Created*, presents current evidence about population and agricultural advancement in the Western Hemisphere prior to European arrival.



Native Land Digital (drag se corner to enlarge)

### Land Acknowledgments: Where Do I Start?

The first step in preparing a Native land acknowledgment is to identify the traditional inhabitants of the lands on which you're situated. Native Land Digital is one of the more comprehensive sites to start your research on Indigenous Lands. The site includes information on Indigenous territories, languages, and ways of life.

[Get started](#)

[American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month: November 2023](#)

Statistical data.

[Native Now: The Dos and Don'ts of Talking Respectfully about and with Native People](#) from IllumiNative (PDF)

[NEA's Land Acknowledgement Guide](#) (PDF)

Land Acknowledgements are a reminder that every major city, town, and municipality benefits from the dispossession of Indigenous land and people. It is a formal recognition of that painful reality and history and a small first step in truth, healing, and reconciliation. This guide outlines why land acknowledgements are important, how to approach them, and includes further actions to support Indigenous communities.

### Printables & Posters

[Art for Action: You Are on Native Land](#) poster

[American Indian History Timeline](#) Events, policies, legislation and laws related to Indian land tenure from 1598 to the present.

[Poster gallery from the U.S. Air Force](#)

### Video

[Meet Jim Thorpe, a Real-Life Native American Superhero](#) (grades 9-12)

Jim Thorpe, a.k.a. *Wa-Tho-Huk* (meaning Bright Path) was an Olympic-winning athlete, actor,

and humanitarian. Learn more about his life and find opportunities to support Native American people.

### **Recommended Books from NEA's Read Across America program**

Share stories of Indigenous Peoples and cultures in your classroom with these titles, with related discussion questions, activities, and resources.

#### **ELEMENTARY AND PICTURE BOOKS**

- [All Around Us](#) by Xelena González
- [Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story](#) by Kevin Noble Maillard
- [We Are Water Protectors](#) by Carole Lindstrom
- [We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga](#) by Traci Sorrell
- [Chester Nez and the Unbreakable Code: A Navajo Code Talker's Story](#) by Joseph Bruchac
- [Powwow Day](#) by Traci Sorrell
- [Contenders: Two Native Baseball Players, One World Series](#) by Traci Sorrell; illustrated by Arigon Starr
- [Loaf the Cat Goes To The Powwow](#) by Nicholas DeShaw

#### **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

- [Ancestors Approved: Intertribal Stories for Kids](#) by Cynthia Leitich Smith
- [I Can Make This Promise](#) by Christine Day
- [Healer of the Water Monster](#) by Brian Young
- [Notable Native People: 50 INDIGENOUS LEADERS, DREAMERS, AND CHANGEMAKERS FROM PAST AND PRESENT](#) by Dr. Adrienne Keene
- [The Rez Detectives](#) by Steven Paul Judd
- [Indigenous Ingenuity: A Celebration of Traditional North American Knowledge](#) by Deidre Havrelock & Edward Kay
- [Red Bird Danced](#) by Dawn Quigley

#### **YOUNG ADULT**

- [An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States for Young People](#) by Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz
- [Elatsoe](#) by Darcie Little Badger
- [Hearts Unbroken](#) by Cynthia Leitich Smith
- [#NotYourPrincess: Voices of Native American Women](#) by Lisa Charleyboy and Mary Beth Leatherdale (editors)
- [Living Nations, Living Words: An Anthology of First Peoples Poetry](#) by Joy Harjo
- [Man Made Monsters](#) by Andrea L. Rogers; illustrated by Jeff Edwards
- [Looking for Smoke](#) by K. A. Cobell

[https://www.nea.org/professional-excellence/student-engagement/tools-tips/native-american-and-alaska-native-heritage-month?utm\\_source=neatoday&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=20241106\\_newsletter&ms=email\\_neatoday\\_20241106\\_newsletter](https://www.nea.org/professional-excellence/student-engagement/tools-tips/native-american-and-alaska-native-heritage-month?utm_source=neatoday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20241106_newsletter&ms=email_neatoday_20241106_newsletter)

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***Journalists have varied reputations and legacies. Those of early Nevada days were no different. Humor was raucus; competition often led to “stories”, many not true but often became legends As in modern times Natives did not fare well in the press; articles helped to form a prejudiced and ill-informed public. But one never knows where one will run into isolated information. Here’s an example:***

It was a good many years ago when Dan DeQuille and Mark Twain decided to start a newspaper in Mendocino County, California. They took the type and material of their recently defunct newspaper establishment in San Francisco and loading the stuff on a big wagon, struck out into the country to retrieve their fortunes. They packed their type. It stood in the forms, tied up with the articles with stout chords by a process well known to printers and packing them closely in boxes, vowed to establish a newspaper somewhere where it would be the leading exponent of politics in history for the Pacific Coast. Had not an unfortunate circumstance, taken place, it is evident that the newspaper which they contemplated founding would have been alive today. Their journey over the mountains was utterly uneventful until they reach Simpson Station, a spot well known to all travelers on that route. Here they met a party of immigrants, making for lower California and the ladder had with a small mountain howitzer which they had brought across the plains.

Twain took a great fancy to the gun and offered \$50 for it, with two kegs of powder. The immigrants were glad enough to part with it, as they concluded the time for its use had passed. Dan thought the purchase of the artillery and military supplies was a reckless piece of extravagance, and said as much, but Mark replied,

”when we start our paper we must fire a salute, a newspaper office with artillery has a big bulge on the business no. No well regulated office in California should be without a howitzer. If a man comes in for a retraction. We can blow him into the next county. The howitzer goes”

This silenced the argument, and the next day, the two journalists took to the road with their printing outfit in artillery. That night they camped in a mountain ravine, 15 miles from Simpsons, and after building the usual campfire, fell asleep. About 11 o'clock the horses awakened them, and then by prancing about, and the two journalist would lead to the conclusion that a party of Indians was making arrangements for a night attack. In the clear moonlight human forms could be distinguished about a half mile away at the foot of the ravine. The idea of encountering Indians had never entered the heads of the two fortune seekers, and they had no arms. Suddenly Twain brightened up, remarking, “ The howitzer?”

”We've got nothing but powder,” said Dan.

“Well powder will scare them; we'll load her up.’

The piece was immediately loaded with a good big charge, and the two men felt quite certain that the Indians, hearing the roar of the gun, would beat an unconditional retreat. The piece was hardly loaded and placed in position in about 40 of the redskins came charging up the ravine.

Twain seized a brand from the campfire and was about to lay it on the touchhole, when Dan yelled “Hold on!” as he ran something into the mouth of the piece. Then he remarked “Turn her loose!”

The roar of the howitzer echoed through the lonely forest, and the savages, with frantic cries of pain, ran down the ravine in wild confusion.

"What in hell did you put in?" asked Mark.

"A column of solid non-pareil and a couple of sticks of young spring poetry".

"The poetry did the business. Dan get me one of your geological articles ready for the next charge and I guess I'll let the red devils out for the present campaign."

The savages again advanced. Mark, attended to the powder and Dan assorted the shot, so to speak: "James pipe song, *My Mountain Home*"

"Good for three Indians - sock 'er in"

"An acrostic by John B Ridge in long primer"

"

It'll paralyze 'em"

"Frank Pixley on the Constitution - half a column of brevier"

"If it hits 'em, the day is won"

"Your leader on law and order"

"Save it as a last resort."

Dan pulled the type out of the boxes and stuffed column after column in the howitzer's mouth as the savages came charging on. Another round from the gun, and the Redskins rolled over and over each other like boulders swept away by a mountain cloudburst. Mark in an ecstasy of delight, pulled an American flag out of his effects, nailed it to the tail-board of the wagon, and was about to make a speech when the dusky figures of their foes were once more seen moving to the attack.

The piece was again loaded, and this time with a double charge. Mark's leader on *Law and Order*; the puff of auction house by Fred McCrellish, 'as a sickener', Dan said; Frank Gross's verses on *The Rebel Yell*; an agricultural article by Sam Seabaugh, showing the chemical properties of corn-juice as an educational lever; a maiden poetical effort by Olive Harper, and some verses by Colonel Cremony and Frank Soule completed the load.

"That poetry reaching them first will throw'em into confusion, and my editorial coming upon the heels of the rest will result in the lasting demoralization. It will be like the last cowboy charge of the French troopers at the battle of Austerlitz."

For the third and last time the faithful howitzer belched its typographical compliments to the advancing flow. The havoc was terrible. There was a wild yell from a score of savage throats, and then the low groans of the dying floated up the ravine on the gentle wind. The two men walked over the field of slaughter and counted 56 aboriginals lying in heaps. The bodies were horribly mutilated with non-Perrell bourgeois, caps, misery dashes and assorted pi.

"My leader cooked that man's goose", said Mark, pointing into a savage hanging over the limb of a cedar.

"My geological article did the business of getting him" rejoined Dan, nodding carelessly at an Indian, whose head was lying 20 yards away.

"The pen is mightier than the sword"

"You bet. Hurrah for Faust and Guttenberg!"

"is there any type left?"

"Not a pound"



10 days later, the two journalist tramps reach Virginia City, weary, discouraged, and foot sore and secured places on the *Enterprise*. Some years later, Dan received the following letter from his former partner.

Hartford, Connecticut  
January 1, 1880,

Dear Dan,  
I send you the congratulations of the new year.

Do you like recollect the time we exterminated the tribe of unlettered savages in Mendocino County? If you can spare the time, I wish you would make a pilgrimage to that historic spot, gather the ghostly relics together, and plant a tablet (not too expensive, and at your own expense) to the memory of the departed. Have a shooting stick lying across a long bow, with our monograms and coat of arms entwined, and some appropriate epitaph carved on the stone; and extract from Carl Schurz's views on the peace policy might do. Enclosed is a dollar and a half for your incidental expenses; you can deadhead traveling expenses.

Yours, Mark Twain  
PS send a thighbone of the fallen chief by next express MT.

<a href="#">Niche \$5,000 Get Accepted to College Scholarship</a>	\$5,000	December 31, 2024
<a href="#">Niche \$50,000 No Essay Scholarship</a>	\$50,000	December 31, 2024
<a href="#">NRA Civil Rights Defense Fund Youth Essay Contest</a>	\$1,000	December 31, 2024
<a href="#">NROTC Navy Nurse Program Option</a>	Varies	December 31, 2024
<a href="#">Offline Mode Scholarship</a>	\$1,500	December 31, 2024
<a href="#">OSCPA Oregon University &amp; Community College Scholarships</a>	\$3,500	December 31, 2024
<a href="#">Reading Community Singers Music Scholarship</a>	\$1,000	December 31, 2024
<a href="#">Rebekah Assembly of Texas Irma Gesche Scholarship</a>	\$1,000	December 31, 2024
<a href="#">Regions Riding Forward Scholarship Contest</a>	\$8,000	December 31, 2024
<a href="#">Sport Clips Scholarship</a>	\$5,000	December 31, 2024
<a href="#">The Home Depot Foundation Path to Pro Scholarship</a>	\$2,000	December 31, 2024
<a href="#">York County Conservation District Scholarship</a>	\$1,000	December 31, 2024

Dan will attend to the matter in the spring. The old howitzer used on the occasion is still in his possession.

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**Sam Knew Them When** by Sylvia Crowell Stoddard Great Basin Press 1996 pgs 148-52 (Sam Davis was her grandfather)(her preface describing him and his times is superb)

Also of mention in the book are Jonathan Sides, Chief Winnemucca, and Capitan Bob.

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### **Scholarshios (N-Y) with December 31 Deadlines**

The Native American College will welcome its first cohort in Fall 2025 and integrate tribal values, traditions and community engagement to support students.



[abc10.com](http://abc10.com)

[Sacramento State makes history with new Native American College](#)

[The Native American College will welcome its first cohort in Fall 2025 and integrate tribal values, traditions and community engagement to support students.](#)

## **Wildlife KILLER Sentenced – LOCK HIM UP!**

(StraightShooterNews.com) – In a shocking case of wildlife trafficking, a Washington state man has been sentenced to nearly four years in prison for leading a ring that slaughtered thousands of eagles and hawks on Native American land.

Travis John Branson’s conviction sheds light on a massive illegal operation that ravaged bird populations on the Flathead Indian Reservation in Montana.

From 2015 to 2021, Branson and his accomplices killed at least 3,600 birds, including 118 eagles and 107 hawks, to sell their parts on the black market.

This frivolous destruction of protected species not only violates federal law but also desecrates the cultural and spiritual practices of Native American tribes.

The scale of this environmental crime is staggering. Prosecutors revealed that Branson had been involved in killing birds since the 1980s, with instances of dozens being shot in a single weekend.

The trafficking ring, which had been operating since 2009, was responsible for the deaths of 300 to 400 birds annually.

Branson, identified as the ringleader, instructed others on where and when to shoot birds and arranged sales, making between \$180,000 and \$360,000 from his illegal activities.

U.S. District Judge Dana Christensen did not mince words when sentencing Branson, stating, “If you had not been caught you’d still be doing it today.”

“His lack of respect for the sanctity of these protected birds was driven by only one thing: greed,” U.S. Attorney Jesse Laslovich said following the hearing.

Moreover, Laslovich added that those who purchased the feathers shared responsibility for the killings. The prosecutor said he wanted to put buyers on notice that their conduct is a federal crime.

The methods employed by Branson and his co-conspirators were as cruel as they were effective. They set out carcasses to lure eagles and shot them from the air while hawks were picked off from power poles.

Juvenile golden eagles were particularly targeted for their prized black and white feathers, which were highly sought after in Native American ceremonies.

In addition to his prison sentence, Branson was ordered to pay \$777,250 in restitution and serve three years of supervised release.

Even though this punishment is significant, many conservationists argue it is not enough given the irreparable harm done to eagle and hawk populations.

This case highlights the ongoing battle between wildlife protectors and those who would exploit our natural resources for personal gain.

While federally recognized tribes can apply for permits to take eagles for religious purposes, the demand far exceeds the supply from government repositories.

This imbalance creates opportunities for criminals like Branson to profit from the black-market trade in eagle feathers and parts.

In addition, it is clear that current wildlife protection laws need to be strengthened and more rigorously enforced.

