



promoting diversity equity & inclusion

## HONORING NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

### what BGCA's Native Youth want us to know

Boys & Girls Clubs of America is the largest Native youth service provider in the nation, with more than 250 Clubs reaching over 120,000 Native youth in American Indian, Alaska Native, American Samoan, and Hawaiian tribal communities. Our Native Clubs celebrate the unique strengths of Native communities and work in partnership with tribes to support young people in being resilient, healthy and successful. Our national programs are adapted and modified to integrate Native culture and further empower customization to reflect local tribal communities.

Carla Knapp, BGCA's VP of Native Services, shares the following in her article, *What Native Youth Want Us to Know*:

Young people in our country have always been leading movements for change. When they speak out, the world takes notice. Through evidence-informed youth programs, nearly 250 Boys & Girls Clubs on Native Lands empower young people to advocate for their Tribal communities on local, state and national levels.

Lifting Native youth voices is at the heart of everything we do. This includes giving them a platform to address you, our readers and supporters, directly about what's on their mind. Based on Boys & Girls Clubs' extensive and growing work with Native youth, here are some of the top priorities they want the world to know.

**Not every Native Tribe is the same.**

**Learning and preserving Tribal languages is a priority.**

**Climate change, food security and safety are top concerns among younger generations of Native people.**

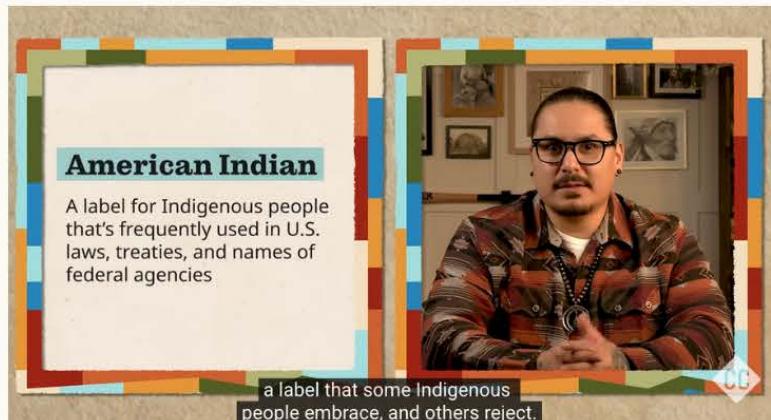
**Native youth are more driven by advocacy than ever.**

*Learn more here:*

<https://www.bgca.org/news-stories/2024/October/what-native-youth-want-us-to-know/>

## videos to watch & share with youth

Videos are a powerful tool to engage youth in essential conversations about history, identity, and social justice. Since Native history is so often misrepresented or missing from our schools, take some time this month to watch these informative, accessible videos, perfect for teens and up.



### Introduction to Native American History: Ep 1 of Crash Course Native American History

Native American history didn't begin in 1492, and it didn't end in 1900. It stretches back thousands and thousands of years and extends into the present – and the future – of the United States. In our first episode of Crash Course Native American History, we'll explore why and how we plan to tell this history.

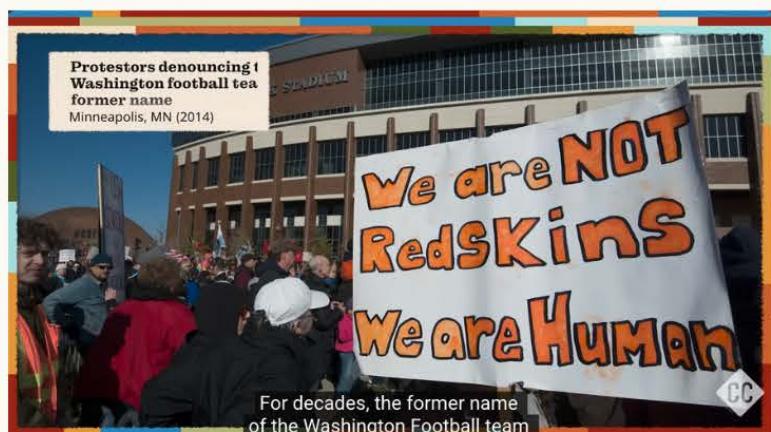
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XHXC0uOLOkA>



### Tribal Sovereignty Explained: Ep 2 of Crash Course Native American History

What is tribal sovereignty? In this episode of Crash Course Native American History, we'll explore how tribes can and can't govern themselves, and why sovereignty isn't something the U.S. ever gave to tribes — it's an inherent right they already had.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GgzR-RSfc9U>



### Myths & Misconceptions About Native Americans: Ep 3 of Crash Course Native American History

From sports mascots to "the First Thanksgiving," bland representations of Native Americans are everywhere. In this episode of Crash Course Native American History, we'll tackle common myths and misconceptions about Native people and uncover the truth behind tribal casinos, government handouts, and more.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=InZacsO8ico>

# what's happening in Portland



## native american heritage month: events in multnomah county libraries

### Brick Stitch Beaded Earrings

Friday, Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> | 3-5pm

North Portland Library

Learn how to create brick stitch & fringe style beaded earrings using seed beads, thread and a beading needle. Natalie Mitchell will briefly discuss the history of seed beads in the Native American community and their uses in regalia, jewelry and art.

Natalie is a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and Mexican descent, who crafts jewelry inspired by Native art and culture.

Join us, learning from this artist to craft your own pair of earrings. This class has two sessions. Participants should be able to attend both sessions.

### Indigenous Lifeways

Wednesday, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> | 6-7pm

Albina Library

Using ethnographic and cartographic sources, the importance of seasonal wetlands is noted for the valley. The way in which the valley wetlands were destroyed gives us clues as to how different our valley is today than 180 years ago. The dominance of Seasonal wetlands suggests that the Kalapuyans live a much different life than previously noted, and culturally adapted to wetland conditions with the seasons.

David G. Lewis, PhD, is a member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, a descendant of the Takelma, Chinook, Molalla, and Santiam Kalapuya peoples of western Oregon. David has a PhD in anthropology from the University of Oregon (2009) and teaches full time in Anthropology and Indigenous Studies at OSU.

### Hózhó Náhásdlíj', Walk In Beauty

Saturday, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> | 10:30-12pm

Albina Library

Join artist Lorne James for a participatory art initiative inspired by Navajo cultural beliefs of harmony, balance, and interconnections. This project invites you to create art flags that reflect your interpretation of "Walking in Beauty."

With our art, we'll embrace the philosophy that the purpose of life is to pursue and obtain joy, happiness, confidence, and peace. Explore these ideas through artwork, storytelling and cultural sharing. This project aims to honor Navajo cultural traditions, foster creativity, and celebrate the diversity of stories within the community.

# BGCP staff board

## Birthdays

Michelle McPherson, 11/5

Kailani Dineros, 11/12

Erika Gonzalez-Amaro, 11/14

Stacy Wood, 11/15

Emmi Stonier, 11/20

Amelia Ralston-Okabayashi, 11/21

Aja Harris, 11/30

## New Staff

Daisy Jacobo Nolasco  
YDC at Inukai

Amelia Ralston-Okabayashi  
YDC at Blazers

## work Anniversaries

Michelle McPherson, 8 years

Sarah Ethridge, 4 years

Isis Finn, 4 years

## Exits

Ariana Brovelli  
Vicky Nganga

## Job Openings

YDC at CareOregon