



SATURDAY

MAY 14, 2022

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RIVERSIDE

Student Success Center

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HIGHLANDER EMPOWERMENT REFERENDUM
Building Common Ground



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40TH ANNUAL MEDICINE WAYS CONFERENCE

Native American Representation in Media

9:00 - 9:50 (SSC Lobby/MPR)

- *Registration and Continental Breakfast*

10:00 – 11:00 (SSC 229)

- *Welcome, Blessing, & Birdsongs*
 - *NASP Staff, Student Orgs, Ms. UCR Powwow Princess, & Michael and Will Madrigal*

11:00 – 11:50 (SSC 229)

- *Keynote: Story is Medicine...Revisited*
 - *Kimberly Guerrero*

12:00 – 12:50 (SSC 235)

- *A Conversation with Tommy Orange*
 - *Tommy Orange*

1:00 – 2:00 (SSC MPR)

- *Lunch*
 - *Elder Honoring - Dr. Clifford Trafzter*

2:10 – 3:00 (SSC 329)

- *Changing the Way We See Native America*
 - *Matika Wilbur*

3:10 – 4:00 (SSC 329)

- *The Road of a Singer*
 - *Brendon Youngbear*

4:10 – 5:45 (SSC MPR)

- *Dinner*

4:45 – 5:45 (SSC MPR)

- *Laughter is Good Medicine*
 - *Tatanka Means*

5:45 – 6:00

- *Closing Time, Final Remarks*



WELCOME!

For four decades, UCR's Native American Student Association and Native American Student Programs have hosted the annual Medicine Ways Conference. Each year the theme has changed to reflect the times, with the students of NASA leading the way. With the rising popularity of great Native storytelling across all mediums, with positive and real representation, these heartfelt discussions of what Native representation looked like growing up, where it is now, and what are the possibilities for the future, have come to the forefront. Please take a moment to hear a few of the student voices that led to this year's theme:

"I believe that lack of accurate representation in this day and age can be dangerous because it creates preconceived ideas that are harmful to the community. Lack of representation can inhibit education; with no real representation of the community's hardship and injustices, people will refrain from advocating and fighting for the rights of others and themselves."

 **-Danna Escallon (NASA Secretary - Undergraduate)** 

"The only representation I remember was that fake Indian who would cry one tear for the trash and pollution. Also the picture of the Indian with a headdress that would be shown on the TV late at night when nothing was on. Yes, I am old enough to remember when they would show nothing on TV!!"

 **-Carlos Cruz (NAHS President - Graduate Student)** 

"When I was growing up, Native representation was almost absent from my life. The only forms of representation I saw was the typical cowboy and Indian story, the Indian who was overly obsessed with smoke signals and nature, the drunk Indian, etc."

 **-Clifford Button (AISES President - Undergraduate)** 

"Native people tend to make fun of non-natives that depict Indians in a racist way by creating memes or jokes that only community members will understand. It is a form of resistance and ability to respond to the racism that people see."

 **-Josh Little (GAIA member - Graduate Student)** 

"Growing up, I remember hardly ever viewing native representation in the media. Whenever there was native representation it would always follow the stereotypical narration of a Native and never really provided much depth or awareness of Native culture."

 **-Shawnee Lujan (NASP Student Assistant - Undergraduate)** 

*Please take a moment to check out the proposed SSC Art Wall Project across from the MPR, and Remembrance Section of those Elders that have taken that next Journey.

Native American Student Association



Native American Student Association (NASA) consists of students from various Native American communities throughout the United States and from other diverse backgrounds. In addition, NASA also represents Indigenous communities from Mexico, Canada, and other areas of the Americas. These students are dedicated to establishing strong ties with neighboring Native American communities in order to increase the representation of Native American students at UCR. NASA provides a rich cultural environment through which Native American students on campus can prosper. NASA coordinates and sponsors various programs throughout the school year, with the Medicine Ways Conference being one of their principal events.

Native American Student Programs



The Native American Student Programs (NASP) of the University of California, Riverside (UCR) provides educational cultural and social support for American Indian students. This office coordinates a variety of activities designed to expand educational awareness for American Indian students as well as the campus community. NASP encourages the development and enhancement of leadership and interpersonal skills through active participation, which makes it possible to plan and implement innovative programs for American Indian students at UCR.

MS. UCR POWWOW PRINCESS

KAT WARREN

*Dine
(She/Her)*



Yá'át'ééh!

I am the 2018-2022 Ms. UC Riverside Powwow Princess. Carrying a University Princess title has made me a huge advocate for higher education. I am currently an undergraduate student at UCR with a focus on Native American Studies. I'm very close to graduation soon and looking into continuing my education.

On campus, I also serve as the Chair for the Native American Student Association.

I would like to thank all of NASP and the students of all the UCR Native Student Organizations. I appreciate all your work and support. Thank you and have a great day!

Check me out on Facebook, [@msucrpowwowprincess](#)

STORY IS MEDICINE...REVISITED

KIMBERLY GUERRERO

Associate Professor
Colville, Salish
(She/Her)



A few years ago, I had the honor of being asked to present at Medicine Ways. In this esteemed gathering that, for decades, has been dedicated to Indigenous wellness both in ourselves and our communities, I wanted to share that Story in all its forms, is some of the most powerful medicine imaginable. I addressed how the lack of representation, or misrepresentation, in popular media has a damaging effect in our individual lives and in our communities. And how so many Native creatives have been, and are, trying to change that reality. Since that keynote, many of our dreams about what could be possible are finally starting to be realized. This year, we will revisit this vital concept of Story as Medicine, celebrating breakthroughs and asking ourselves,

"what's next?"



Kimberly is a Native American actor whose most recent film and television credits include the compelling indie film addressing the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, entitled, *Catch the Fair One*, the inspirational Gloria Steinem biopic, *The Glorias*--where Kimberly plays Cherokee Chief Wilma Mankiller opposite Julianne Moore, and three new series including the Sterlin Harjo/Taika Waititi breakout hit, *Reservation Dogs*, Mike Schur/Ed Helms/Sierra Teller Ornelas' highly-acclaimed sitcom, *Rutherford Falls*, and the exciting new Netflix animated series, *Spirit Rangers*. Kimberly also serves an Associate Professor and Artistic Director in the Theater, Film and Digital Production Department at UC Riverside where she is fostering a new generation of storytellers.

@KimberlyNorrisGuerrero

CHANGING THE WAY WE SEE NATIVE AMERICA

MATIKA WILBUR

Swinomish and Tulalip
(She/Her)

Over 10 years ago Matika began to develop a monumental aspiration that has led to her work today: to help develop a body of imagery and cultural representations of Native Peoples to counteract the relentlessly insipid, one-dimensional stereotypes circulating in mainstream media, historical textbooks and the culture industry. To create positive indigenous role models to do justice to the richness and diversity and lived experiences of Indian Country. In 2012 Matika Wilbur sold everything in her Seattle apartment and created Project 562 which reflects her commitment to visit, engage and photograph all 562 plus Native American sovereign territories in the United States. This project has driven her to travel hundreds of thousands of miles, many in her RV the “Big Girl” but also by horseback through the Grand Canyon, by train, plane, and boat and on foot across all 50 states.

She reflects a remarkable way of being an artist in the contemporary world. Kickstarter funded with a large community of online supporters, sleeping on sofas, she is welcomed and hosted by strangers who soon become friends and share the aspirations of the artist and her project. The photographs that Matika takes reflect her consummate craftsmanship. Beautiful black and white images that selectively incorporate color and showcase their subjects in vital mutualism with the lands on which they live and which they steward. But her virtuoso technique is only one aspect of the social and cultural meaning of the works. They are one product of her dynamic engagement with Native communities in which she takes the time to understand the stories and histories of particular tribes. Each particular tribe and each individual and experience which shapes entirely the way the portrait comes to be.



I integrate fine art and social justice as a long-form photo documentarian, writer, filmmaker, podcaster and public speaker. Currently I’m authoring a Penguin Random House book; recording content for my million-listened podcast, All My Relations; and will soon be on the road again for National Geographic. Readiness for this work required genealogical spiritual preparation - my ancestors resisted and prayed me into existence: “They tried to bury us, they didn’t know we were seeds.” In 2011, I was a teacher on my Rez in Tulalip, WA. I tried to use photography to teach our children about themselves. But available curricula presented dated, dire, insatiable myths of our extinction through Manifest Destiny and other American fables that damages the imagination of Native kids, 92% of whom don’t believe they’ll reach 25. And with good reason to believe that - scores of our students were dying from suicide. I needed a genuine and full narrative to stop the erasure of my own people. So I sold everything, packed my bags, and hit the open American road to begin Project 562, a Kickstarter-funded mission to visit, engage, and photograph over 500 Native American Tribal Nations in the United States. Project 562 is a labor of love that has been overwhelmingly welcomed. Sitters have become best friends, mentors, and prayer companions in solidarity to tell our stories. I am now part of Native-led content visibility when we were otherwise invisible, debunking racist policies and diluted but toxic mainstream stereotypes.

SM/Websites: project562.com, matikawilbur.com, allmyrelationspodcast.com,
[@project_562](https://www.instagram.com/project_562), [@amrpodcast](https://www.instagram.com/amrpodcast), [@MatikaWilbur](https://www.instagram.com/MatikaWilbur)

A CONVERSATION WITH: TOMMY ORANGE

*Cheyenne & Arapaho of Oklahoma
(he/him)*



In a highly engaging “fireside chat,” Tommy Orange delves into his writing process, including the themes of Native American culture and history that inform his works.

Tommy Orange is the author of the New York Times bestselling novel *There There*, a multi-generational, relentlessly paced story about a side of America few of us have ever seen: the lives of urban Native Americans. *There There* was one of The New York Times Book Review’s 10 Best Books of the Year, and won the Center for Fiction’s First Novel Prize and the Pen/Hemingway Award. *There There* was also longlisted for the National Book Award and was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. Orange graduated from the MFA program at the Institute of American Indian Arts, and was a 2014 MacDowell Fellow and a 2016 Writing by Writers Fellow. He is an enrolled member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma. He was born and raised in Oakland, California.

For more information, please visit www.prhspeakers.com.

THE ROAD OF A SINGER BRENDON YOUNGBEAR

*Genizaro (Navajo/ Tewa)
& Quechua*



Hello! My name is Brendon Youngbear, I am 23 years old, and as I am a care taker of drums, I will be speaking about how my life has been impacted in a positive way since the drum came into my life at a young age. I will share a song to open up and once I have finished singing I will be speaking about the drum.

Life of a singer is not easy but it takes you to so many beautiful places. I will speak about how the drum and singing can heal and where it came from. Why being a drum keeper is so important and why its so near and dear to my heart.

After answering questions I will close with another song.

I grew up in Los Angeles California, but I now reside in Tucson Arizona. From a young age my grandfather sat me at the drum and taught me about it. I grew up singing ceremonial prayer songs and from there I started my singing journey. As I grew up I went on to learn about powwow singing, Round Dance singing, and even about The NAC (Native American Church) way. I am still very young and learning a lot. So I will be sharing my journey as a singer/ Drumkeeper.

LAUGHTER IS GOOD MEDICINE

TATANKA MEANS

Navajo | Oglala Lakota | Omaha

Ihanktown Dakota

Actor/Comedian



Tatanka Means is an award-winning actor and stand-up comedian from Chinle, Arizona. He represents the Navajo, Oglala Lakota, Dakota and Omaha Nations. His most recent movie credits include the HBO's limited series I KNOW THIS MUCH IS TRUE with Mark Ruffalo, THE CHICKASAW RANCHER and THE LIBERATOR, both now airing on Netflix. Means just finished filming CANYON DEL MUERTO. He can be seen this Fall in the upcoming Martin Scorsese film, "Killers of the Flower Moon" based on the best-selling book, and led by an all star cast featuring Leonardo DiCaprio and Robert DiNero.

Aside from acting Tatanka performs stand-up comedy throughout the U.S. and Canada. Means is one of the busiest touring Native comedians performing today. He travels Indian Country spreading laughter and messages of motivation to all ages. The National Indian Gaming Association recently honored Tatanka by awarding him the "Entertainer of the Year."

Tatanka is proud to be an alcohol drug-free sober performer.

@tatankameans /www.tatankameans.com

CHELYSA "CHIEF" OWENS-CYR

Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux,

Pasqua First Nations Plains Cree

(She/They)



My name is Chelysa "Chief" Owens-Cyr, I'm 23 years old and I'm a sole proprietor of my business Chief'n Designs. I specialize in graphic design, ledger art, beading, painting, apparel, etc. I am based out of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation in Northeastern Montana; and my mission is to share my art with the world.

You can find more of my art and business social media pages at:

Instagram: @chief_leese, @chiefn_designs

Twitter: @kwe_chief2

Facebook: Chelysa R. Owens Cyr

<https://chiefn-wear.creator-spring.com>

WILL MADRIGAL

Cahuilla Band of Indians

Cahuilla Birdsinging
Will Madrigal and fellow Birdsingers will open the day after the blessing with Cahuilla songs, welcoming our students, staff, faculty, honored guests and attendees to these homelands of the Cahuilla, Tongva, Serrano, and Luiseño peoples.





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The Native American Student Association and Native American Student Programs Presents

39th Annual

UC RIVERSIDE POW WOV

Friday, May 27th, 2022

5PM - 10PM

Grand Entry 7PM

Saturday, May 28th, 2022

11AM - 10PM

Grand Entry 1PM & 7PM

Sunday, May 29th, 2022

11AM - 5PM

Grand Entry 1PM

Riverside Sports Complex
1000 W. Blaine St.
Riverside, CA 92507

HEAD STAFF:

MCs: GLEN BEGAY & MYLO SMITH

ARENA DIRECTOR: VICTOR CHAVEZ

HEAD MAN: JAKE MILLER

HEAD WOMAN: SHANDIIN BIILILITSO

HEAD BOY: JOSEPH SEPSEY

HEAD GIRL: AISLYNN ARNOLD

HOST NORTHERN DRUM: INDIAN HILL

HOST SOUTHERN DRUM: HALE & CO.

INVITED DRUM: BEARSPRING

OUTGOING MS. UCR POW WOW

PRINCESS 2018-2022 KAT WARREN

ALL DRUMS, DANCERS, BIRDSINGERS WELCOME!

*MS. UCR POW WOW PAGEANT 2022-2023

*CAHUILLA BIRDSINGERS

*MIWOK DANCERS

*KALPULLI TEUXIHUITL

*FREE ADMISSION*FREE PARKING

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

ARTS & CRAFTS & FOOD VENDORS



For more information, please contact:
naspucr@gmail.com or (951) 827-3850

Visit: NASP.UCR.EDU or FB/NASPUCR

UC Riverside & Pow Wow staff are not responsible for theft, loss, or damage to property, and parking violations. Absolutely NO DRUGS, ALCOHOL, OR WEAPONS ALLOWED. SECURITY IS STRICTLY ENFORCED AND VIOLATORS WILL BE PROSECUTED. Bring your own chairs and canopies. Canopies must be properly secured. With respect to COVID-19, we will operate under federal, state, county laws and/or guidelines that may be in effect at the time of this event.

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OR

TINY.ONE/UCRPOWWOW22

