The Association on American Indian Affairs welcomes you to the 8th Annual Repatriation Conference hosted in partnership with the Pokégnek Bodéwadmik - Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians.

The Conference continues the longstanding legacy of the Association to work at a grassroots level in order to strengthen our national and collective futures. The theme is “ReACTivating Our Ancestral Connections” and brings together Native Nations, museums, artists, spiritual leaders, academics, lawyers, federal and state agencies, international institutions, collectors and others to work together to reACTivate relationships with the past to create a world where diverse Native cultures and values are lived, protected and respected.

Our Ancestors dreamed about the decisions we would be making today together - and we must not let that work pass to future generations.

The Association’s 8th Annual Repatriation Conference will focus on collectively healing from the past and committing to being good Ancestors for future generations to come. We will look to compliance, advocacy, and activism to form strategies and commitments for generational healing. The Conference will provide a welcoming and productive space for truth-telling about the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual burden that Native Nations continue to face as a direct result of their Ancestral remains and objects being stolen and not returned home.

ReACTivating means looking to the Elders, knowledge keepers, and Ancestors that have come before us and remembering the songs, ceremonies, languages, and prayers. We must use those songs and prayers to sing our Ancestors’ home and send our collective prayers far into the future for the generations to come. We cannot do this work alone - we must all ACT as good Ancestors now!
Thank You to Our Hosts

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik
POKAGON BAND OF POTAQUITOMI

Bidgén! (Come In!)
Wiwkwe’bthëge in our Potawatomi language loosely translates to “bundle,” or “place where sacred items and knowledge are kept.” The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians are a federally-recognized Tribal Nation with homelands in the states of Michigan and Indiana. We are a part of the greater Potawatomi Nation, whose Bands are spread throughout the United States, Canada, and Mexico. We are the Keeper’s of the Fire: Bodewadmi.

Our Potawatomi culture is constantly changing and growing, straddling the thin line between living in the ways of our Tribal Ancestors and being an integral member of the global community. Wiwkwe’bthëge (which can be found at wiwkwebthege.com/bidgen-come) is an open digital platform that seeks to share information and teachings about our Potawatomi culture. It is our hope that Wiwkwe’bthëgen will not only benefit our own people, but enlighten the world of the beauty, strength, and longevity of Bodewadmiwen: our Potawatomi way of life. This site, which is an extension of the Tribal Historic Preservation Office within the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians Department of Language and Culture. For more information, please visit the Pokagon Band website.

Thank You to Our Sponsors

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8th Annual Repatriation Conference
Support the Repatriation Movement

Repatriation is vital to the continuation of Cultural Sovereignty and to achieve the Association’s vision to create a world where diverse Native American cultures and values are lived protected and respected.

Join us in the Repatriation Movement and support independent Indigenous artists, business owners and the Association by purchasing a limited edition T-shirt, long sleeve-T or hoodie (available in a variety of sizes and colors). The shirt is available only for a limited time, so get yours soon!

Designed by Mixed Media Bad River Ojibwe Artist, Caitlin Newago
Caitlin is a mother, artist and Tribal citizen of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians.

Limited supply available for sale during the Conference
or online until October 28, 2022 at: Indian-Affairs.org/repatriationshirt

Available
T-shirts: $30
Long Sleeve T-shirt: $35
Hoodie: $50
Small to 6XL

Front

Back

REACTIVATING
OUR ANCESTRAL CONNECTIONS

RESPECT
REVITALIZE
RESTORE
REUNITE
REMEMBER
RECLAIM

8th Annual Repatriation Conference
Agenda

Monday, October 10, 2022 | Pre-Conference

3:00-5:00 pm
Volunteer Check-in and Prepare for Conference
All volunteers will be gathering at the Silver Creek Event Center to prepare materials and finalize the volunteer schedule. If you wish to volunteer, contact Colleen Medicine on-site or by email at Colleen@Indian-Affairs.org

5:00-7:00 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.
- 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.

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, Tribal 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.

Let’s work together to ReACTivate our connections!

8th Annual Repatriation Conference
Agenda

Tuesday, October 11, 2022 | Remembering Our Ancestors

7:00-7:30 am  Sunrise Ceremony
Join us for a sunrise ceremony to start your day with community Elders and practitioners from the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians.
Location: Kankakee Grille Patio area

7:30-8:30 am  Registration and Breakfast provided for registered attendees
- 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.

8:30-8:50 am  Opening & Welcome
Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians & Association on American Indian Affairs

9:00-10:15 am  Abigail Echo-Hawk, Pawnee
Leading the Path Forward with Indigenous Knowledge and Values
Beloved, where are you? A question that echoes across Indian Country as generations have fought for the return of loved ones to their families, Tribes and the land that knows their names and calls them home. The work to achieve this is Sacred, it requires determination and walking in the prayer of our communities on behalf of our children’s children. The gift from our Ancestors as we confront the colonial past is this, we have the answers to achieve justice and healing, they are carried in our stories, our land and our DNA. This framework defies and resists the impacts of ongoing historical trauma, instead it moves into historical healing which gathers the pieces broken by historical trauma and stitches them back together in bold, beautiful, intricate patterns of strength and resiliency woven on the fabric of our Indigenous knowledge systems. This presentation will discuss this framework through art, poetry and Indigenous science emphasizing the opportunity to build a world where love, compassion, gratitude and reciprocity are more than ideals and instead, they are every action. For the love of Native people, we will be whole again.

10:15-10:30 am  Break
Agenda

Tuesday, October 11, 2022 | Remembering Our Ancestors

10:30-12:00 pm  Tlingit Repatriation in Southeast Alaska: Awakening our Ancestral Spirituality
Gail Dabaluz, Tlingit/Haida/Tsimshian Tribe Yéil (Raven) Moiety, University of Alaska Fairbanks; and Judy Ramos, Tlingit Tribe Yéil (Raven) Moiety, University of Alaska
This presentation shares the Tlingit traditional structure, providing the spiritual foundation to receive our Ancestors’ Remains and Belongings through NAGPRA. We collaborate and rely upon the wisdom of our culture bearers, Tribal and museum staff to repatriate Tlingit at.oowú (object). These are Sacred objects and practices that embody and memorialize Ancestral experiences and claims to territory, resources, and relationships. Objects appear only at our koo.eex’ (ceremonial structure).

12:00-1:15 pm  Lunch provided for registered attendees
Updates on Boarding School Initiative, from Sandy White Hawk, Sicangu Lakota, Director of the Association on American Indian Affairs & President of the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition

1:30-3:00 pm  Wwithmiktthéwimdëwëk athë nizhokmëewawat ndankobthëgñenananen: They Work Together in Order to Help Our Ancestors
Citizens of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians: Matt Bussler, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer; Nicole Halloway, Director, Center of History and Culture; with Christine Morseau, Chair, Majel Demarsh, Treasurer, John Low, Officer, Kevin Daughtery, Officer, of the Pokagon Traditions and Repatriation Committee
The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians community-led Traditions & Repatriation Committee and the Tribal Historic Preservation Office, with the Center for History and Culture all work together to make decisions, give direction, and support all NAGPRA and repatriation matters. Learn about the history, development, and success of this model and the importance of keeping Elders, knowledge keepers, youth and traditional practitioners involved in repatriation.
Agenda

Tuesday, October 11, 2022 | Remembering Our Ancestors

3:00 - 3:15 pm  Break

3:15 - 4:45 pm  NAGPRA Updates: Improving Compliance and Technical Assistance
National NAGPRA Program’s Melanie O’Brien, Program Manager, and David Barland-Liles, Civil Penalty Investigator
The National NAGPRA Program has been busy providing technical assistance and training to Native Nations and institutions to support NAGPRA compliance. National NAGPRA will share important updates about NAGPRA statistics, civil penalties, potential changes to the regulations, and other information to support repatriation of Ancestors and cultural heritage.

7:00 - 8:30 pm  Our Stories, Our Healing, Our Power (TRIBAL ONLY EVENT)
Shannon Martin, Gun Lake Pottawatomi & Ojibwe, Lynx Clan, Executive Director & Founder of Cultural Pathways Group, LLC; and Sonya Atalay, Anishinaabe, & Ojibwe, Indigenous Archaeologist and Provost Professor of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Did an Ancestral repatriation reveal new knowledge to you? Cultural or spiritual? Was there a time that you experienced harm, joy, or sadness? It is through art and storytelling that we are able to convey our experiences and find catharsis. This session will help you to draw and/or write your personal (or Tribal) Ancestral repatriation experience through personal reflection and share with others (if you want to share) in a Talking Circle. Pens, markers, colored pencils, paper and other supplies will be provided for you to bring your story to life.
**Agenda**

*Wednesday, October 12, 2022 | Revitalizing Strategies*

**7:00-7:30 am**  
**Sunrise Ceremony**  
Join us for a sunrise ceremony to start your day with community Elders and practitioners from the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians.  
*Location: Kankakee Grille Patio area*

**7:30-8:45 am**  
**Breakfast provided for registered attendees**

**8:45-10:00 am**  
**Dr. Jennifer Raff**, Affiliate Faculty for Indigenous Studies & Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, Anthropology, University of Kansas  
**Paleogenomics: The Promise and the Peril of Using Genetics to Understand the Past**  
Paleogenomics, the study of DNA from Ancestors, offers extraordinary opportunities to look at the past in a new way. Ancient DNA can reveal biological relationships between individuals, groups, and even entire populations, allowing scientists to use the tools of population genetics to reconstruct history on both large and small scales. This can be of great utility to Native Nations and others wishing to demonstrate biological connections to Ancestors, get insights into Tribal histories, and explore aspects of past ecology. But paleogenomics is a complicated field, particularly in light of the problematic history of biological and anthropological research and the harms done by scientists to Native Peoples.

**10:00 - 10:15 am**  
**Break**

**10:15-11:45 am**  
**Decolonizing National Museums and Northern Ireland: A Journey of Truth, Reconciliation, and Healing**  
National Museums Northern Ireland has committed itself to the process of decolonizing its collections and programming, which includes repatriation and forging meaningful relationships with Indigenous Peoples around the world. When everyone has a willingness to acknowledge historic and institutional trauma and forge a meaningful path of Reconciliation and Healing, repatriation and community building can foster understanding and growth with all involved.
Agenda

Wednesday, October 12, 2022 | Revitalizing Strategies

11:45 - 1:00 pm  Lunch provided for registered attendees
Updates on the NAGPRA Community of Practice, with Anne Amati,
University of Denver, Department of Anthropology

1:15-2:45 pm  Shifting the Burden: It’s a Right, Not a Fight
Shannon Martin, Gun Lake Pottawatomi & Ojibwe, Lynx Clan, Executive
Director & Founder of Cultural Pathways Group, LLC; Melanie O’Brien,
Program Manager, National NAGPRA Program; Shannon O’Loughlin,
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, CEO & Attorney, Association on American
Indian Affairs
The current NAGPRA regulations have been strongly criticized as creating
loopholes and burdens that the Act, and its originators, never intended. This
presentation will provide case studies and insight on how the regulations can
be revised to shift the burden away from Native Nations and better implement
NAGPRA's purpose of returning Ancestors and culture that institutions and
agencies have never had a “right of possession” to.

2:45-3:00 pm  Break

3:00-4:30 pm  Silly Things People (and their Institutions) Say About Repatriation
Deanna L. Byrd, NAGPRA Liaison, Historic Preservation Department,
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma; Amber Hood, Director, Historic Preservation
& Repatriation; Terry Kemper, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Mille Lacs
Band of Ojibwe; Shannon Martin, Gun Lake Pottawatomi & Ojibwe, Lynx
Clan, Executive Director & Founder of Cultural Pathways Group, LLC;
Sydney Martin, Elder, Gun Lake Pottawatomi; Melissa Wiatrolik, Tribal
Historic Preservation Officer, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
NAGPRA practice has changed a lot in the last 30 years. Can you believe all
the education and advocacy that Native Nations have taken on to deflect many
of the long-held beliefs that Native Peoples are property - or that all of our oral
traditions are just myths and made-up stories - and even that there are no
Native Peoples left? Practitioners will share their stories - and we hope you will
share yours, too - about the “silly” (in retrospect) things perpetuated by
academia and science about who Native Peoples are. Panelists will talk about
strategies to better educate and build relationships with those who have yet to
understand the fierce resilience and perseverance of Indigenous Peoples.

6:00-8:00 pm  POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI CULTURAL EVENT: DRUM & DANCE
DEMONSTRATION

8th Annual Repatriation Conference
7:00-7:30 pm  Sunrise Ceremony
Join us for a sunrise ceremony to start your day, with Elders from the Pokagon
Band of Potawatomi Indians Traditions and Repatriation Committee
Location: Kankakee Grille Patio area

7:30-8:45 am  Breakfast provided for registered attendees

8:45-10:00 am  Angeline Boulley, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
Representation Matters: Telling OUR Stories
Stories and storytelling are the foundation of how traditions, language, and
culture were passed from generation to generation. Indigenous Peoples have
a long history of telling stories through oral traditions that included oral
storytelling, singing, and poetry. Children and youth literature is fraught
territory for Indigenous Peoples and Native representation supports healthy
Native Nations! Let us all be a positive influence as we mentor the next
generation.

10:00-10:15 am  Break

10:15-11:45 am  Supporting Cultural Continuity Through Indigenous Collections Care
Guidance
Laura Bryant, Anthropology Collections Manager/NAGPRA Coordinator,
Gilcrease Museum, University of Tulsa; Lourdes Heneby-DeLeon, NAGPRA
Program Director, Professor, Central Washington University; Colleen
Medicine, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Program Director,
Association on American Indian Affairs; Nicolette Meister, Director and
NAGPRA Coordinator, Logan Museum of Anthropology, Beloit College;
Angela Neller, Kanaka ‘Oiwi, Curator, Wanapum Heritage Center; Marla
Taylor, Curator of Collections, Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology,
University of Massachusetts, Amherst; Katelyn Trammel, Collection
Manager, University of Nebraska State Museum
The heart of every museum is its collections, expressed through avenues of
stewardship, education, exhibition, and research. For decades, museums and
academic institutions have been the accepted authority on Indigenous
Peoples’ material culture. This structure is built on the foundations of
colonization that show the public a version of history that is often
disconnected from the very people the institution seeks to educate about.
The values expressed in museum collection stewardship resonate throughout
the entire institution. The Indigenous Collections Care working group
advocates for different methodologies of collections stewardship that centers
concepts of culturally appropriate care and privileges Indigenous Knowledge.
11:45-1:00 pm  Lunch provided for registered attendees  
Updates on the Association’s Repatriation Program, with Colleen Medicine, Anishinabe, Program Director at the Association on American Indian Affairs  
And stick around for the RAFFLE DRAWING!

1:15-2:45 pm  The New UK Repatriation Guidance: What Does This Mean for Native Nations?  
Alexander Herman, Director, Institute of Art & Law; Emily Gould, Institute of Art & Law; Henrietta Lidchi, Director, Wheelwright Museum; Martin Schultz, Curator, Acequia Madre House  
The Arts Council of England commissioned the Institute of Art and Law to develop guidance - titled “Restitution and Repatriation: A Practical Guide for Museums in England,” to support UK museums in matters related to the restitution and repatriation of cultural objects. The guidance provides a “practical framework” for museums including best practices and case studies, helping institutions act appropriately and considerately in the context of claims for the return of collection objects. Learn more about this guidance and repatriation from the UK. (Go to ial.uk.com/arts-council-restitution-guidance/ to download a copy of the UK guidance.)

2:45-3:00 pm  Break

3:00-4:30 pm  A View From the Top: Institutions Share How They Are Making a Difference  
Sabrina C. Aagarwal, Professor of Anthropology and Special Advisor to the Chancellor at the University of California Berkeley; Heather Miller, Wyandotte, Director of Historic Preservation and Tribal Relations, Illinois State Museum; Steve Murray, Director, Alabama Department of Archives & History; Jane Pickering, William and Muriel Seabury Howells Director, Harvard Peabody Museum of Archaeology & Ethnology; Ben Secunda, NAGPRA Project Specialist, University of Michigan; Judith Stoddart, Associate Provost for University Arts and Collections, Michigan State University; Ryan J. Wheeler, Ph.D., Director, Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology, Phillips Academy  
Institutions share how they freed themselves of obstacles that prevented their efforts with Native Nations to repatriate culturally affiliated Ancestors and burial belongings, sacred items and objects of cultural patrimony. How has repatriation improved the institutions’ missions to better serve and educate the public? Ask questions and learn more about the positive and healing work being done by institution partners.
Agenda
Thursday, October 13, 2022 | Restoring Our Relationships

4:30 - 5:00 pm
Conference Wrap Up & Closing
Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and the Association on American Indian Affairs
Speakers

Sabrina C. Agarwal is a Professor of Anthropology and Special Advisor to the Chancellor at the University of California Berkeley. She serves as the Chair of the Berkeley Campus NAGPRA Implementation Committee, which is appointed by the California Native American Heritage Commission. This committee was reconstituted with the commitment to meet the moral and legal obligations of repatriation made in conjunction with meaningful consultation with Indigenous Peoples, acting under a revised UC systemwide Repatriation Policy and recent CalNAGPRA legislation.

Anne Amati is the NAGPRA Coordinator at the University of Denver Museum of Anthropology in Denver, CO. She is responsible for NAGPRA compliance as well as ensuring that the University is cultivating and maintaining good relationships with tribes. Ms. Amati is the PI for an initiative to develop the NAGPRA Community of Practice, a network for all people engaged in or interested in the implementation of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), funded by an IMLS National Leadership Grant for Museums.

Dr. Sonya Atalay (Anishinaabe-Ojibwe) is Provost Professor in the Anthropology Department at UMass Amherst. She utilizes collaborative and arts-based methods to conduct research in partnership with Indigenous communities and shares some of this work in her first book, Community-Based Archaeology: Research with, by, and for Indigenous and Local Communities. Dr. Atalay served two terms on the National NAGPRA Review Committee and has co-authored a series of research-based comics about repatriation and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), all written in partnership with Native Nations. She is currently writing a book called Braiding Knowledge which examines how Indigenous knowledge is challenging and changing universities.

David Barland-Liles has been a law enforcement officer for the National Park Service for 23 years, which includes 13 years as a Special Agent. He currently serves as the civil investigator for the National NAGPRA Office. He recently served as the Lead Ranger position at Effigy Mounds National Monument, which is where a superintendent stole the Ancestors of 41 Native Peoples from the museum collection in 1990. This crime remained unsolved until 2012. David was the sole investigator.

Angeline Boulley is a citizen of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, and a storyteller who writes about her Ojibwe community in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Angeline lives in southwest Michigan, but her home will always be on Sugar Island. Firekeeper's Daughter is her debut novel, and was an instant #1 NYT Bestseller. It also won the Walter Dean Myers Award for Outstanding Children's Literature (Teen category) in 2022.

Laura Bryant serves as the Anthropology Collections Manager and NAGPRA Coordinator for Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She specializes in collections care and leads the Museum towards more proactive approaches in NAGPRA. She co-founded the Indigenous Collections Care working group and has actively been incorporating culturally appropriate care into her practice at Gilcrease.
Speakers

Deanna Byrd serves as the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma’s NAGPRA Liaison-Coordinator. She is currently working with several U.S. institutions for the respectful repatriation of Chahta Ancestors. Deanna works to educate youth on the importance of Choctaw Historic Preservation, Indigenous Archaeology, Tribal Collaboration and Advocacy, and NAGPRA. Deanna has authored several historical articles for a monthly column in the National Choctaw Publication, Biskinik, on topics related to the Chahta community during her five years of service to her Tribe.

Gail Dabaluz is Tlingit/Haida/Tsimshian Yéil (Raven) Moiety, L’uknax.ádi (Silver Salmon) clan. Gail is pursuing a Ph.D. in Indigenous Studies with a concentration in NAGPRA. Her research examines repatriation cases in Southeast Alaska from a Tribal and clan perspective. As ancient, secular, clan cultural objects return home, they are welcomed in time-honored ways while new ceremonies develop. Gail wants to ensure important Indigenous knowledge is imparted when these returns occur to inspire younger Tribal citizens to combine their cultural epistemology with higher education.

Emily Gould is Assistant Director at the Institute of Art and Law. After studying history at Cambridge University, she worked in private practice and as in-house counsel. After a period working in the charity sector in grants fundraising and management, she took up her current role with the IAL where she writes, teaches and presents on a range of areas pertaining to art and cultural heritage law including copyright, heritage crime, museum ethics, contracts and restitution. She teaches and is on the programme management committee for the Art, Business and Law LLM at the Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London.

Abigail Echo-Hawk is Pawnee and was born in the heart of Alaska where she was raised in the traditional values of giving, respect for all, and love. Ms. Echo-Hawk currently serves as the Director of the Urban Indian Health Institute, and the Chief Research Officer at the Seattle Indian Health Board. Her work incorporates these core principles and activities: engagement and participation of community partners; research and evaluation on health, healthcare, and other community priorities; education, training, and capacity-building for Native people, including researchers, students, and communities; infrastructure development; technical assistance; and sharing results in a way that recognizes and respects the unique cultural contexts of Native Peoples. In these roles she also works with Native Nations and organizations to identify health research priorities and with health researchers to ensure research is done in a manner that respects tribal sovereignty and is culturally appropriate.

Lourdes Henebry-Deleon is the NAGPRA Program Director and Professor in the Anthropology Department at Central Washington University in Ellensburg, WA. She has 20+ years of NAGPRA experience. During that time, Lourdes and the Columbia Plateau Tribes created a visible, participatory NAGPRA process. Tribes are at the table and in the lab from inventory to cultural affiliation. In her role as an osteologists/bio-archeologist, the Columbia Plateau Tribes consider her a “resource” inviting her to participate in tribal consultations with other agencies.
Speakers

Alexander Herman is the Director of the Institute of Art and Law. He has written, taught and presented on an array of topics in relation to art and cultural property, including on restitution, international conventions, copyright, digitisation, museum practice, exports and art collecting. His writing appears frequently in The Art Newspaper and he has been quoted widely on art law topics in significant publications. He has written a book on the return of cultural artefacts called Restitution, published in the UK in September 2021. On Twitter he is @artlawalex

Amber Hood serves as director of historic preservation and repatriation at the Chickasaw Nation. They consult with federal and state agencies to encourage preservation and protection of significant historic and sacred sites under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and works with institutions to repatriate Chickasaw Ancestors under NAGPRA. Amber obtained degrees in Psychology and Organizational Leadership and is completing her Master’s degree in Native American Leadership, and serves as a member of the NAGPRA Community of Practice Steering Committee, the Southeastern Tribal Alliance for Repatriation and Reburial and the Bridging the Gap Committee.

Henrietta Lidchi is the Director of the Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She previously served as the Chief Curator at the National Museum of World Cultures in the Netherlands. She has a long career developing policies in the UK and the Netherlands involving museums, including return of cultural property and Ancestors. In the Netherlands, she served on the National Advice Committee on Colonial Collections whose report Koloniale Collecties en Erkenning van Onrecht (Colonial Collections and Recognition of Injustice) was published in October 2020.

Shannon Martin (Lynx Clan) is the Executive Director/Founder of Cultural Pathways Group, LLC, a company that supports the development of cultural activation/preservation initiatives, community-centered organizing, repatriation efficacy, and strategic action planning for Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities, entities, and institutions. Shannon serves on the Advisory Council for the D’Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian and Indigenous Studies at the Newberry Library and the Research Advisory Council for the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition. She is the former Director of the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways - dedicating over 19 years to the organization.

Michelle ‘Chelle’ McIntyre-Brewer (Cherokee, Irish, Scots-Irish, Highlands heritages) is a graduate of University of Nebraska Omaha, with a Master’s degree in Critical and Creative Thinking with dual concentrations in Cultural and Global Analysis and International Migration, Development, and Citizenship, as well as a minor in Native American Studies. She attended the University of Ulster Coleraine focusing on Irish Heritage and Culture and is currently cultural liaison for the decolonization of National Museums Northern Ireland.

Colleen Medicine is a citizen of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and the Program Director with the Association on American Indian Affairs. Colleen’s family roots come from Mackinac Island, Michigan. Colleen holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Administration, with a minor in American Indian Studies from Central Michigan University. Colleen also holds a Master’s Degree in International Administration with a focus on International Repatriation, also from Central Michigan University. Colleen is also the Co-Director for the Anishinaabe Theater Exchange, an Indigenous Breastfeeding Counselor, a postpartum doula, and a lifelong Anishinaabemowin language learner.
Speakers

Nicolette B. Meister is Director of and NAGPRA Coordinator for the Logan Museum of Anthropology at Beloit College in Beloit, Wisconsin. She is Chair of the Museum Studies Program and teaches Collections Management and Care. In addition, she is Faculty Director of the Center for Collections Care, a hands-on summer program for emerging and practicing museum, library, archive, and conservation professionals. Ms. Meister holds a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee and a M.S. in Anthropology and Museum & Field Studies from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Heather Miller is an enrolled citizen of the Wyandotte Nation. She graduated from Miami University with a Bachelors of Philosophy and Masters of Native American Studies from Montana State University. Her career began working for Hopa Mountain in Montana where she coordinated a program for Native nonprofit organizations, and has worked with the Potlatch Fund and First Nations Development Institute. Recently, Heather led Chicago’s American Indian Center as their executive director. She has also provided cultural, organizational and strategic planning consulting to nonprofit startups and Tribal entities, but being involved with her Tribal Cultural Center on their language revitalization is one of her favorite activities during her free time.

Steve Murray became Director of the Alabama Department of Archives and History in 2012 after serving for six years as Assistant Director for Administration. His prior experience in public history included service as Managing Editor of the Encyclopedia of Alabama and The Alabama Review, both at Auburn University. He earned a bachelor’s degree in history and English from Louisiana College and a master’s degree in history from Auburn University. At the ADAH and in professional service, Murray is an advocate for effective, inclusive K-12 history education.

Angela Neller is a Kanaka `Oiwi scholar with 30 years of experience managing cultural collections and holds a Master of Arts in Anthropology from the University of Illinois. She serves as Curator for the Wanapum Heritage Center and provides repatriation support to the Wanapum working closely with the Tribes of the Columbia Plateau. Angela is adjunct faculty for Central Washington University, teaching museum curation and management. Her most significant achievements was the design and construction of the Wanapum Heritage Center, a world class state of the art facility which opened in 2015.

Michael Nephew is an enrolled member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and is also of Seneca and Cayuga descent. Mr. Nephew grew up in Western New York on the Cattaraugus Indian Territory and is a traditional dancer. He was President of the American Indian Society of Washington DC (AIS) from 1994 to 2011 and is currently the 1st Vice President of AIS. He is also a Sequoyah Fellow member of AISES, is a past Officer/Board Member with the American Indian Inter-Tribal Cultural Organization and an advisor to the Circle Legacy Center. He is currently on the advisory board of Groundwater Arts.

Melanie O’Brien 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.
Speakers

Shannon O’Loughlin is a citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and CEO & Attorney for the Association on American Indian Affairs. Shannon is a lecturer on NAGPRA at Johns Hopkins University and former Chief of Staff at the National Indian Gaming Commission. She has served Indian Country as an attorney for more than 20 years. Secretary Jewell appointed her to the NAGPRA Review Committee and President Obama appointed her as the 1st Native to the Cultural Property Advisory Committee, State Department.

Jane Pickering was appointed as the William and Muriel Seabury Howells Director of the Harvard Peabody Museum of Archaeology & Ethnology in 2019. At the Peabody she is leading new initiatives to address the profound challenges of historic anthropological collections, especially around ethical stewardship actions that promote historical reflection, and nurture respectful, open, and reciprocal relationships with descendant communities and other heritage stakeholders. Jane has 30 years’ experience in university museums and has served communities both on and off campus.

Jennifer Raff is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Kansas with a dual Ph.D. in anthropology and genetics and over fourteen years of experience in researching ancient and modern human DNA from the Americas. Dr. Raff authored Origin: A Genetic History of the Americas, the story of how the First Peoples in the Americas were, how and why they made the crossing, how they dispersed south, and how they lived based on a new and powerful kind of evidence: their complete genomes.

Daxootsu | Judith Ramos, Kwáash’ikwáan Clan, Yaakwdáat Kwáan, Tlingit
Daxootsu is Tlingit from Yakutat, Alaska and is Raven moiety, Kwáash’ikwáan clan. She is Program Coordinator of Haa Yoo X’atangi Deiyy: Our Language Pathways at University of Alaska Southeast and was an assistant professor in the Department of Alaska Native Studies and Rural Development, University of Alaska. She has a B.A. in Anthropology and M.A. in Teaching. She is currently a Ph.D. student in Indigenous Studies.

Marla Taylor is the Curator of Collections at the Robert S. Peabody Institute of Archaeology at Phillips Academy in Andover, MA. She has experience with all facets of collections management from cataloging to conservation to repatriation. Marla currently splits her time between preparing for a collections move, facilitating repatriation, and overseeing access to the Peabody's collection for Tribal partners, researchers, and educators. She co-founded the Indigenous Collections Care working group.

Martin Schultz is the Curator for the Acequia Madre House in Santa Fe, NM. He studied ethnology, history, and archaeology in Hannover, Bonn and Frankfurt. From 2012 to 2013 he was head of the ethnographic collections of the Reiss-Engelhorn-Museums in Mannheim. From 2013 to 2015 he was guest curator responsible for developing the permanent North America exhibition at the Historical and Ethnological Museum of St Gallen. From 2015 to 2017 he has been curator for collections from Africa and the Americas at the Historical Museum of Bern and from 2017 to 2020 he was curator for collections from North and Central America and the Circumpolar Arctic at the National Museums of World Culture in Sweden. From October 2020-2022 he was the Co-Director of Museum Cerny in Bern, Switzerland.

8th Annual Repatriation Conference
Speakers

Jules Thornton is a proud citizen of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and a South Eastern Woodlands artist with a primary focus in both traditional Pre- and Post-Contact textiles and weaving. She has continued mentorship under several Cherokee National Treasurers, as well as other accomplished artists in textiles, baskets, weaving, and beadwork. She represented the Cherokee Nation as Junior Miss Cherokee, 2012-2013, Miss Cherokee, 2013-2014, Miss Oklahoma Indian Summer, 2015-2016, as well as multiple terms on the Cherokee Nation Tribal Youth Council.

Katelyn Trammell is the Collection Manager for the University of Nebraska State Museum (UNSM) Anthropology Collection, beginning her work in museums in 2015. She graduated from the University of Central Arkansas with a Bachelor of Science in History and Anthropology (2017) and from University of Kansas with a Master of Arts in Museum Studies (2019). She has spent the last three years as the NAGPRA Assistant at UNSM updating the museum’s NAGPRA Summaries. Her goal as a museum professional is to facilitate repatriation.

Melissa Wiatrolik niidishnaakas, Miigiza ndoodem, Odawa/Ojibway nishnabe endow, Apatawing didojibaa, Aapading endizhew mideeoew. Melissa is an enrolled citizen of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, and Midewiwin Kwe from the Three Fires Midewiwin Society. Melissa worked for the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians (LTBB) for about two decades. Melissa currently serves as the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO), Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation act (NAGPRA), and the Treasurer to the Michigan Anishinaabek Cultural Preservation and Repatriation Alliance (MACPRA) for the past 5 years. She completed training/mentorship on Historic Preservation with Wesley Andrews through Andrews Cultural Resources, and other wonderful training/certificate opportunities.

Irene Villaseñor (Aeta, Chinese, Ifugao, and Purépecha) is an advisor to the National Museums Northern Ireland and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.
Meet the Ojibwe Filmmaker Brothers Behind Aanikoobijigan

Adam Khalil and Zack Khalil (both members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians) are filmmakers and artists from Bahweting, currently based in Lenapehoking (Brooklyn, New York).

Our work centers Indigenous narratives in the present – and looks towards the future – through the use of innovative nonfiction forms.


About the Film
Our film, Aanikoobijigan [Ancestor / great-grandparent / great-grandchild] documents the struggle to repatriate the remains of our Ancestors, and takes a critical look at the reasoning that justified unearthing and collecting them in the first place. The film follows Indigenous Repatriation specialists fighting to rebury and return Ancestors from settler-colonial institutions. Through an essayistic approach the film lays bare the history of Indigenous collections, the laws passed to ensure return of Ancestors and funerary objects, and vérité portraits of the righteous and courageous individuals doing the hard and emotionally draining work of bringing our ancestors back home. This film has received funding from Vision Maker Media, Sundance, Ford Foundation and Firelight Media.

From the Filmmakers
My brother and I have been working on this film for five years with the support and guidance of MACPRA (Michigan Anishinaabek Cultural Preservation & Repatriation Alliance), who have helped us establish ethical guidelines for documenting such a sensitive subject. We approach this film with humility and care and are not pursuing this film in order to sensationalize the subject, but rather as a catalyst to advocate for the expedient return of the Ancestors, and to support the work that Tribal repatriation specialists are doing to bring the Ancestors home. The goal for our film is a national broadcast on PBS. In addition to being broadcast on public television we’d also love to tour the film around reservations, museums, and universities, so it can serve as an educational tool for the next generation of repatriation specialists, museum professionals, and archaeologists. We do not want our Ancestors violated again. While the film has been focused on our own communities in Michigan, we are filming at the Conference to get a wider variety of Tribal perspectives on repatriation and would be honored to speak to or interview anyone who wishes to contribute to the film. If you’d like to be involved please feel free to call us over if you see us, or reach out to us via email (ozhitoonfilms@gmail.com), or phone (Zack: 929-394-6381).

Chi Miigwetch

8th Annual Repatriation Conference
The Association on American Indian Affairs is the oldest non-profit serving Indian 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 100-year history, the Association has provided national advocacy on watershed issues that support sovereignty and culture, while working at a grassroots level with Tribes 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 Indian children, youth and families, preserve sacred and cultural sites as well as repatriate Ancestors, their burial items and sacred and cultural patrimony, and protect Indian 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. The Association is governed by an all Native Board of Directors from across Indian Country, and its membership consists of Native and non-Native individuals of the public that believe in the Association’s vision.

How You Can Help
Indian Tribes, 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. Make a difference today! 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 Indian Country. Relationships are crafted in many ways and we look forward to building a relationship with you to invest in Indian Country.

Celebrate our 100 Years in Indian Country by Giving Today!
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8th Annual Repatriation Conference
Sharing Our Wisdom, Values & Diverse Cultures

ALL ARE WELCOME!
Tribal Museums Day will center diverse Nations as the primary experts of Indigenous histories, knowledge, cultures, lifeways and values.

Visit a Tribal Museum Near You to Enjoy:
• FREE Admission
• Special exhibits
• Gift shop discounts
• Art markets
• Cultural demonstrations

Live Streaming Event on YouTube & Facebook
2 p.m. ET
Emcee Shannon Martin, (Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians)
Tune in to watch live onsite interviews with wisdom keepers from across Indian Country!

Scan the QR Code below to see a full list of participating Tribal Museums
Association on American Indian Affairs
6030 Daybreak Circle
Suite A150-217
Clarksville, MD 21029
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general@Indian-affairs.org
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