



California Indian Education

COMMUNITY UPDATE



bit.ly/CIE-Update-11-3-2025

November 3, 2025

NOVEMBER IS NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH:

CIE Resource Guide: https://bit.ly/CIE-2025NAHM

Use our guide to celebrate Native American Heritage Month in November and throughout the school year.



JOIN US THIS THURSDAY FOR THE QUARTERLY AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION TALKING CIRCLE

This Thursday, November 6 from 3:30–5:30 p.m. (PDT), join our American Indian Education Talking Circle! Together, we gather quarterly to share strengths, knowledge, and resources that improve educational programs for Native youth. This session, will be Celebrating Native Brilliance in Our Schools and Communities and sharing Native Youth Leadership Academy (NAYLA) resources, with featured guest speaker Rachael Barger (Title VI TOSA), CA Native American Studies Model Curriculum, and more. NAYLA is a collective of Native American youth committed to celebrating and sharing the pride of their cultures through education. They work to strengthen their communities by fostering healthy relationships and engaging in meaningful service within the places they live and serve. This is open to K-12 educators, administrators, librarians, Tribal education staff, and Title VI leaders.

Flyer and Details: https://bit.ly/2025AIETalkingCircle Join on Zoom: https://sdcoe.zoom.us/j/86820543246

> Let's build culturally responsive programs and support Native student success. See you there!

CONTACT US

San Diego County Office of Education

Equity Department, Native Education Team www.sdcoe.net/nasmc

bit.ly/CIE_ResourceGuide

California Indian Education for All www.caindianeducationforall.com

Staci Block, Ed.D. | staci.block@sdcoe.net

Taylor Melgoza

taylor.melgozaesdcoe.net

HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS & RESOURCES

- California Indian Education Resource Guide
- **CA Native American Studies Model Curriculum**
- California Indian Education Calendar of Events
- Native Ways of Knowing Book Club Webinars
- Seeds of Native Knowledge: Culturally Sustaining Teaching Institutes
- Quarterly American Indian Education Talking Circles for Title VI Leaders
- **Native Ways of Knowing Book List**
- Native Ways of Knowing Book Club Recordings
- Honoring Tribal Education Sovereignty in Schools
- Tribal Consultation Resources

UPCOMING EVENTS

- November is Native American Heritage Month
 - Access our resources: https://bit.ly/CIE-2025NAHM
- CA Indian Educational Leader Pathway Cohort Tues., Nov. 4 from 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Learn to Pow Wow Dance Tues., Nov. 4 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at CSU San Marcos
- American Indian Education Talking Circle Thurs., Nov. 6 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m
- SDUSD Native American Heritage Celebration & Native Youth Conference

Thurs., Nov 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Native Ways of Knowing Book Club Webinar with Kishan Lara-Cooper

Thurs., Nov 13 from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m

- Learn to Pow Wow Dance Tues., Nov. 4 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at CSU San Marcos
- AISC'S (The Nest) Native American Heritage Month Event Thurs., Nov. 6 from 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. CSU San Marcos

Celebrating Native Brilliance and Honoring Ancestral Knowledge

Share your stories here. https://bit.ly/Share-Native-Brilliance

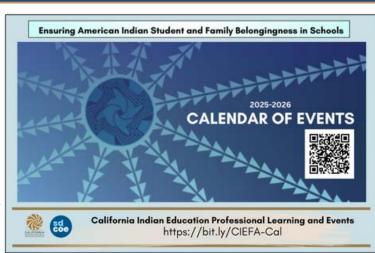
Download to continue reading the entire CIE Community Update. This newsletter provides access to free resources and registration links for upcoming events.

2025-2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2025-2026 CALIFORNIA INDIAN EDUCATION CALENDAR OF EVENTS

https://bit.ly/CIEFA-Cal

The SDCOE and CIEFA invite PK-12 educators, administrators, Title VI committee members, Tribal Education staff, college/university faculty, school board members, and tribal community members to attend events on our 2025-2026 calendar. This California Indian Education calendar has over 70 trainings, book clubs, institutes, conferences, talking circles, and collaboratives that will be offered for free to San Diego County and California LEAs, Tribal Education Centers, and tribal communities. All of these offerings are aligned to the Commitment to Ensure American Indian Student and Family



Belongingness in Schools: A Community- Responsive Framework to Honor and Enhance Tribal Education Sovereignty https://bit.ly/Tribal-Ed-Sovereignty. Presenters and participants will share resources and programs related to American Indian Education, place-based learning, CA Native American Studies model curriculum, Tribal consultation, culturally responsive literacy, Native Youth Leadership, Native family and tribal community engagement, and improvement strategies to facilitate Native community leadership and agency in schools. We welcome those who share a commitment for improving belongingness, access, opportunities, and support to allow American Indian students to thrive in school.





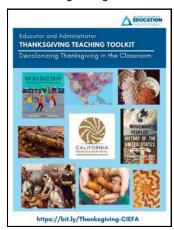
NOVEMBER IS NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH: CIE Resource Guide: https://bit.ly/CIE-2025NAHM

California Indian Education for All (CIEFA) and the San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) have partnered to create a comprehensive Native American Heritage Resource Guide designed to support K-12 educators, school leaders, and Tribal education partners across the state. The guide provides a wide selection of culturally responsive instructional materials, professional learning opportunities, and community events to help schools honor and accurately teach about California's First Peoples.

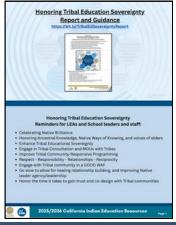
The resource guide features access to free trainings, book clubs, talking circles, conferences, and virtual learning opportunities that strengthen cultural competency and support inclusive classroom environments. These offerings align with the statewide commitment to ensure American Indian student and family belongingness in schools and honor Tribal educational sovereignty. Educators can explore tools such as the Thanksgiving Teaching Toolkit, the California Native American Studies Model Curriculum, and the Honoring Tribal Education Sovereignty Guidance to elevate authentic Native voices and perspectives in classrooms.

By providing professional development and open-source curriculum rooted in Native leadership and lived experiences, CIEFA and SDCOE are helping educators build more accurate, respectful, and community-responsive teaching practices. This collaborative effort encourages schools to celebrate Native brilliance year-round while fostering stronger relationships with Tribal Nations.











QUARTERLY AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION TALKING CIRCLE

JOIN OUR AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION TALKING CIRCLE

https://bit.ly/2025AIETalkingCircle

As a community, we will gather once a month to share our strengths and knowledge to improve the educational programs for Native youth. During quarterly <u>Talking Circle</u> district/school American Indian Education Directors, Title VI TOSAs, tribal education leaders, and Title VI leaders are invited to learn from Native American education and tribal education experts. Dr. Staci Block, Taylor Melgoza, and Native Education guest speakers will be co-facilitating quarterly talking circles. This Community of Practice will share resources and programs in K-12 education related to American Indian education, tribal consultation, and



improvement strategies that are culturally responsive approaches based on holistic connections to tribal knowledge and Indigenous identity. Sessions include new resources and opportunities to engage with Native American professionals in the field. We welcome those who share a commitment for improving access, opportunities, and support to allow American Indian students to thrive in school. Zoom Talking Circles will be held quarterly on select Thursdays from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Agenda November 6, 2025 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

- Celebrating Native Brilliance in our Schools and Communities
- Guest Speaker: Rachael Barger, Title VI Teacher on Special Assignment
 - Native American Youth Leadership Academy resources
- San Diego COE Native Education Update
 - Updates on U.S. Dept of Ed, Office of Indian Education
 - o Seeds of Knowledge: Culturally Sustaining Teaching Institutes
 - California Native American Studies Model Curriculum
 - Native Ways of Knowing Book Club webinars

Who Should Attend?

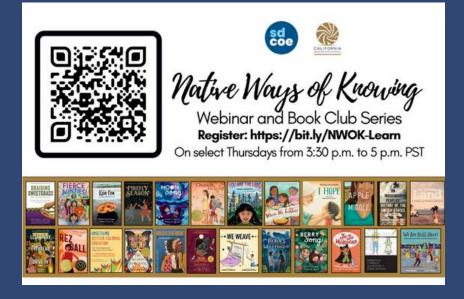
K-12 Educators, K-12 Administrators, Librarians, District Al/AN Education Directors, Title VI TOSAs, Tribal Education Directors, Tribal education staff, and Title VI Leaders

Register: https://sdcoe.kl2oms.org/902-223504

Zoom Information for today's American Indian Education Talking Circle https://sdcoe.zoom.us/j/86820543246

Free Talking Circle offered through the Office of Indian Education NYCP Federal Grant Funds

NATIVE WAYS OF KNOWING BOOK CLUBS AND WEBINARS





NATIVE WAYS OF KNOWING BOOK CLUB

Check out the 2025-2026 schedule: https://bit.ly/NWOKBookClubFlipBook

We are excited to launch our fourth year of Native Ways of Knowing Book Club Webinars that begin on Thursday, September 25. We have a wonderful schedule of Native authors and illustrators. All webinars are on select Thursdays from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Pacific Time.

Join our upcoming Native Ways of Knowing webinars. K-12 educators, librarians, administrators, and tribal community are invited to learn from several renowned Native American and Alaska Native authors, professors, scholars, and change makers. Participants will access free culturally responsive literacy resources to improve representations and classroom climates for teaching and learning about California's First Peoples. Live and interactive webinar Book Clubs are designed for participants to gain knowledge on supporting literacy, cultural competency, and culturally responsive instruction for all students, especially Native American students and families. Each session will have access to free lesson plans, resources, and instructional resources. We welcome those who share a commitment for improving access, opportunities, and support to allow Native American students and families to thrive in school.

Participants will reflect on the following:

- Whose stories do we choose to promote?
- How can we design more actively-centered Native stories and experiences?
- How can we use children's books to broaden our community conversation about race and decolonization?
- What ways can schools design programs and structures to honor Native Ways of Knowing?

Register: https://bit.ly/NWOK-Learn

Who Should Attend? K-12 Educators, K-12 Administrators, Librarians, District AI/AN Education Directors, Title VI TOSAs, Tribal Education Directors, Tribal education staff, Title VI Leaders, and tribal community

Contact: Staci Block, Ed.D. staci.block@sdcoe.net or Taylor Melgoza taylor.melgoza@sdcoe.net

Zoom Information

Zoom Meeting Link: https://sdcoe.zoom.us/j/83270767133

Meeting ID: 832 7076 7133

Phone: +16694449171,,83270767133# US

Free NWOK Virtual Book Club is offered through the Office of Indian Education NYCP Federal Grant Funds

UPCOMING NATIVE WAYS OF KNOWING BOOK CLUB WEBINARS





Register: https://bit.ly/NWOK-Learn

Zoom Information

Zoom Meeting Link: https://sdcoe.zoom.us/j/83270767133

Meeting ID: 832 7076 7133

Phone: +16694449171,,83270767133# US





Native Ways of Knowing Virtual Book Club and Webinars

Register: https://bit.ly/NWOK-Learn

Join our free Native Ways of Knowing Virtual Book Club and Webinars on select Thursdays from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Pacific Time





Nov. 13 Kishan Lara-Cooper

Ka'm-t'em: A Journey Toward Healing



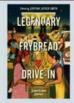


Andrea Rogers Chooch Helped, When We Gather, and Manmade Monsters









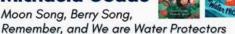
Cynthia Leitich Smith

Firefly Season, Legendary Frybread Drive-In, Jingle Dancer, and Rain is Not My Indian Name





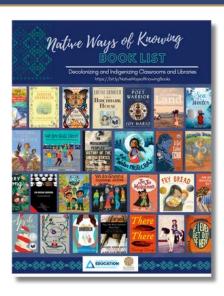
Dec. 18 Michaela Goade Moon Song, Berry Song,











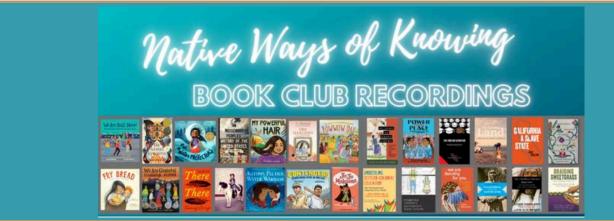
SDCOE AND CIEFA'S NATIVE WAYS OF KNOWING BOOK LIST

Decolonizing and Indigenizing Classrooms and Libraries Access the Native Ways of Knowing Book List: https://bit.ly/NativeWaysofKnowingBooks

To help educators and parents choose high-quality Indigenous authored books, CIEFA and SDCOE have designed this Native Ways of Knowing Book List: Decolonizing and Indigenizing Classrooms and Libraries. These books have been vetted by Native American scholars, CIEFA, and SDCOE staff. Please consider adding these insightful and vibrant Indigenous authored books to your school, classroom, or home library. Adding these books to your classroom will help teach young readers empathy, courage, resilience, sovereignty, and Native Ways of Knowing. These suggested Indigenous authors and illustrators utilize Indigenous storytelling and convey the breadth of Native cultures and sovereignty.

COMMUNITY UPDATE





and Red Bird Danced

DID YOU MISS A NATIVE WAYS OF KNOWING BOOK CLUB?

Access our recorded webinars here: https://nwok-recordings.com



REGISTER NOW





https://bit.ly/SeedsofNativeKnowledge



Register now for the free Seeds of Native Knowledge: Culturally Sustaining Teaching Institutes

LIVE REGISTRATION LINKS

- December 17-18, 2025 in Santa Rosa, CA Register: https://bit.ly/SeedsofNativeKnowledge-Dec2025
- February 4-5, 2026 in Ventura County, CA Register: https://bit.ly/SeedsofNativeKnowledge-Feb2026
- March 11-12, 2026 in North San Diego County, CA Register: https://bit.ly/SeedsofNativeKnowledge-March2026
- May 13-14, 2026 in Berkeley, CA Register: https://bit.ly/SeedsofNativeKnowledge-May2026

FUTURE DATES - LOCATIONS AND REGISTRATION WILL BE ANNOUNCED SOON

- Apr 29-30, 2026
- Sep 16-17, 2026
- Dec 18-19, 2026
- Mar 17-18, 2027

- June 3-4, 2026
- Nov 12–13, 2026
- Feb 3-4, 2027

HOST SITES

The host sites will include Tribal museums and cultural centers, Native museums, universities, and county offices of education. If your site is interested in hosting a two-day institute, please RSVP using this form: https://bit.ly/Host-RSVP-NASMC

Contact: Staci Block, Ed.D. staci.block@sdcoe.net

SEEDS OF NATIVE KNOWLEDGE: CULTURALLY SUSTAINING TEACHING INSTITUTES

Starting in December 2025, the San Diego County Office of Education, California Indian Museum and Cultural Center, and the partnering Tribes and County Office of Education will be co-hosting free two-day Seeds of Native Knowledge: Culturally Sustaining Teaching Institutes throughout California. These in-person teaching institutes bring together teachers, school leaders, Tribal education staff, and Tribal community partners to strengthen culturally responsive teaching and honor the sovereignty of California Native Peoples. Participants will gain knowledge on topics that include, but are not limited to:

- Essential Understandings of California Indian History and Culture
- New California Native American Studies Model Curriculum (NASMC)
- Native California Blanket Exercise and Tribal Resiliency Talking Circle
- NASMC Units such as Acorns to Oak Trees, CA Missions Through Native Perspectives, and Tribal Government and Civics
- Interwoven Mathematics Curriculum
- Native Ways of Knowing activities, place-based learning, and mock trials
- Literacy resources like We Are the Land (Akins & Bauer)
- Honoring Tribal Education Sovereignty Toolkit
- Strategies for Successful Tribal Consultation and Title VI Programming
- Voices of Our Ancestors: Revitalizing Tribal Languages in Schools

This training is developed for K-12 teachers, administrators, and Tribal education staff who will serve as leaders within their regions, sharing knowledge, resources, and curriculum with colleagues. Rooted in the theme of "Seeds of Native Knowledge," each institute plants ideas and practices that will take root, spread, and grow while nurturing curriculum that supports both Native and non-Native students across California. Through this work, educators strengthen pathways for truth-telling, cultural understanding, and educational equity. The Teaching Institutes support a call for courageous teaching, collaboration, and commitment. For California schools, this is a chance to lead the nation in truth-telling and in repairing relationships with Tribal Nations through authentic educational reform and increased Tribal consultation. For educators and school leaders, it is an invitation to practice humility, engage in sustained reflection, and embrace necessary work of decolonizing teaching practices. For students, it is a promise that their classrooms can be places where the voices of California's First Peoples are heard, honored, and celebrated with the new CA Native American Studies Model Curriculum.

Registration is now open: https://bit.ly/SeedsofNativeKnowledge

NASMC PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Teaching NASMC begins with educators examining their own assumptions and making space for the discomfort that comes with revising inaccurate histories. This work is supported by reliable resources, ongoing professional learning, and direct engagement with Tribal community members.

The professional learning sessions and materials support teachers, Tribal education staff, and school leaders in using the NASMC. Educators can access several training opportunities including digital resources, Native Ways of Knowing microcourses, asynchronous Indigenized professional learning, and in-person Seeds of Native Knowledge: Culturally Sustaining Teaching Institutes, that integrate Native voices, histories, and knowledge systems.

Professional learning and resources are specifically designed to support educators' confidence when teaching NASMC. These tools help create culturally responsive classrooms that honor Tribal sovereignty and reflect the diverse histories and cultures of California Native Peoples.











CALIFORNIA NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES MODEL CURRICULUM

Learn about the new California Native American Studies Model Curriculum (NASMC) https://bit.ly/NASMC-Info



Discover the power of the new Native American Studies Model Curriculum (NASMC), a transformative resource that brings Native voices, histories, and cultures to the center of K-12 education. NASMC offers culturally responsive units, lessons, and A-G approved courses that reflect the rich contributions of California's First Peoples, past and present. By exploring these resources, educators can create classrooms that are inclusive, accurate, and inspiring, helping all students see themselves as part of California's story. NASMC is designed to close opportunity gaps, boost engagement, reduce dropout rates, and prepare students to thrive as global citizens with a deeper understanding and appreciation for diverse cultures.

The NASMC is more than a curriculum, it is a call to courage, collaboration, and commitment. For schools, it is a chance to lead the nation in authentic educational reform. School leaders must prioritize ongoing professional learning, authentic Tribal consultation, and sustained partnerships with Native Nations. Educators must reflect on their own biases, question long-held narratives, and commit to learning alongside their students. It is an invitation to humility and growth. For students, it is a promise that their classrooms can be places where the voices of California's First Peoples are heard, honored, and celebrated.



CSU San Marcos, American Indian Studies Department and California Indian Culture and Sovereignty Center Community Events

Learn more: bit.y/csusm-air-events



LEARN TO POWWOW DANCE ON TUESDAYS

On Tuesdays from October 7 to December 16, CSU San Marcos alumna, Kiara Love Flores, will be hosting powwow dance workshops. Join the CSU San Marcos to learn the art and significance of each style of dance. Anyone of any age or background are free and encouraged to attend. The workshops are held at the Serenity Circle beside the Social Behavioral and Science Building (right outside CICSC) every Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. We look forward to seeing new and returning faces!

San Diego USD Title VI & Johnson O'Malley Indian Education Program Community Events

Learn more: https://sites.google.com/sandi.net/indianeducation/home

Register: bit.ly/NAHMSDUSD





San Diego USD Title VI & Johnson O'Malley Indian Education Program **Community Events**





2025 - 2026 Calendar of Events

All Ages Welcome to Attend

Cultural Identity & Awareness Workshops and Parent Advisory Committee Meetings

Harold J. Ballard Center 2375 Congress St., San Diego, CA 92110 Potluck Dinner: Main Dish Provided, Please Bring a Side Dish

TITLE VI AND JOHNSON O'MALLEY PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE & PTA

The Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) are combined group of parents, family members, tribal representatives, teachers, native students, and community members who advise and support students and schools in meeting the educational needs of Native American students and helps determine the Indian Education Program's goals and advises on the distribution of funds for the program services provided. The PTA meets every other month and supports Indian Education for All. ALL MEETINGS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC . Room 5. . Wednesdays - 6 to 8 P.M.

CULTURAL IDENTITY & AWARENESS EDUCATION WORKSHOP

A time to connect with community by promoting cultural preservation and empowering youth in continuing their cultural legacy.

Culture • History • Traditions • Language Cultural & Hands-on Activities • Guest speakers • Elders Cultural Presentations . Pow Wow Dance . Storytelling

August 2025

- 20 PAC Mtg.
- 27 Back to School
- 28 Cultural Crafts

September

- 3 Pow Wow Dance
- 10 Pow Wow Dance
- 11 Cultural Crafts
- 17 PAC/ PTA Mtg.
- 24 Pow Wow Dance 25 - Cultural Crafts

Pow Wow Dance Workshop - Auditorium - Wednesdays - 6 to 8:30 p.m.

This is a Time Method to Renew Native American Culture and Preserve the Rich Heritage of Native Americans. Learn Pow Wow Dance styles, Protocol and Etiquette. All Dance Styles from Fancy, Grass, Prairie Chicken, Traditional, and Jingle

Cultural Crafts - Room 5 - Thursdays - 6 to 8 p.m.

Learn History, Traditions and Heritage through the art of bead working and sewing. These workshops will have multiple teachings & projects on-going through out the year. Beadwork: Learn techniques for Earnings, Keychains, Medallions, Loom and more. Sewing: Regalia dresses, vests, aprons, etc., and ribbon skirts. (Limited Sewing Machines Available) Or Bring your own projects & machine to enjoy the laughs & collaborations. Kids crafts will also be available, supplies included.

October

- 8 Pow Wow Dance
- 9 Cultural Crafts
- 15 PAC Mtg.
- 22 Pow Wow Dance
- 23 Cultural Crafts

4 - Pow Wow Dance

11 - Pow Wow Dance

19 - Cultural Crafts

5 - Cultural Crafts

29 - Fall Harvest Halloween 20 - Cultural Crafts

February

November

- 4 Flag Raising (at Ed. Ctr.)
- 5 Native Veterans Dinner
- 12 PAC/ PTA Mtg.
- 19 Pow Wow Dance

December

- 3 PAC Mtg.
- 4 Cultural Crafts
- 10 Pow Wow Dance
- 19 (Fri.) Winter Solstice

January 2026

- 7 Pow Wow Dance
- 8 Cultural Crafts
- 14 PAC/ PTA Mtg..
- 21 Pow Wow Dance
- 22 Cultural Crafts 28 - Pow Wow Dance

April

- 4 Pow Wow Dance
 - 11 Pow Wow Dance
 - 12 Cultural Crafts
 - 18 PAC/ PTA Mtg.
 - 21 Yth & Social Pow Wow (@Miramar College)

March

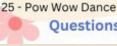
- 25 Pow Wow Dance
- 26 Cultural Crafts

- 9 Cultural Crafts
- 15 PAC Mtg.
- 22 Pow Wow Dance
- 23 Cultural Crafts
- 29- Pow Wow Dance

may

- 6 Pow Wow Dance
- 7 Cultural Crafts
- 13 Pow Wow Dance
- 20 PAC/ PTA Mtg..
- 21 Cultural Crafts 27 - Grads & Promotions
- Questions or more info, contact Connie GreyBull at cgreybull@sandi.net









18 - PAC Mtg



CSU San Marcos, American Indian Studies Department and California Indian Culture and Sovereignty Center Community Events

Learn more: bit.y/csusm-air-events





Celebrating Native Brilliance and Honoring Ancestral Knowledge Share your stories here.

bit.ly/Share-Native-Brilliance



RECEIVE CALIFORNIA INDIAN EDUCATION COMMUNITY UPDATES



ARCHIVED CALIFORNIA INDIAN EDUCATION COMMUNITY UPDATES https://bit.ly/CIEFA-Archived

Access our archived SDCOE California Indian Education Community Updates. https://bit.ly/CIEFA-Archived