

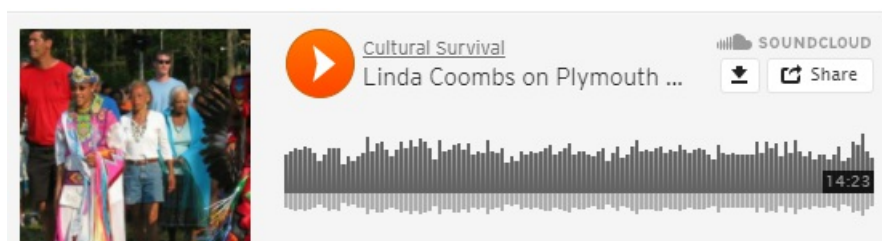
Cultural Survival

Indigenous Peoples' Rights

<https://www.culturalsurvival.org/news/15-calls-action-indigenous-peoples-day>

Public Facing Advocacy Writing

Christopher Columbus did not "discover" America because Indigenous Peoples have been on Turtle Island since time immemorial. Today and every day, let's remember and celebrate this land's First Peoples! It's time to recognize that celebrating the life of Christopher Columbus also celebrates the erasure of Indigenous existence. It is an act of violence, not solidarity. By commemorating Indigenous Peoples Day, we recognize colonization persists today and perpetuates oppression and violence against Indigenous Peoples as well as their sovereignty and self-determination. Changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day is a step towards disrupting these oppressive systems and shifts focus to recognize, honor, and celebrate Indigenous Peoples, knowledge, histories, cultures, traditions, and lands. It is an opportunity to learn about the Peoples whose land we occupy and now call home and to take action in supporting the rights and sovereignty of all Indigenous Peoples.



[Linda Coombs on Plymouth 400](#)

The Wampanoag Peoples have lived in the region of what is now southeastern Massachusetts for more than 12,000 years. The year 2020 represents 400 years since colonizers voyaged on the Mayflower and founded Plymouth Colony as settlers on Native land. This anniversary is a time of reckoning with that history of violence, dispossession, removal.



[Indigenous Peoples Day](#)

IRR Producers Shaldon Ferris (Khoisan) and Avexnim Cojti (Maya K'iche') uncover the history of Indigenous resistance to colonization and the "discovery" narrative that perpetuates the celebration of Columbus and the erasure of Indigenous Peoples.

Join us in celebrating [#IndigenousPeoplesDay](#) by listening to some great Native musicians. Discover new music and support Native artists!

Listen to a playlist of Native music curated by IllumiNative on [Spotify](#).

Support Indigenous authors by [reading their works](#).

Check out [this reading list](#) by First Nations Development Institute.

And [read books](#) by Indigenous authors to your kids!

There are still more than 1,000 high school, university and professional teams that continue to have Native American mascots. Though changes have been made at the high school and collegiate levels, there is still more to be done with professional sports teams and other businesses. Start conversations to address the misrepresentation of Indigenous Peoples in your community today. Check out our [Abolishing Racist Native Mascots: A Toolkit for Change](#).

One of the easiest and most effective things you can do is raise awareness about Indigenous Peoples. Forward, post this message on Facebook, Instagram, or tweet it! [#AbolishColumbusDay](#) [#IndigenousPeoplesDay](#) [#IndigenousPeoplesDay2021](#)

[The Ongoing Legacy of Sterilization Racism towards Indigenous and Migrant Peoples in the U.S.](#)

[We The Peoples Before: A Conversation with Joy Harjo](#)

[Sacheen Remembered: Personal Reflections](#)

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are headquartered on [Massachusett land](#), in Cambridge, MA, and we thank the past and current Indigenous stewards of this land.

Cultural Survival advocates for Indigenous Peoples' rights and supports Indigenous communities self-determination, cultures and political resilience, since 1972.

Cultural Survival envisions a future that respects and honors Indigenous Peoples' inherent rights and dynamic cultures, deeply and richly interwoven in lands, languages, spiritual traditions, and artistic expression, rooted in self-determination and self-governance.

Sign up today to stay informed about the latest news, Cultural Survival program updates, events and MORE...

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