

Native American Canon

This list of about 100 items includes 26 documentary films, 7 narrative films, 22 adult books, 21 young adult books, and 22 children's books. All these items have annotations. Any comments will be graciously received. Any suggestions will be greatly appreciated. The list is divided by individual collector, so that comments and/or suggestions can be directly addressed to each of us. Shawna: pgs. 1-5. Sara: pgs 5-14. Donovan: pgs. 14-22. Jamie: pgs. 22-36.

Shawna's List

Adult

-1-

In the Courts of the Conqueror: the 10 worst Indian Law Cases Ever Decided
Echo-Hawk, Walter R.
Fulcrum Publishing 2010
Hardcover, 576 pages
ISBN: 9781936218011

10 cases are presented and analyzed by Echo-Hawk that show how American law destroyed Native American cultures. This unique historical view of the American justice system highlights the injustice of American law in its dealing with Native Americans. This book explains the legal genocide of Native Americans and the legal invasion of Native lands with an answer to the question, "What can Americans do now to correct some of these injustices?"

-2-

Notes from the Center of Turtle Island
Champagne, Duane
AltaMira Press (October 16, 2010)
Hardcover, 192 pages
ISBN: 0759120013

This is a compilation of newspaper editorials authored by Champagne that deal with a variety of Indian cultural issues that are complex and thoughtfully presented. The purpose is to create dialogue and discussion while educating people about indigenous history and policy.

-3-

The Last Great Battle of the Indian Wars: Henry M. Jackson, Forrest J. Gerard and the campaign for the self-determination of America's Indian tribes.
Mark N. Trahant
The Ceders Group: 2010
Paperback: 182 pages
0982758103

The history of American Indian self-determination is presented here with Jackson and Gerard at the forefront of indigenous legislation. Not only is the Indian Self-Determination Act covered but other acts that still are in effect and continue to affect tribal self-governance. These legislations were considered by Trahant to be the last of the Indian Wars.

-4-

The Earth Shall Weep: A History of Native America

James Wilson

Grove Press; 1st Grove Press Ed edition (March 3, 2000)

Paperback: 466 pages

ISBN: 080213680X

Wilson takes oral traditions, ethnographies, information from archeologists, and historical data to create a comprehensive narrative beginning with first contact to present. He points out the ignorance and misunderstandings that led to current social and political issues concerning indigenous peoples of North America.

-5-

American Indian Children at School: 1850-1930

Michael C. Coleman

University Press of Mississippi (November 26, 2007)

Paperback: 230 pages

ISBN: 1604730099

Over 100 descriptions from American Indians who attended government boarding schools and missionary schools are the basis of this book. The book recounts how young Indians dealt with a foreign way of life as the dominant society forced them from their tribal ways into American citizenship.

Children

-1-

Meet Naiche: A Native Boy from the Chesapeake Bay Area

Gabrielle Tayac

Council Oak Books (August 15, 2007)

Hardcover: 48 pages

ISBN: 1571781463

The first in the series, My World: Young Native Americans Today, Naiche humanizes a young Piscataway boy with photographs and descriptions of his daily life. Older children can read this on their own while younger children will enjoy listening to the story and viewing the color photos.

-2-

Meet Lydia: A Native Girl from Southeast Alaska

Miranda Belarde-Lewis

Council Oak Books (July 1, 2004)
Hardcover: 48 pages
ISBN: 1571781471

Another book in the series, *My World: Young Native Americans Today*, examines the Tlingit tribe through the eyes of Lydia with full color photographs recounting many traditions.

-3-

Meet Mindy: A Native Girl from the Southwest

Susan Secakuku
Council Oak Books (June 1, 2006)
Hardcover: 48 pages
ISBN: 1582700915

A third book in the *My World: Young Native Americans Today* series focuses on Mindy, a young Hopi girl. This photo essay shows a day in the life of Mindy and describes many traditions of her culture.

-4-

Meet Christopher: An Osage Indian Boy from Oklahoma

Genevieve Simermeyer
Council Oak Books (October 1, 2008)
Hardcover: 48 pages
ISBN: 1571782176

The fourth book in the *My World: Young Native Americans Today* series presents Christopher whose traditional ways are a part of his daily life. This 11 year old dances, fishes, plays the trombone and learns stories from his grandmother.

-5-

Encyclopedia of Native American Tribes

Carl Waldman
Checkmark Books; 3rd edition 2006
Paperback, 368 pages
ISBN: 0816862749

Covering over 150 different tribal groups and their history including current information and issues this third edition book uses language that is easily read with colorful illustrations. Presented in alphabetic order, each entry varies in length. This work does not cover every tribe in North America, but the content is fine for young children.

Young Adult

-1-

Skywalkers: Mohawk Ironworkers Build the City

David Weitzman

Flash Point: 2010
Hardcover: 128 pages
ISBN: 1596431628

Beginning in the mid 1800s the Mohawks (Kannawake people) have been building bridges and skyscrapers across North America. This book follows the changes from wooden structures to steel structures and from a time of personal risk to current protective gear. This historical account covers explanations about how ironworkers adapted to new technology and occupations.

-2-

Before the Storm: American Indians before the Europeans

Allison Lassieur
Facts on File: 1998
Hardcover: 150 pages
ISBN: 0816036519

Lassieur covers the several geographic areas in this overview of North American Indian peoples from first contact with Europeans. Drawing on original documents this book includes maps, black and white photographs and illustrations.

-3-

Moccasin Thunder: American Indian Stories for Today

Carlson, Lori Marie, editor.
HarperTeen 2005
Library binding: 176 pages
ISBN: 0066239591

These short stories about teens by ten American Indian writers are complex and contemporary. This collection shows how young adults can overcome burdens and find strengths in their cultures while reaching for their dreams.

-4-

Native American Culture (The Native American Sourcebook)

Kathleen Kuiper (Editor)
Rosen Educational Publishing (August 15, 2010)
Library Binding: 252 pages
ISBN: 1615301380

This book showcases the struggle to preserve Native American culture from first contact onward. While battling a common enemy, each community finds ways to save traditions and language. Each diverse tribe maintains the integrity of their culture which makes for a good resource book.

-5-

A to Z of American Indian Women

Liz Sonneborn

Facts on File; 2nd Revised edition (June 30, 2007)
Hardcover: 368 pages
ISBN: 0816066949

Most American Indian women in history are unknown or misrepresented by the dominant historical viewpoint. This book presents 152 profiles of these women who impacted not only their societies, but the world. Many tribes are represented including recent stories of American Indian women today. Indexes allow searching by tribe or activity or era. There are photographs and lists of Web sites and books to lead readers to other resources.

Sara's List

CHILDREN

-1-

The Dancing Turtle: A Folktale from Brazil

By: Pleasant deSpain
Illustrated by: David Boston
August House Little Folk, Little Rock Arkansas 1998
Hardcover, 32 pages
Language: English
ISBN: 087483502X

After being caught by a hunter, a clever turtle uses her wits and her talent playing the flute to trick the hunter into helping her escape. The end of the story contains a message about how the turtle represents the earth and how it is impossible for humans to control nature because in the end it will always be the earth that prevails.

-2-

Coyote & Little Turtle: Ilaw Niqw Yongosonhoya: A Traditional Hopi Tale

Based on a story told by: Herschel Talashoema
Translated by: Emory Sekaquaptewa & Barbara Pepper
Illustrated by: Hopi Children
Clear Light Publishers, Sante Fe New Mexico 1994
Language: Hopi, English
Hardcover, 90 pages
ISBN: 0940666855

The turtles are out looking for food when one little turtle gets tired and falls asleep under a bush. When he wakes up, everyone is gone and he begins to cry. Coyote is also hunting at this time and hears the cries of the turtle but thinks he is singing. Coyote threatens turtle to continue to sing or else he will do bad things to him. Turtle obliges, however, he has some tricks of his own.

-3-

Coyote Steals Fire: A Shoshone Tale

Retold and Illustrated by: The Northwest Band of the Shoshone Nation

Utah State University Press 2005
Language: English with some Shoshone words
Hardcover, 32 pages
ISBN: 0874216184

This story about how fire came to the northern Wasatch region is retold and illustrated by members of the Northwestern band of the Shoshone Nation. Bright watercolor-and-salt techniques provide a winning background to the hand-cut silhouettes of the characters. The lively, humorous story about Coyote and his friends is complemented perfectly by later pages written by Northwestern Shoshone elders on the historical background and cultural heritage of the Shoshone nation. An audio CD with the voice of Helen Timbimboo telling the story in Shoshone and singing two traditional songs makes this book not only good entertainment but an important historical document, too.

-4-

The Night the Grandfathers Danced

By: Linda Theresa Raczek
Illustrated by: Katalin Olah Ehling
Northland Publishers, Iron River Michigan 1999
Language: English
Paperback, 32 pages
ISBN: 0873587200

A tender tale in both spirit and tone, revolving around a Ute Indian traditional springtime dance called the Bear Dance. The illustrations embrace the desert springtime setting and explode with earthly hues of gold, orange, yellow, and brown. When a girl brushes her shawl against a boy, he must accept her invitation to dance while the Cat Man oversees the activities, keeping order and making sure the men and boys respond. When Sutumn Eyetoo chooses a boy her own age to dance, he takes off running, out of the reach of the Cat Man. However, Sutumn does not allow this to discourage her and she bravely chooses a partner from among the old men of the tribe.

-5-

Baby Rattlesnake

Based on a story told by: Te Ata (Bearer of the Morning)
Adapted by: Lynn Moroney
Illustrated by: Mira Reisberg
Children's Book Press 2006
Language: English
Paperback, 32 pages
ISBN: 0892392169

Told by Te Ata, an internationally known Chickasaw Story teller, this story tells of what happens when someone receives something before they are ready. Baby Rattlesnake wants a rattle that's just like his big brother and sister's. The young snake makes such a ruckus that the elders decide to give in to him, but just as they predicted, Baby Rattlesnake creates mischief with his new power. He meets his match, however, when he tries to scare the chief's daughter, who is as strong

and decisive as she is beautiful and proud. Humbled and without his rattle, the little snake returns to his forgiving family. The collage and cartoon-like paintings are cluttered, but the desert country colors are deftly combined to make the book bright and attractive.

-6-

Raven: A Trickster Tale from the Pacific Northwest

Adapted and Illustrated by: Gerald McDermott

Voyager Books Harcourt, 1993

Language: English

Paperback, 32 pages

ISBN: 0152024492

All the world is in darkness at the beginning of this traditional tale adapted from the Indian cultures of the Pacific Northwest. Raven feels sorry for the people living in the gloomy cold, so he flies to the house of the Sky Chief in search of light and warmth. To get inside, Raven pulls a shape-shifting trick that allows him to be born to the god's daughter. As a spoiled and comic infant, Raven demands and gets the shiny ball that the gods have hidden away. The mixed-media illustrations contrast the foggy cold of the Northwest Coast with the cozy interior of a native plank house where the traditional dress, furnishings, and house construction are clearly depicted. The physical environment, oral literature, and traditional life of the Pacific Coast Indians come alive in this amusing and well-conceived picture book. The art and text captures the spirit of Raven, the Northwest trickster hero; benevolent, clever, magical, unscrupulous, and ultimately triumphant.

-7-

Coyote Christmas: A Lakota Story

Told and Illustrated by: S.D. Nelson

Abrams Books for Young Readers, New York 2007

Language: English

Hardcover, 40 pages

ISBN: 0810993678

A traditional Native American character gets a modern update in this charming Christmas tale of the Coyote and his search for people he can trick out of a hot meal. Knowing that people can not refuse Santa Claus on Christmas Eve, Coyote dresses up using straw for a jolly belly and wool for a beard, and fools a family into welcoming him to their Christmas meal. Just when he thinks he has gotten away with his ruse, taking their food and leaving the family with nothing, he's foiled by a strange occurrence.

-8-

Pia Toya: A Goshute Indian Legend

Retold and Illustrated by: The Children and Teachers of Ibapah Elementary School

The University of Utah Press 2000

Language: English

Hardcover, 48 pages

ISBN: 0874806615

Mother Hawk was enjoying a rodent for breakfast, when coyote approached, tricked her out of it and ate it himself! Mother Hawk became enraged and in her attempt to catch him, she plummeted the earth over and over creating a massive dust storm. All the rocks and boulders that were mixed up in her fury settled and formed the mountain Pia Toya. The lay out of the book contains text on each left-hand page framed by an illustrated border and full-page illustrations on the right created by the students of Ibapah elementary school. All the illustrations use paint-and-collage technique in a palette of rich, bright colors, making all the pictures stand together as a narrative whole. Several notes at the end tell about the Goshute people and briefly explain that the book came about through a grant from the Utah State Office of Education.

-9-

Navajo Coyote Tales

Collected by: William Morgan

Translated by: Robert W. Young

Illustrated by: Jenny Lind

Ancient City Press, Sante Fe New Mexico 1988

Language: English

Paperback, 49 pages

ISBN:

In these six delightful tales collected from Navajo story tellers, Coyote has chance meetings with Rabbit, Fawn, Crow, Snake, Skunk Woman, and Horned Toad. Each encounter harbors a message as the Coyote attempts to trick the other animals and winds up learning a valuable lesson. The stories have been collected by Anthropologist William Morgan and translated by linguist Robert W. Young in an attempt aid in keeping traditions alive.

YOUNG ADULT

-10-

Shasta Indian Tales

Compiled by: Rosemary Holsinger

Illustrated by: P.I. Piemme

Naturegraph Publishers, Inc. 1982

Language: English

Paperback, 48 pages

ISBN: 0879611294

The land of the Shasta Peoples range generally from Mount Shasta north to the Rogue River, and from Happy Camp and the middle of the Applegate valley east to Mount McLoughlin, all of which is depicted on the first page of the book. The book contains 29 stories, mostly compiled in Siskiyou County in the Mount Shasta area from the Shasta Tribe. The reoccurring character in these stories is the coyote, an individual who is both good and bad - a hero at one point and a greedy villain in another. Coyotes dies in some of the tales but always seems to return to life. Throughout the stories, Coyote encounters grizzly bear, fires, grandmothers, gamblers and even the devil. The stories are not only entertaining but also informative learning tools as Coyote

experiences life lessons and teaches others how to behave in different situations, including death. Young adults will enjoy learning about the Shasta peoples and their respect for the land and all life forms, as well as how their people maintain bonds with other community members and the earth.

-11-

Navajo Coyote Tales: The Curly To Aheedliinii Version

By: Father Berard Haile, O.F.M

University of Nebraska Press 1984

Language: English, Navajo

Paperback, 50 pages

ISBN: 0941270521

This collection contains 17 Coyotes tales collected and translated by Father Berard Haile, O.F.M., in the early 1900s. The original Navajo transcriptions are included, along with notes. The coyote is depicted as a warrior, a shaman, a trickster, a lecher, a thief, a sacrificial victim and always as an important force of life. He is the paradoxical hero and scamp whose adventures inspire laughter or awe. This volume is the 8th in the American tribal religion Series, which is an ongoing record of songs, myths, and ceremonials of the southwest Native Americans.

-12-

Skunny Wundy: Seneca Indian Tales

by: Arthur C. Parker

Illustrated by: George Armstrong

Syracuse University Press, New York 1994

Language: English

Paperback, pages 224

ISBN: 0815602928

Anthropologist Arthur C. Parker collected these stories while growing up on the Cattaraugus Indian reservation in New York. They have been handed down from generation to generation in order to protect the lessons and ensure their survival. The Seneca stories of animals, whose weaknesses and strengths are like those of humans, teach people how to live and exist in the world around them.

-13-

Trickster: Native American Tales A Graphic Collection

Edited by: Matt Dembicki

Folcrum Publishing, Golden Colorado 2010

Language: English, some words in other Native languages

Paperback, 232 pages

ISBN: 1555917241

The book is a compilation of 21 Native American folktales and trickster stories paired with a variety of artists to create a graphic novel, much in the style of Japanese manga. The stories are told through captions with the images in the background, as if you were listening to the tale

being told and envisioning the images described. The protagonists in all of the stories explain how things came to be, usually by animals playing tricks on one another. Often, the trickster, while trying to take the lazy way out, outwits himself, especially when it involves the coyote. In another tale, the Raven does whatever people tell him not to do, but somehow ends up with a free meal. The rabbit makes a habit out of tricking the buffalo and wolves, but is then tricked by fox into losing his tale. The diverse artist's interpretations are presented in bold and lavish colors in a handsomely compiled volume.

-14-

Coyote Stories of the Navajo People

Edited by: Robert A Roessel, Jr. and Dillon Platero

Illustrated by: George Mitchell

Rough Rock press, Chinle Arizona 1974

Language: English

Paperback, 100 pages

ISBN: 0890190399

This book contains fourteen traditional Navajo legends featuring the cunning Coyote and his continual efforts to trick his fellow animals. According to Gary Witherspoon, the Director of the Navajo Curriculum Center, these stories are “part if the enormous mythological treasures of the Navajo people because this is because they express, enhance and enforce the morals and norms of Navajo society.” Due to the fact that these stories are traditionally told during the winter months, the contributors of the stories have requested that they be used for instructional purposes during that time.

-15-

Clowns of the Hopi: Tradition Keepers and Delight Makers

By: Barton Wright

Kiva Publishing 2004

Language: English

Paperback, 135 pages

ISBN: 1885772327

The subtitle of this book describes the dual role of clowns in Hopi life and religion, clowns are both "tradition keepers and delight makers." Hopi clowns function as slap-stick merry makers to the delight of the gathered crowds, but they are much more. From the Koshare (Tewa clown) to the Koyemsi (Mudhead) to the Kwikwilyaka (Mocking katsina) and the dozens of other clowns described by the author, the Hopi clowns serve as teachers who share valuable lessons about both the good and bad in mankind. Their role, as "tradition keepers" is critical to the Hopi way of life. Barton Wright does an excellent job of sharing the background and purpose of a wide variety of clowns, as well as providing colorful paintings and photographs of such clowns. The author also describes them “caretakers” or “fathers” of the people and other kachinas, making such insight critical to ones understanding of the Hopi, their customs and their dances.

-16-

Coyote Stories

by: Mourning Dove
Bison Books
Language: English
ISBN: 0803281692
Paperback, 246 pages

The coyote figure runs through the folklore of many American Indian tribes, being seen as a model of terrible conduct and what not to do, and yet admired for a careless energy that suggests unlimited possibilities. Mourning Dove, an Okanagan, knew him well from the legends handed down by her people and preserved them in *Coyote Stories*. This collection contains more than Coyote, the trickster, the selfish individualist, the imitator who indifferently puts the finishing touches on a world soon to receive human beings. It is also talks about Mole, his long-suffering wife, and all the other Animal People, including Fox, Chipmunk, Owl-Woman, Rattlesnake, Grizzly Bear, Porcupine, and Chickadee. Here it is revealed why Skunk's tail is black and white, why Spider has such long legs, why Badger is so humble, and why Mosquito bites people.

-17-

Folk Tales and Fables of the Americas & the Pacific

By: Robert Ingpen and Barbara Hayes
Dragon's World, London 1992
Hardcover, 93 pages
ISBN: 185028170X

The *Folk Tales and Fables of the Americas & the Pacific* is a unique selection of exciting and entertaining stories that has been collected throughout the Americas, all the way from northern Canada to the Amazon Basin to the great plains of North American and the islands of the Pacific. The stories include characters such as Nanook the friendly polar bear who saves an Inuit from starvation, a giant with teeth of fire from the Pacific and Jungle spirits from Central America, just to name a few. Inspired by these legends, Robert Ingpen has brought the characters to life in a series of superbly colorful paintings and drawings. Enter a world where animals talk, gods are fallible, and giants and spirits are everyday problems.

ADULT

-18-

The Pawnee: Mythology

By: George Amos Dorsey
Carnegie Institution of Washington 1906
Language: English
Paperback, 428 pages
ISBN: 1154024660

The book has no illustrations or index and contains many typos due to the use of OCR software in the reprinting of the book. There are 148 stories in the book that range from 20 pages to one paragraph. The book is referred to as a memoir and forms part of a series of investigations carried out by the Field Museum of Natural history in the late 1800s. The investigations targeted the tribes who speak Cad-doan languages, such as the Pawnee,

Wichita, Kitsai and Caddo. This compilation contains only stories of the Pawnee and their interactions with other tribes in the area, to include the Cherokee. The common theme of the coyote abounds through the stories and is referenced cross culturally with other Cad-doan language groups. The Coyotes tales always have a moral even though Coyote often seems to be a mean trickster.

-19-

Hopi Coyote Tales: Istutuwutsi

By: Ekkehard Malotki and Michael Lomatuway'ma

Illustrated by: Anne-Marie Malotki

University of Nebraska Press 1984

Language: English, Hopi

Paperback, 343 pages

ISBN: 0803281234

This compiles 21 traditional trickster tales retold by Hopi narrators. Complete with English translations and original Hopi transcriptions on facing pages and a bilingual glossary, Hopi tales is important to an understanding of the Hopi language and folklore, specifically trickster tales. the Coyote is represented as a formidable trickster, a demonic witch-person and a god. The Hopis reduce the Coyote to a laughable fool and throughout these stories, the series of mistakes that he makes teaches the listener what tricks to avoid. Time after time Coyote is is hurt or killed for failing to understand a situation correctly in order to properly instruct the reader/listener on life lessons.

-20-

Spirits of the Earth: A Guide to Native American Nature Symbols, Stories and Ceremonies

By: Bobby Lake-Thom Medicine grizzly Bear

Penguin Group, New York 1997

Language: English

Paperback, 210 pages

ISBN: 0452276500

Lake-Thom, a healer and a descendant of three Native American tribes, combines his own experience, work with tribal elders, and readings from folk tales to explain the significance of good and bad luck symbols to these tribes. For instance, the hummingbird is considered to be a good-luck messenger that can carry a person's prayers to the Creator; in contrast, the owl is considered a sign of bad luck and a messenger of death. In a clear and straightforward writing style, the author defines symbols such as the turtle, bear, and coyote for Karuk, Seneca, and Cherokee tribes. He also includes several chapters on how one can get in touch with animal spirits through active participation in ceremonies and establishing sacred places. There is a helpful index and accompanying sketches.

-21-

Seneca Myths & Folk Tales

By: Arthur C. Parker

University of Nebraska Press 1989

Language: English
Paperback, 465 pages
ISBN: 0803287232

"On the Cattaraugus reservation, it was part of a child's initial training to learn why the bear lost its tail, why the chipmunk has a striped back, and why meteors flash in the sky," writes Arthur C. Parker at the beginning of *Seneca Myths and Folk Tales*. His blood ties to the Senecas and early familiarity with their culture, which led to his career as an archaeologist and to the publication in 1923 of this pioneering work. Parker recreates the milieu in which the Seneca legends and folktales were told and discusses their basic themes and components before going on to relate more than seventy of them that he heard as a boy. Here is the magical Senecan world populated by unseen good and evil spirits, ghosts, and beings capable of transformation.

-22-

The Bedbugs' Night Dance and Other Hopi Tales of Sexual Encounter

Collected, translated and edited: Ekkehart Malotki
University of Nebraska 1995
Language: English, Hopi
Paperback, 389 pages
ISBN: 0803282397

This book is filled with subtle humor regarding topics of sexual nature. The Society for Language in Society stated that "this may be the first published collection of American Indian traditional texts specifically devoted to erotic content." the characters explore the mysteries of sex, the wonder of sexual initiation, the sting of sexual desire, the penalties of indulgence, and the power of erotic love. They show how the Hehey'as tricked the Itsivus and took advantage of their wives, describe how the Horned Lizard Girls found a new use for chili powder, and tell of Bedbug Boy and his constantly interrupted dinner. Sometimes cast as animal fables, sometimes presented in monstrous exaggeration, and sometimes wildly bawdy, the tales evoke the candor of Hopi imagination and the vitality of Hopi culture.

-23-

The Grandfathers Speak: Native American Folk Tales of the Lenapé People

Collected and Written by: Hitakonanu'laxk (Tree Beard)
Interlink Books, New York 1994
Language: English with Lenapé Glossary
Paperback, 134 pages
ISBN: 1566561280

The importance of this well researched work lies in its recording of the Lenapé legends, which have been gathered and presented here in their entirety for the first time. The author, who is a respected elder of the Lenapé nation refers to the fact that the Lenapé are viewed as grandfathers of the Algonquians. The legends show how Nanapush, the grandfather of all beings, created the earth upon the back of a turtle. They also show how the Lenapé people settled along the Eastern coast of the United States and how they valued tobacco and the crow, which brought

fire to earth. H'itakonanu'laxk reveals how the Lenapé story tellers were revered as the bringers of good luck as they traveled from one settlement to the next to tell their tales.

-24-

Living Sideways: Tricksters in American Indian Oral Traditions

By: Franchot Ballinger

University of Oklahoma Press, 2004

Language: English

Paperback, 212 pages

ISBN: 0806137967

Drawing from the most influential scholarship on Native American tricksters, Ballinger shows how many critics have failed to consider both the specifics of trickster stories and their cultural contexts. Each chapter concentrates on a particular aspect of the trickster theme, such as the trickster's ambiguous personality, the variety of their nature and the trickster's role as a social critic. Ballinger further considers issues of sex, gender and humor, the use of trickster tales as instructions on social values and community control, as an emblem of modern Native American survival. At the end of each chapter, there are illustrative trickster stories as well as a discussion that examines the literacy aspects of tricksters and the sacred power they represent.

-25-

American Indian Trickster Tales

Edited By: Richard Erodes and Alfonso Ortiz

Penguin, New York 1999

Language: English

Paperback, 320 pages

ISBN: 0140277714

American Indian Trickster Tales with over 150 lively and characteristic illustrations is compiled by two anthropologists that have been called master storytellers. Together they have produced a rich and ribald sequel featuring a myriad of tricksters from the Southwest and other Native American oral traditions. From the rascally and irascible Coyote, master thief and insatiable lover of the Southwest, to Iktomi, the shapeshifting Lakota spiderman; from Veeho, the Cheyenne daredevil, to Glooscap of the Passamaquoddy; here in one volume are tales from sixty tribes, many recorded from living elders.

Donovan's List

Adult

Dine Bahane': The Navajo Creation Story

Zolbrod, Paul G.

University of New Mexico Press 1987

Paperback, 443 pages

ISBN: 0826310435

This is the most complete version of the Navajo creation story to appear in English since Washington Matthews' *Navajo Legends* of 1847. Zolbrod's new translation renders the power and delicacy of the oral storytelling performance on the page through a poetic idiom appropriate to the Navajo oral tradition.

The Book of the Hopi

Waters, Frank

Penguin 1977

Paperback: 384 pages

ISBN: 9780140045277

The Hopi are a people who regard themselves as the first inhabitants of America and who anthropologists have long struggled to understand. Here is a reassertion of a rhythm of life that we have tragically repressed; and a reminder that we must attune ourselves to the need for inner change if we are to avert a cataclysmic rupture between our minds and hearts.

The Lakota Way: Stories and Lessons for Living

Marshall III, Joseph M.

Penguin (Non-Classics) 2002

Paperback, 256 pages

ISBN: 9780142196090

Rich with storytelling, history, and folklore, *The Lakota Way* expresses the heart of Native American philosophy and imparts the path to a fulfilling and meaningful life. Joseph Marshall is a member of the Sicunga Lakota Sioux and has dedicated his entire life to the wisdom he learned from his elders. Here he focuses on the twelve core qualities that are crucial to the Lakota way of living—bravery, fortitude, generosity, wisdom, respect, honor, perseverance, love, humility, sacrifice, truth, and compassion. Whether teaching a lesson on respect imparted by the mythical Deer Woman or the humility embodied by the legendary Lakota leader Crazy Horse, *The Lakota Way* offers a fresh outlook on spirituality and ethical living.

The Zuni: Southwest American Indians

Bunzel, Ruth R.

Forgotten Books 2008

Paperback: 352 pages

ISBN: 9781605069074

The Zuni are a Southwest American Indian nation. Their spiritual beliefs center around elaborate ceremonies for fertility and rain, comprised of a yearly cycle of ritual dances by masked dancing gods called Kachinas. This section provides detailed ethnographic descriptions of Zuni spiritual beliefs, which permeate every aspect of their culture.

Stories from the Six Worlds: Micmac Legends

Whitehead, Ruth Holmes; Kaulbach, Kathy

Nimbus Publishing 1989

Paperback, 254 pages

ISBN: 9780921054146

In Stories From the Six Worlds Micmac legends are returned to the People, and offered to all people whose search for meaning draws them again to the ancient cultures. It is the surviving stories, passed down by word of mouth, that best represent Micmac culture. For in their tales the People themselves speak about their world and give glimpses of how their universe arose and how they were expected to act. Their tales resound with the universal themes included in any world view - Duty, Fear, Change, Revenge, Rebirth, and Power. This collection of twenty-nine stories shows the mythical Micmac world - the world of the Old Ones. Drawing on various sources, Ruth Whitehead retells stories in a voice close to that of the original storytellers.

Living Our Language: Ojibwe Tales & Oral Histories

Treuer, Anton

Minnesota Historical Society Press 2001

Paperback. 282 pages

ISBN: 9780873514040

A language carries a people's memories, whether they are recounted as individual reminiscences, as communal history, or as humorous tales. This collection of stories from Anishinaabe elders offers a history of a people at the same time that it seeks to preserve the language of that people. Based on interviews Treuer conducted with ten elders this anthology presents the elders' stories transcribed in Ojibwe with English translation on facing pages. These stories contain a wealth of information, including oral histories of the Anishinaabe people and personal reminiscences, educational tales, and humorous anecdotes. Treuer's translations of these stories preserve the speakers' personalities, allowing their voices to emerge from the page. Treuer introduces each speaker, offering a brief biography and noting important details concerning dialect or themes; he then allows the stories to speak for themselves. This dual-language text will prove instructive for those interested in Ojibwe language and culture, while the stories themselves offer the gift of a living language and the history of a people.

Myths and Tales of the Jicarilla Apache Indians

Opler, Edward Morris

Dover Publications (January 9, 1995)

Paperback, 406 pages

ISBN: 9780486283241

This book is a classic study of myths relating to creation, agriculture and rain, hunting rituals, coyote cycle, monstrous enemy stories, many more.

Yaqui Myths and Legends

Giddings, Ruth Warner

University of Arizona Press 1974

Paperback, 180 pages

ISBN: 9780816504671

Sixty-one tales narrated by Yaquis reflect this people's sense of the sacred and material value of their territory.

Salish Myths and Legends: One People's Stories

Thompson, M. Terry

University of Nebraska Press 2008

Paperback, 498 pages

ISBN-13: 978-0803210899

The rich storytelling traditions of Salish-speaking peoples in the Pacific Northwest of North America are showcased in this anthology of story, legend, song, and oratory. From the Bitterroot Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, Salish-speaking communities such as the Bella Coola, Shuswap, Tillamook, Quinault, Colville-Okanagan, Coeur d'Alene, and Flathead have always been guided and inspired by the stories of previous generations. Many of the most influential and powerful of those tales appear in this volume.

Young Adults

Navajo Creation Myth: The Story of the Emergence

Kah, Hasteen

Forgotten Books 2008

Paperback, 182 pages

ISBN: 9781605069029

The Navajo are a tribe of Native Americans who live in the southwestern United States. They speak the Navajo language, and many are members of the Navajo Nation, an independent government structure which manages the Navajo reservation in the Four Corners area of the United States. The size of their Nation is roughly that of the states of Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts combined. This article is about Navajo mythology.

Truth of a Hopi: Stories Relating to the Origin, Myths and Clan

Nequatewa, Edmund

Wilder Publications 2008

Paperback, 112 pages

ISBN: 9781604590333

In the Truth of a Hopi, Edmund Nequatewa relates the Hopis' myths, legends, belief systems, and oral history. Nequatewa's writings give us a glimpse into the psyche of the Hopi in the way that only a Hopi could. Here you will find not only the traditional oral histories, but stories of how the Hopi resisted sending their children away to enforced boarding schools. This is a fascinating view of a subtle people.

Stories of the Sioux

Standing Bear, Luther

Bison Books 2006

Paperback, 82 pages

ISBN-13: 978-0803293359

Luther Standing Bear, a Lakota Sioux born in the 1860s, heard these legends in his youth, when his people were being moved to reservations. In haunting mood and imagery, they celebrate the old nomadic life of the Sioux, when buffalo were plentiful and all nature fed the spirit. The twenty stories honor not only the buffalo but also the dog, the horse, the eagle, and the wolf as workaday helpers and agents of divine intervention; the wisdom of the medicine man; and the heroism and resourcefulness of individual men and women.

Osage Life and Legends: Earth People/Sky People

Liebert, Robert M.

Naturegraph Publishers 1987

Paperback, 144 pages

ISBN: 9780879611699

The Osage traditions and world-views were handed down verbally through the generations in a series of beautiful poems.

Legends of the Delaware Indians and Picture Writing (Iroquois and Their Neighbors)

Adams, Richard C; Nichols, Deborah; Dean, Nora Thompson; Blalock, Lucy Parks

Syracuse University Press 2000

Paperback, 168 pages

ISBN: 9780815606390

Originally published in 1905, this book brings together 22 traditional Delaware Indian stories. Four of the legends have been re-translated into the Delaware language by native speakers, revealing the transformation of a transliterated Delaware text into an English-language story.

Indian Legends of the Pacific Northwest

Clark, Ella E.

University of California Press 2003

Paperback, 240 pages

ISBN: 9780520239265

This collection of more than one hundred tribal tales, culled from the oral tradition of the Indians of Washington and Oregon, presents the Indians' own stories, told for generations around their fires, of the mountains, lakes, and rivers, and of the creation of the world and the heavens above. Each group of stories is prefaced by a brief factual account of Indian beliefs and of storytelling customs. *Indian Legends of the Pacific Northwest* is a treasure, still in print after fifty years.

Turtle Island: Tales of the Algonquian Nations

Curry, Jane Louise; Watts, James

Margaret K. McElderry 1999

Hardcover, 160 pages

ISBN: 9780689822339

Curry (Back in the Beforetime) retells 27 Algonquian creation, pourquoi and trickster tales in this well-rounded collection. Each conveys an underlying respect for all creatures and their interconnectedness, a belief held by various Algonquian nations, including the Blackfoot, Shawnee and Pequot tribes. Another recurring theme, that in the past all beings possessed a mystical ability to change shapes, comes through in the title story: when a flood destroys the world, an enormous ancient turtle rescues Nanabush (a manito or spirit) and all the surviving animals from the tallest tree; he creates the "Second World" atop his enormous shell. ("That is why the Lenap? call this earth they live on Turtle Island. And when the earth quakes, they say, it is the Great Turtle, moving in his sleep.") Other tales offer insight into the nations' governing practices, as in "Why Blackfeet Never Kill Mice," when a human chief helps settle an argument between the animal and bird council with a battle of wits. The closing "Glooskap's Farewell Gifts" explores the relationship between man and God (Glooskap). Brief information about each tribe's history and storytelling traditions follows in an afterword. While humor infuses many of the tales, the cartoonish black-and-white illustrations, unfortunately, take the characters a bit too lightly, echoing 1940s movie characterizations of the Algonquians.

Hold Up the Sky: And Other Native American Tales from Texas and the Southern Plains

Curry, Jane Louise; Watts, James

Margaret K. McElderry 2003

Hardcover, 176 pages

ISBN: 9780689852879

In an introduction about the tribes of the area, the author explains that the stories of most of the earliest peoples in the region were lost when their cultures were destroyed by invading European colonists. The Texas farming tribes of the Tonkawan and Caddoan language groups survived to tell their tales to collectors, as did the Comanche, Kiowa, Lipan Apache, and Kiowa-Apache hunters who followed the buffalo from the north and west into the Southern Plains, and the Osage who were forced west by white settlers. As it is in the author's earlier collections, the retellings are simple, straightforward, and often humorous. They vary in length from 2 to 13 pages and include creation legends, pourquoi stories, and trickster tales. Coyote is a major character in many of them, and he is sometimes outwitted by a smaller animal. Many of the stories are accompanied by a full-page, black-and-white drawing. The tribes from which they come are described in short entries in the afterword and "About the Stories" lists Curry's sources. This collection will appeal especially to storytellers searching for new material and to teachers and students of Native American folklore.

Children

The Snail Girl Brings Water: A Navajo Story

Keams, Geri; Ziehler-Martin, Richard

Northland Publishing

Hardcover: 32 pages

ISBN: 9780873586627

In this creation story, the first People are flooded out of the Underworld and emerge into this, the Fifth World, at the shore of a large salty ocean. First Woman constructs a water bottle out of

seashells and calls on the animals of the Water Clan to return to the Underworld and fill it with fresh water. One by one, Otter, Beaver, Frog, and Turtle fail in this quest. Finally, brave but slow Snail Girl volunteers and returns with enough fresh water to enable First Woman to create a river. Snail Girl is a hero who succeeds through quiet perseverance and humility. Written by a Navajo storyteller, the text of this picture book is a clear and careful example of storytelling set within a specific Native American culture. Ziehler-Martin uses a brilliant palette that is reminiscent of contemporary animated movies. While the animals are drawn clothed, it is evident that they do not represent humans. There is one point of disconnection between the text and artwork: Snail Girl is described as so exhausted that she cannot cry, yet the illustration shows tears streaming down a reflection of her face. Still, this is an excellent addition for collections looking for folktales that explore multicultural and ecological themes.

Tales of Ticasuk: Eskimo Legends and Stories

Brown, Emily Ivanoff
University of Alaska Press 1987
Paperback, 134 pages
ISBN: 9780912006451

A collection of twenty-four Eskimo legends and stories, featuring talking animals, people who are clever and magical, and those who are evil and greedy.

Tatanka And the Lakota People: A Creation Story

Montileaux, Donald F.
South Dakota State Historical Society Press 2006
Hardcover, 44 pages
ISBN: 9780974919584

An introduction identifies this story as part of the longer Lakota creation legend that was passed from generation to generation as oral history. The story begins with the Great Spirit Skan, who created "our ancestors," taking "our bones from Stone, our bodies from Earth, and our souls from himself and Wind and Thunder." The Lakota lived in the Underworld until Spider, the Trickster, sent Wolf to persuade Tokahe, the strongest man, that life would be easy on the surface. However, Tatanka, the holy man, warned him not to go. When the people found life was difficult, Spider laughed at them, but Tatanka helped them by turning into a buffalo able to communicate with the Spirits and to give the people the sustenance they needed to survive. Montileaux, an Oglala Lakota artist, illustrates the text with paintings rendered in a two-dimensional format that reflects traditional buffalo-hide paintings. The colorful, stylized images match the formal tone of the story. The English telling is clear and concise, with the corresponding Lakota text appearing alongside. This is a good choice for multilingual collections, communities in need of Lakota language books, or libraries seeking folk material.

Dancing Drum

Cohlene, Terri ; Reasoner, Charles
Troll Communications 1998
Paperback, 48 pages
ISBN-13: 978-0816723621

The Sun thinks the People of the Mountain do not like her because of the way they squint at the sunny sky, while they sing and dance at the Moon. The jealous Sun scorches the earth until the boy Dancing Drum goes on a quest to relieve his people's suffering in the drought. In spite of the advice and help he receives, Dancing Drum kills the Sun's daughter by mistake and then tries unsuccessfully to rescue her from the Land of the Spirits when the grieving Sun makes the earth too cold. Finally, when Dancing Drum and his people sing and play to her, "Grandmother Sun came out of her house to once again smile down on her Children of the Mountain.

The Woman Who Fell from the Sky: The Iroquois Story of Creation

Bierhorst, John

HarperCollins Publishers 1993

Hardcover: 30 pages

ISBN: 9780688106805

In this story from the Six Nations, a husband "in the sky country" grows jealous of his wife's pregnancy and pushes her through a hole. She lands softly on the back of a turtle, and creates the land, the stars and the sun. She also gives birth to twins, Flint and Sapling, the first as hard as the other is gentle, who play a part in their mother's work--"Sapling . . . created fish. But Flint threw small bones into them, to make life more difficult..." All three return to the sky, where people's thoughts can reach them in the smoke of their fires. This rather non-cohesive rendition by Bierhorst, known for his retellings of American Indian stories for older readers, may prove confusing for younger audiences, as several loose ends are left dangling (albeit authentically so). Nevertheless, the story's discontinuities do not seriously detract from a gentle, sensible tale that explains both the rough and the smooth in our world, and significantly portrays a woman as creator. Parker's loosely modeled, intensely colored gouache and pastel illustrations echo the tale's primitive origins and continue this team's fruitful collaboration, also seen in *The Monkey's Haircut* and *The Whistling Skeleton*.

The Earth Made New: Plains Indian Stories of Creation

Goble, Paul

World Wisdom 2009

Hardcover, 40 pages

ISBN: 9781933316673

This beautifully illustrated Plains Indian Creation story celebrates a new Earth after the flood and narrates the making of the buffaloes, mountains, plants, colorful horses and Thunderbirds among others. Weaving together the legends of the Plains Indian tribes, including the stories of the Cheyenne, Blackfoot, Arapaho, and the Crow, this revised edition contains 8 pages of additional illustrations and stories, as well as a new foreword. It also includes an extensive reference list and detailed introductory note.

The Way to Make Perfect Mountains: Native American Legends of Sacred Mountains

Baylor, Byrd

Cinco Puntos Press 1997

Paperback, 64 pages

ISBN: 9780938317265

These tales go back to the beginning of tribal memory, but they are a part of the present, too. In the Southwest, several tribes are fighting legal battles even now for control of their own shrines and sacred mountains, trying (usually with little success) to keep mines and ski lodges and land developers away from the homes of their gods. The book is divided into 5 different sections:

- Beginnings
- Changes
- Protection
- Power, Magic, Mystery and Dreams
- The Beings in the Mountains

There are dozens of versions of each story included here, and there are other stories not included because they were too private to tell outside one tribe. In collecting these stories, Byrd Baylor looked for the oldest sources and best translations and compared them with what people in different tribes had already told her. Then she looked at the mountains a long time.

Voices of the Winds: Native American Legends

Edmonds, Margot; Clark, Ella E. Margot Edmonds (Author)

Castle Books 2009

Hardcover, 384 pages

ISBN: 9780785817161

This is an illustrated collection of more than a 100 legends of the North American Indian tribes. All the major geographical areas and Indian tribes are covered in this collection, each with a brief introduction followed by a paraphrased retelling of the story.

Jamie's List

NARRATIVE FILM

-1-

TITLE: Barking Water [\[All Audiences\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Sterlin Harjo (Seminole/Creek)

ACTRESS: Casey Camp-Horinek

RUNTIME: 81 min

AWARDS: 2009 AIFF Winner, Best Film and 2009 AIFF Award for Best Actress — Casey Camp-Horinek

SYNOPSIS: Before Oklahoma was a red state, it was known as the “Land of the Red People,” as described by the Choctaw phrase “Okla Humma.” In his sophomore film, Sterlin Harjo takes viewers on a road trip through his own personal Oklahoma, which includes an eclectic mix of humanity.

This feature focuses on Frankie (Richard Ray Whitman) and Irene (Casey Camp-Horinek) who have a difficult past, but come together for Frankie’s final, dying wish; he needs to get out of the hospital and go home to his daughter and new grandbaby to make amends. Irene had been his

one, true, on-again-off-again love until they parted ways for good. To make up for the past, Irene agrees to help Frankie in his trying time.

With steady and graceful performances, this story takes viewers for a ride in the backseat of Frankie and Irene's Indian car while the pair listen to their past and rhythmic soundtrack, which sets the beat and tone for a redemptive road journey.

Harjo wraps us in the charm and love of Oklahoma through the people and places Irene and Frankie visit along the way. In this sparingly sentimental and achingly poignant film, Harjo claims his place as one of the most truthful and honest voices working in American cinema today.

Barking Water is an expression of gratitude for the ability to have lived and loved.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-2-

TITLE: The Exiles [\[Adults\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Kent Mackenzie **non-Native filmmaker

RUNTIME: 72 min

SYNOPSIS: THE EXILES chronicles one night in the lives of young Native American men and women living in the Bunker Hill district of Los Angeles. Based entirely on interviews with the participants and their friends, the film follows a group of exiles — transplants from Southwest reservations — as they flirt, drink, party, fight, and dance.

Filmmaker Kent Mackenzie first conceived The Exiles during the making of his short film Bunker Hill - 1956 while a student at the University of Southern California. In July 1957, Mackenzie began to hang around with some of the young Indians in downtown Los Angeles. After a couple of months, he broached the subject of making a film that would present a realistic portrayal of Indian life in the community. Mackenzie spent long hours making friends and earning the confidence of these Indians who finally agreed to reenact scenes from their lives for the picture. All of the actors, some of whom were recruited on the spur of the moment during the shooting, played themselves in the film.

Bunker Hill, where most of THE EXILES is set, was once the glory of downtown L.A. — a haven for wealthy Los Angelenos, set on a steep hill with a magnificent view. But by 1960, the area was a run-down neighborhood of decayed Victorian mansions and skid-row apartment buildings. The seedy charm of this Bunker Hill has been celebrated in the novels of John Fante, Raymond Chandler and Charles Bukowski. For the men and women featured in THE EXILES, the neighborhood is an escape from the monotony of life "back home". The guys spend their nights barhopping and gambling while the women try to hold their homes together and go to the movies to dream.

Gritty, realistic and far ahead of its time (in a period when Hollywood films featured noble savages), the script for THE EXILES was created exclusively from recorded interviews with the participants, using their ongoing input during the shooting of the film. Native American writers and activists have long considered the film one of the first works of art to offer an honest portrayal of modern Native life, and an important forerunner in the cultural renaissance of American Indian fiction, poetry, filmmaking and theater that began in the 1970s.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-3-

TITLE: Frozen River [\[Adults\]](#)

****2008 AIFF Award for Best Supporting Actress — Misty Upham**

DIRECTOR: Courtney Hunt ****non-Native filmmaker**

RUNTIME: 97 min

SYNOPSIS: A desperate single mother living in upstate New York resorts to smuggling illegal immigrants into the United States as a means of making ends meet in this suspense thriller. Ray Eddy is in an impossible position; it's two days before Christmas and her husband has suddenly disappeared with all of the family savings. Now, as the newly single mother of two realizes the futility of attempting to cover the house payments on her meager Yankee One Dollar Store wages, her children are forced to exist on a nutritionally devoid diet of popcorn and Tang. Deciding that her only hope for survival is to find a man who will support her and her children, Ray sets out to find a husband but instead makes the acquaintance of street-smart Mohawk Lila Littlewolf. Lila, too, has been struggling to keep her head above water amidst economic despair, and has recently stumbled across a rather unconventional solution to her dire financial situation. Lately, Lila has been earning a living by smuggling illegal immigrants into the U.S., but her tribal elders vehemently disapprove of the scheme and have recently attempted to stop it by forbidding the local auto dealers from selling her a car. As fate would have it, Ray's Dodge Spirit may just be the only thing the destitute mother can count on anymore, and as this unlikely pair gas up the tank for a daring dash across the iced-over St. Lawrence River, their fates become forever intertwined in ways that neither could have ever anticipated.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-4-

TITLE: Kissed By Lightning [\[All Audiences\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Shelley Niro (Turtle Clan of the Mohawk)

ACTRESS: Kateri Walker

RUNTIME: 90 min

SYNOPSIS: In a time before written history, there existed nations of people who lived on Turtle Island. Oral history has recorded those legends and has been passed down through the ages. The Haudaunosaunee (Iroquois) People have stories and legends that talk about transformations of human beings and the despair their communities had to endure to develop into a civilization incorporating trust, education and peace. These stories still resonate in contemporary times. This is where the story of Mavis Dogblood (Kateri Walker) begins. Mavis is a Mohawk woman missing her beloved musician husband Jessie Lightning. He vanished before her eyes in a thunderstorm. She has been in a catatonic state for the last three years and is starting to come back into the world. Mavis is also a painter. To bring the memory of Jessie closer to her, she is beginning to paint the stories he would tell her. As she paints she remembers Jessie being close to her. She lives in the past and has problems dealing with the world as it is now. To complicate her life, Jessie's ex-wife, Kateri, and their twelve year-old son, Zeus, come to Mavis one night and asked to stay with her for a little while until Kateri gets back on her feet. Absent-mindedly Mavis moves into her studio next door and continues to prepare for an exhibition she has coming up in New York. She needs to make these paintings, as this is her only way of supporting herself. Solomon King (Eric Schweig) is the new man in Mavis' life. He is patiently waiting for her to come out of her state of grief. Bug tells Mavis he is going with her to

New York to deliver the paintings. She puts up no argument and off they go. The road trip becomes an eventful array of diverse experiences. Mavis learns more about the territory of the Mohawk Valley. Mavis and Bug witness ghosts and old world prejudices. But in the end Mavis is given permission to heal her heart, move on and make her aware of the family she is surrounded by.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-5-

TITLE: Older Than America [\[Adults\]](#)

****2008 AIFF Award for Best Director — Georgina Lightning**

****2008 AIFF Award for Best Supporting Actor — Wes Studi**

DIRECTOR: Georgina Lightning (Cree)

RUNTIME: 102 min

SYNOPSIS: A woman's haunting visions reveal a Catholic priests sinister plot to silence her mother from speaking the truth about the atrocities that occurred at a Native American boarding school. A contemporary drama of suspense, Older Than America delves into the lasting impact of the cultural genocide that occurred at Indian boarding schools across the U.S. and Canada.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-6-

TITLE: The Only Good Indian [\[All Audiences\]](#)

****2009 AIFF Winner, Best Director**

****2009 AIFF Award for Best Actor — Wes Studi**

****2009 AIFF Award for Best Supporting Actor — Winter Fox Frank**

DIRECTOR: Kevin Willmott

RUNTIME: 114 Minutes • USA • Feature

SYNOPSIS: Set in Kansas during the early 1900s, a teenaged Native American boy (newcomer Winter Fox Frank) is taken from his family and forced to attend a distant Indian "training" school to assimilate into White society. When he escapes to return his family, Sam Franklin (Wes Studi from Last of the Mohicans and Avatar), a bounty hunter of Cherokee descent, is hired to find and return him to the institution.

Franklin, a former Indian scout for the U.S. Army, has renounced his Native heritage and has adopted the White Man's way of life, believing it's the only way for Indians to survive. Along the way, a tragic incident spurs Franklin's longtime nemesis, the famous "Indian Fighter" Sheriff Henry McCoy (J. Kenneth Campbell from Bulworth and Eulee's Gold), to pursue both Franklin and the boy.

The cast also features Delanna Studi (Edge of America), Queen Bey (Ninth Street), David Midthunder (Hidalgo), Paul Butler (Reign Over Me), Thirza Defoe (Pow Wow Dreams), Laura Kirk (Lisa Picard is Famous and The Battle for Bunker Hill), Blake Robbins (Oz and The Office), Kevin Geer (American Gangster), Christopher Wheatley (Raising Jeffrey Dahmer), Scott Allegrucci (The Feud), and Kip Niven (Magnum Force).

The film was written by Thomas L. Carmody and directed by Kevin Willmott (CSA: Confederate States of America, official selection 2004 Sundance Film Festival, and The Battle for Bunker Hill).

The Only Good Indian was shot in various Kansas locations. Matthew Jacobson (CSA: Confederate States of America and Bukowski: Born Into This) and Jeremy Osbern (Air: A Musical) are the directors of photography. Thomas L. Carmody, Kevin Willmott, Matt Cullen, Greg Hurd, Rick Cowan and Scott Richardson are the producers. Wes Studi is the executive producer. Hanay Geiogamah, J. T. O’Neal and Dan Wildcat are co-executive producers and Stan Herd is the co-producer.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-7-

TITLE: Tkaronto [Adults]

DIRECTOR: Shane Belcourt (Métis)

RUNTIME: 105 min

SYNOPSIS: Tkaronto is the feature film debut of Métis writer-director Shane Belcourt. The film is a reflective and thought-provoking exploration of two Aboriginal thirty-somethings, Ray and Jolene, who make an unexpected connection at the pinnacle of a common struggle: to stake claim to their urban Aboriginal identity. This super-indie feature is the first exploration of Shane Belcourt's Métis heritage in a narrative work, one heavily influenced by the legacy of the filmmaker's father, Métis Rights leader, Tony Belcourt.

DISTRIBUTOR:

DOCUMENTARY FILM

-1-

TITLE: Alcatraz Is Not An Island (2001) [All Audiences]

DIRECTOR: James M. Fortier (Métis-Ojibwe)

PRODUCER: Jon Plutte

NARRATOR: Benjamin Bratt

RUNTIME: 70 min

SYNOPSIS: In November 1969, a small group of Native American students and urban Indians began the occupation of Alcatraz Island in the San Francisco Bay. Eventually joined by thousands of Native Americans, they reclaimed “Indian land” for the first time since the 1880s, forever changing the way Native Americans viewed themselves, their culture and their sovereign rights.

PREVIEW: <http://www.pbs.org/itvs/alcatrazisnotanisland/preview.html>

DISTRIBUTOR: Berkeley Media LLC, Saul Zaentz Film Center, 2600 Tenth Street, Suite 626, Berkeley, CA 94710, Phone: 510-486-9900, Fax: 510-486-9944

info@berkeleymedia.com, www.berkeleymedia.com

-2-

TITLE: Ancient Footprints of the Colorado River [All Audiences]

DIRECTOR: R.G Vasquez **non-Native filmmaker

RUNTIME: 15 min

SYNOPSIS: Alfredo Acosta Figueroa's fifty-year battle for cultural, environmental, and economic justice along the Lower Colorado River leads to the reclamation of a sacred indigenous landmark in this documentary. The quest for origins of the earliest civilizations of the Americas, often referred to as 'lost', or spoken of more as myth and legend, has resurfaced in the most unlikely of places: the crossroads of Interstate 10 and the Colorado River in the small agricultural town of Blythe, California. Fifteen miles upriver are the Blythe Giant Intaglios, figures carved from the desert pavement, some over 150 feet long. The Giants are part of a network of indigenous landmarks that tell creation stories of an ancient river culture, all of which are threatened by resource development, motorized vehicles, and a lack of federal, state, or local oversight. Restoring the heavily damaged one-mile square site and establishing an 'Ancient Footprints' trail to eventually reconnect the river with the Pacific ocean are part of an effort by the La Cuna de Aztlan Sacred Sites Protection Circle to preserve and restore the Giants and other indigenous ceremonial sacred site in the region for future use.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-3-

TITLE: *Bad Sugar* [Hour 3] / Unnatural Causes ...is inequality making us sick? (2009) [4 part PBS series] [\[All Audiences\]](#)

PRODUCER & DIRECTOR: James M. Fortier (Métis-Ojibwe)

CO-PRODUCER: Sativa January

RUNTIME: 60 min

SYNOPSIS: The Pima and Tohono O'odham Indians of southern Arizona have arguably the highest rates of Type 2 diabetes in the world. A century ago, the disease was virtually unknown here, but the subsequent diversion of river water destroyed farms and traditional ways, plunging local tribes into poverty and dependence. A sense of "futurelessness" took hold. And so did diabetes. Decades of medical interventions have not stemmed the tide, not only among Native Americans but globally. In 2004 the Pima finally won back their water rights and are beginning to farm again. Community leaders are cautiously optimistic that community empowerment and sustainable and culturally appropriate development can restore prosperity, hope, and health.

DISTRIBUTOR: California Newsreel, Online secure server:

<http://www.newsreel.org/nav/title.asp?tc=CN0212>

Phone: 1-877-811-7495, Fax: 1-802-846-1850

-4-

TITLE: *Bright Circle* [\[All Audiences\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Shawn Kakuk

RUNTIME: 90 min

SYNOPSIS: Over the past one hundred years, Native American Indian participation in popular sports has decreased at an astonishing rate. At the turn of the 20th Century, Native American Indians dominated intercollegiate and professional sports. The most notable in this long line of successful athletes was Jim Thorpe—the man honored as the Athlete of the 20th Century. Thorpe starred at the Carlisle Indian Boarding School in Pennsylvania and was a standout in the 1912

Olympics. Coached by Pop Warner, both Thorpe and his alma mater dominated college football during the early 20th Century.

Early American Indian participation and achievement in athletics, most notably football, was indirectly facilitated through the vision of Lt. Richard Pratt, founder of the Carlisle Indian Boarding School. Since that time, other than a brief period during the 1920s when the Haskell Institute enjoyed great success on the gridiron, that dominance has lessened.

Bright Circle is blessed with the presence of outstanding individuals who help tell the Bright Circle story, including Jim Thorpe's daughter, Grace along with her daughter Dagmar, who join scholars Daniel Wildcat, John Bloom and Barbara Landis to bring to life the past achievements of those renowned athletes as the 20th century took hold and sports began to enter the mainstream of popular culture.

Bright Circle is also blessed with contemporary Native Athletes who have carried on the proud tradition established in the not so distant past legends, such as Jim Thorpe and Joe Guyon. Brett Favre, Dan Hampton, Kywin Supernaw, Jenni Lingor, Amber DeLuca and Chad Germann, share their achievements, as well as their struggles, with a new generation of Native Athletes who are waiting to continue this tradition well into the distant future.

Bright Circle is scored by renowned composer Brent Michael Davids and narrated by the talented actor/spoken word poet Cochise Anderson.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-5-

TITLE: Bunky Echo Hawk - Profile of a proActive ARTist [\[Young Adult\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Tracy Rector (Seminole)

RUNTIME: 6 min

SYNOPSIS: There are a great number of issues facing Native Americans today, which Bunky Echo Hawk confronts with his choice of weapons: paints, brushes, canvas, his mind, and his culture. Echo Hawk (Pawnee and Yakama) proactively uses art to address Native American issues and attack misconceptions and stereotypes. This documentary gives an insight into the work and mind of Bunky Echo Hawk, one of the hottest up-and-coming contemporary Native American artists in the nation.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-6-

TITLE: Canoe Pulling - A Lummi Way of Life [\[Young Adult\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Sara London, Talia London, & Britney Oldham (Lummi)

RUNTIME: 5 min

SYNOPSIS: This short film was produced by a group of Native American Lummi youth and reflects on important issues of community and culture. For the Lummi People, canoe pulling and racing is a means to promote a healthy lifestyle supported by traditional values. The film testifies to the revival of the traditional canoe pulling culture and the determination of Lummi youth to take a lead in carrying on this tradition to the next generations.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-7-

TITLE: Canoe Way: The Sacred Journey [All Audiences]

DIRECTOR: Mark Celletti **non-Native filmmaker

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: Robert Satiacum (Puyallup)

RUNTIME: 50 min

SYNOPSIS: Canoe Way: The Sacred Journey vividly documents the revival of the culture and spirituality of Coast Salish people. Each Summer, tribes and First Nations from Oregon, Washington, Canada, and Alaska, follow their ancestral pathways – traveling hundreds of miles through the waters of Puget Sound, Inside Passage, and the Northwest Coast during the event known as: Tribal Journeys. Families and youth reconnect with the past and each other Ancient songs, dances, regalia, ceremonies, and language that were almost lost and are coming back.

Witness first hand, through the words and images of native people, as they share the story of the resurgence of the cedar canoe societies, and how it has opened a spiritual path of healing through tradition. Interviews with elders and youth, songs and dances from tribal canoe families, and canoe ceremonies are featured.

DISTRIBUTOR: CEDAR MEDIA <http://canoeway.org/>

-8-

TITLE: The Chiefs' Prophecy: Survival of the Northern Cheyenne Nation [All Audiences]

DIRECTOR: Leo Killsback (Northern Cheyenne)

RUNTIME: 59 min

SYNOPSIS: Filmed on the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation in southeastern Montana, The Chiefs' Prophecy chronicles the history of Northern Cheyenne leadership. From the Creation of the first warrior societies and the elaborate Council of Forty Four Chief system, and through brutal wars with the United States Army and the Reservation era, the Northern Cheyenne have survived. The modern challenges of colonization, loss of culture, and loss of spirituality have taken toll of the new generation of leaders. The Cheyenne philosophies of peace (Ma'heo'e) can be a means to rebuild the broken spirits of the Northern Cheyenne People. What does the future hold?

DISTRIBUTOR:

-9-

TITLE: Contrary Warrior: The Life And Times of Adam Fortunate Eagle [All Audiences]

DIRECTOR: John Ferry **non-Native filmmaker

RUNTIME: 83 min

SYNOPSIS: Adam Fortunate Eagle Nordwall was born on the Red Lake Indian Reservation, his mother was Chippewa and his father a Swede. At the age of five, his father dead and his mother unable to provide for eight children, Adam and his siblings are sent to an Indian boarding school. His story is different from most who have spent time in Indian boarding schools; he considers those ten years a positive experience and a way, during depression, of avoiding the overwhelming poverty, hunger, and disease of living on a reservation. There he also learns many skills and disciplines that serve him well later in life.

At Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas he meets his future wife, Bobbie, and both move to Oklahoma City where he and Bobbie get married. Eventually, they move to San Francisco where he becomes a businessman—a “perfect” urban Indian – poster child for the BIA. Prejudice toward Indians in the Bay area motivates him to become an advocate for the rights of urban Indians, which eventually leads him to participate in Indian takeover of Alcatraz Island in 1969. After nineteen months of negotiation, Nixon signs papers repudiating the Indian Termination Act declaring it no longer valid. A series of reforms are implemented in urban areas and on reservations with improved health and welfare programs for American Indians. Due of his activism, the government considers him an “enemy of the State,” and he loses his business and virtually everything he owns. Moving to the Paiute-Shoshone Reservation where his wife was born, he turns this negative experience into a positive one by honing skills as a ceremonial pipe maker, sculptor, and author and continues his calling as a cultural leader and spokesman for his people.

DISTRIBUTOR: <http://lillimar.com/ContraryWarriorpage1.html>

-10-

TITLE: In the Footsteps of Yellow Woman [Youth & Young Adult]

WRITER & DIRECTOR: Camille Manybeads Tso (Navajo/Diné)

RUNTIME: 26 min

SYNOPSIS: In the Footsteps of Yellow Woman is about a 13 year-old Navajo filmmaker who finds her own strengths through interviewing her Grandmother about their ancestral history. She imagines what it would be like to be her Great-Great-Great-Grandmother, Yellow Woman, who lived through the Navajo Long Walk (1864 - 1868).

Camille Manybeads Tso (Navajo) learned the art of filmmaking from the volunteer Indigenous youth media literacy collective, “Outta Your Backpack Media.” Camille has worked with OYBMedia since she was 9, and is currently the youngest youth mentor.

Camille researched the time period, wrote a script of re-enactments of her family’s stories, recruited her cousins to help, made costumes, directed, filmed, acted, and edited this piece together. She even sang some of the songs in the soundtrack. The results are a beautiful film of the power of reclaiming oral histories. Performed by the descendants of Yellow Woman and filmed in many of the places where the events took place.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-11-

TITLE: Jim Thorpe: World's Greatest Athlete [Youth & Young Adult]

DIRECTOR: Tom Weidliinger **non-Native filmmaker

RUNTIME: 86 min

SYNOPSIS: Jim Thorpe, The World’s Greatest Athlete is a biography of the Native American athlete who became a sports icon in the first half of the 20th century. Beginning with Thorpe’s boyhood in Indian Territory, it chronicles his rise to athletic stardom at the Carlisle Indian Industrial School, winning two gold medals at the 1912 Summer Olympics, his fall from grace in the eyes of the amateur athletic establishment, and his rebound in professional baseball and football. Thorpe retired from pro sports at age 41 just before the stock market crash of ’29. He worked as a construction laborer before getting work in Hollywood as a bit part player. He

became a representative for Indian extras in Hollywood, fighting for equal pay for Native Americans in the movies. In the 1940s he crisscrossed the nation as a public speaker advocating for Indian self-determination. This is a film about a man who used his amazing physical prowess as a way to affirm his American Indian identity in the face of unrelenting efforts to eradicate Native American culture. It is the first documentary film to tell the story of Thorpe's life outside of his well-known athletic victories. The film uses in-depth interviews with Thorpe's surviving children, some simple recreations and images culled from over seventy-five archive sources, both stills and motion picture.

DISTRIBUTOR: Native American Public Television

-12-

TITLE: Lost Sparrow [\[All Audiences\]](#)

****2009 AIFF Winner, Best Documentary Feature**

DIRECTOR: Chris Billing **non-Native filmmaker

RUNTIME: 78 min

SYNOPSIS: On June 26, 1978, two Crow Indian brothers ran away from home. Early the next morning they were struck and killed by a freight train. Their mysterious and sudden deaths sent shockwaves through the tiny, upstate New York community of Little Falls. No one could understand why Bobby, 13, and Tyler, 11, had run away from the white, Baptist family that seven years earlier had adopted them and their two biological sisters, Lana and Janelle, out of a troubled home on the Crow Reservation in Montana.

Their adoptive home, a vast 19th-century Victorian castle, seems idyllic. But the boys had discovered a dark secret. They were killed as they tried to return to the reservation to get help for their sister, Lana.

In *Lost Sparrow*, filmmaker Chris Billing investigates the tragic deaths of his adopted brothers, Bobby and Tyler, and confronts a painful truth that shattered his family.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-13-

TITLE: March Point [\[Youth\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Annie Silverstein **non-Native filmmaker & Tracy Rector (Seminole)

RUNTIME: 60 min

SYNOPSIS: For centuries the Swinomish Indian Tribe has relied on the natural resources of the Skagit Valley, through clamming, crabbing, and fishing. Before white settlement, tribal people inhabited the valleys, rivers, and shorelines, living off the rich land. But in 1855, most of this land was taken away by the Federal government in the Treaty of Point Elliott. The Swinomish people were left with basic health care, some fishing rights, and a small reservation. In the late 1950s, two oil refineries were built on March Point, an area that was once part of the Swinomish reservation by treaty. Over time, the presence of the refineries has negatively affected the health of the water, land, and the very fabric of cultural tradition itself.

Cody, Nick, and Travis, three teens from the Swinomish Indian Tribe, wanted to make a gangster movie or rap video. But instead they were asked to investigate the impact of two oil refineries on their tribal community. *March Point* is the story of three boys who awaken to the destruction these refineries have wrought in their communities. Ambivalent environmental

ambassadors at the onset, the boys grapple with their assignment through humor, sarcasm and a candid self-knowledge.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-14-

TITLE: Native Nations: Standing Together (2007) [\[All Audiences\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Syd Beane (Flandreau Santee Sioux) & Michelle Danforth (Oneida)

CO-PRODUCER: Frank Blythe (Easter Band Cherokee/Sisseton Dakota)

RUNTIME: 56 min

SYNOPSIS: Native Nations features interviews with the main movement leaders and examines events which defined what has been called both a controversial and bright moment in the history of Lutheran/American Indian and Alaskan Native Ministries. These leaders and protest events will be drawn heavily from the civil rights, anti-poverty, and Native American rights movements of the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. The program will focus on the national social justice activities that created the environment from which a new relationship was established between the Lutheran Churches of America and Native Americans.

This tribal sovereignty movement growing out of the rural tribal communities spread into the urban areas where many younger American Indians having experienced the militancy of the civil rights movement responded by reoccupying land once held by Indian tribes and advocating strongly for the return of tradition religion.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-15-

TITLE: Pipestone: An Unbroken Legacy [\[All Audiences\]](#)

****2009 AIFF Winner, Best Documentary Short**

DIRECTOR: Chris Wheeler (Lakota)

RUNTIME: 20 min

SYNOPSIS: Pipestone was produced for Pipestone National Monument, a National Park Service site dedicated to preserving the sacred pipestone quarries in southwestern Minnesota. Narrated through the words of Native American elders, Pipestone is a powerful and poignant testimony of what the quarries mean to Native peoples, past and present. Represented in the film are many prominent Native Americans, including Wilmer Mesteth, a spiritual leader of the Oglala Lakotas, Faith Spotted Eagle of the Yankton Tribe, and Albert White Hat, a respected elder and teacher from the Rosebud Reservation. Their passion for the pipestone quarries is inspirational.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-16-

TITLE: Poison Wind [\[All Audiences\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Jenny Pond (Havasupai)

RUNTIME: 37 min

SYNOPSIS: "Poison Wind" tells the story of unconscionable greed and a policy of destruction aimed at the Indigenous People and former Uranium miners of the 4 Corners area in the Desert

Southwest. It is a documentary that speaks about the indigenous landscape and the desire for drilling at the Grand Canyon. This film focuses on the lives being destroyed by this deadly legacy and effects of radiation...as a government's cruel secret is carried on the face of the wind.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-17-

TITLE: Power Paths [\[All Audiences\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Bo Boudart **non-Native filmmaker

RUNTIME: 57 min

SYNOPSIS: "Power Paths" documents the story of Native Americans challenging environmental injustices in the long history of exploitation of Indian lands and resources.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-18-

TITLE: Reclaiming Their Voices: The Native American Vote in New Mexico [\[All Audiences\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Dorothy Fadiman **non-Native filmmaker

RUNTIME: 32 min

SYNOPSIS: Reclaiming Their Voices follows two dramatic stories about people moving from a position of subjugation to becoming politically active. Each story illustrates a turnaround for a community of Native Americans from situations of humiliating disenfranchisement to examples of people stepping forward and speaking out.

Sacred Alliance for Grassroot Equality (SAGE) Council is a diverse group of urban minority activists. The film documents their efforts to save the sacred rock art of the Petroglyph National Monument from being bisected by a road.

The film also follows the Laguna 500 Voter Project, which begins as a campaign, and is led by members of the Laguna Tribe living in a Pueblo outside of Albuquerque. Their goal, which they exceed, is to register at least 500 new voters before the 2004 Presidential election.

Both stories underscore the ways in which human beings can work together to improve their lives. In both cases, the breakthrough results from acknowledging the need for education along with activism.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-19-

TITLE: A Return Home [\[All Audiences\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Ramona Emerson (Navajo)

RUNTIME: 31 min

SYNOPSIS: After spending years living off the Navajo reservation, B. Emerson Kitsman, a contemporary Navajo landscape painter, returned to her homeland, a stranger. Through her commitment to the home, her mother built and her love of the bold and beautiful landscapes of the Navajo reservation, the artist has endured despite many hardships and difficulties within her small community. A Return Home documents the artist as she embraces her past, looks toward

her future and tries to fit in to the community she left so long ago — all while continuing to paint the beauty that surrounds her.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-20-

TITLE: The Salt Song Trail: A Living Documentary [\[All Audiences\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Cara McCoy & Bridget Sandate (Chemehuevi)

RUNTIME: 25 min

SYNOPSIS: The Salt Songs are the sacred songs of the fourteen Nuwuvi (Southern Paiute) people who live in California, Utah, Arizona, and Nevada. The Salt Songs describe ancient landscapes of the People—sacred sites, ancient villages, hunting grounds, burial grounds, and gathering places—since Ocean Woman and Coyote set the world into motion at the beginning of time. The Songs, a chorus of steady voices accompanied by a gourd rattle, are most often sung at funerals and memorials to assist the deceased on their journey to the next world. The Salt Songs are a cultural and spiritual bond between the Nuwuvi and the land, and represent both renewal and healing.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-21-

TITLE: Sing Birds: Following the Path of Cahuilla Power [\[All Audiences\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Sean Owen

RUNTIME: 52 min

SYNOPSIS: Bird songs are the traditional social songs that speak of the origins of the Cahuilla people of Southern California, their mythic or actual travels during ancient times, and describe their natural environment and its inhabitants. The evolution of bird songs, and how they are sung, depict and serve as a metaphor for the changes in Cahuilla culture today. Sing Birds explores this story in six chapters: chemeynUkish (Our Creators), Hem Iiv'a Sechuumii (Remembered Power), sAwaanika (To Make Disappear), Kutpaah (From the Ashes), Supul (Change), Iva'a (Power Now).

DISTRIBUTOR:

-22-

TITLE: Sweet Blood [\[All Audiences\]](#)

****2009 AIFF Winner, Best Public Service**

DIRECTOR: Shirley Cheechoo (Cree)

RUNTIME: 60 min

SYNOPSIS: Sweet Blood is a real-life look at the James Bay Cree people who are making lifestyle changes to fight the growing incidences of diabetes in their community.

More and more Cree people are being diagnosed with diabetes, and the average age of diagnosis is getting younger. Generally, one in four individuals living with diabetes is under 40 years old. Based on these statistics Spoken Song Productions was commissioned to produce Sweet Blood by the Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay.

Shirley Cheechoo interviews seniors, men, women and teenagers who decided to educate and challenge themselves, and refused to be part of the statistics. The resulting documentary is a personal, inspirational, and thought-provoking picture with an important message.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-23-

TITLE: Travels Across the Medicine Line [\[All Audiences\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Lyana Patrick (Carrier Nation/Stellat'en First Nation)

RUNTIME: 28 min

SYNOPSIS: Travels Across the Medicine Line is a historical and contemporary look at the impacts of the Canada/United States border on Indigenous nations for whom the border has severed ancient ties to families, ceremonies, and homelands. The political relevance of the border has never been greater as this video highlights how heightened tensions over border security in a post 9/11 world impacts the everyday lives of Indigenous peoples.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-24-

TITLE: Voices Of The Heart [\[All Audiences\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Amie Williams ****non-Native filmmaker**

RUNTIME: 28 min

SYNOPSIS: This film looks at the new Arapaho native immersion school on the remote Wind River Reservation in Wyoming through the eyes of Tish Keahna, a Meskwaki/Ojibwe mother, who returns to Wind River after thirty years to see how education and growing up on the “rez” have changed. Now a mother of three children who is living a world away in Maine, Tish is curious to revisit her childhood through this new school and examine the broader issues of immersion language education that it is catching on throughout many indigenous communities in the U.S and throughout the world.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-25-

TITLE: WAILA! Making The People Happy [\[All Audiences\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Daniel Golding ****non-Native filmmaker**

RUNTIME: 27 min

SYNOPSIS: WAILA! Making The People Happy reveals the history and evolution of the fun and energetic social dance music phenomena of Arizona’s Native American tribes. The video features the Joaquin Brothers, a family of musicians, and follows their journey from their remote village on the Tohono O’odham reservation of southern Arizona to Carnegie Hall.

DISTRIBUTOR:

-26-

TITLE: Weaving Worlds [\[All Audiences\]](#)

DIRECTOR: Bennie Klain (Navajo)

RUNTIMES: 56 min

SYNOPSIS: Weaving Worlds highlights Navajo tales of how the west was spun, exploring the personal stories of Navajo weavers and their complex relationship with reservation traders. Collected and highly valued the world over, Navajo rugs have been the subjects of many aesthetic, scholarly, and popular studies, and Weaving Worlds examines the art form from both economic and very personal perspectives.

DISTRIBUTOR: