



Northwestern
CENTER FOR NATIVE AMERICAN
AND INDIGENOUS RESEARCH
2025 ANNUAL REPORT



Land Acknowledgment

Northwestern is a community of learners situated within a network of historical and contemporary relationships with Native American tribes, communities, parents, students, and alumni. It is also in close proximity to an urban Native American community in Chicago and near several tribes in the Midwest. The Northwestern campus sits on the traditional homelands of the people of the Three Fires, the Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and Odawa as well as the Menominee, Miami and Ho-Chunk nations. It was also a site of trade, travel, gathering and healing for over a dozen other Native tribes and is still home to over 100,000 tribal members in Illinois.



Since 2015, the Mellon Foundation has played a critical role in the establishment and continued sustainability of the Center for Native American and Indigenous Research.

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On The Cover:

The photo collage on the front and back cover showcases our thriving Indigenous community.

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Letter from **the Director**

Boozhoo, Pösöh, Shekoli, Ahau,

As we share this annual report and the many accomplishments of this past year, I'll be wrapping up my time as CNAIR director. It has been an honor to serve in this role and I'm very proud of all the accomplishments we have achieved together these past three years AY23 through AY25. Getting to know CNAIR affiliates and our project partners at Northwestern and many throughout Indian country has been a highlight. Getting to know students, welcoming new senior faculty including our next director, Stephanie Fryberg (Department of Psychology, WCAS) and SESP Dean, Bryan Brayboy, and seeing other Native faculty, Doug Kiel, receive tenure has also been inspiring! It has been my privilege to support the pre-development of some spectacular research projects in Indian Country, to witness the growing number of Native students on campus, and to collaborate with Native leadership across departments and schools across the University.

Just in the past year, we reshaped our CNAIR Advisory Council to not only include excellent faculty and staff but also Tribal leaders and Tribal college presidents, which more accurately reflects CNAIR values and goals (pages 30-31); we played a major role in several campus wide initiatives including the One Book One Northwestern program featuring Louise Erdrich's book, *The Night Watchman*, chaired by Dean Brayboy and me (page 14); we supported and cosponsored the opening of the Block Museum's *Woven Being* exhibit (page 14); we hosted College Horizons, a summer residential college prep program and welcomed over 100 Native high school students to the Evanston campus (page 23); and we are launching the pilot of a new Indigenous Academic Pathways program, which aims to ground incoming students in Indigenous scholarship and research, alongside community building.

Working side by side with the CNAIR staff crew has been wonderful and with a focus on building CNAIR's infrastructure and governance, I am confident CNAIR will continue to progress. Since CNAIR's inception, it's been all of us working collectively that has set the ambitious vision for what is possible - ultimately for academic research, through community engaged work, to contribute to Indigenous peoples thriving. In making this vision real, sometimes we've had to just ask and other times we've had to push hard in moving Northwestern forward in becoming a place where our faculty, students and community partners can engage in transformative scholarship. That vision will not change, and our efforts together will keep us moving forward.

I'm delighted that CNAIR's next director, Stephanie Fryberg, will be taking the reins and CNAIR will benefit greatly from her experience and scholarship. I'll continue to do my part for the CNAIR mission – on that you can count!

Miigwech, ge-mino-ayaayaan,

Megan Bang,
CNAIR director, professor of Learning Sciences
School of Education and Social Policy

Mission and Vision

CNAIR is Northwestern's primary institutional space dedicated to advancing scholarship, teaching, and learning, and artistic and cultural practices related to Native American and Indigenous communities, priorities, histories, and lifeways.

Our vision is for the center to:

- operate as a hub for multidisciplinary, collaborative work informed by and responsive to Native American and Indigenous Nations, communities, and organizations
- foster an innovative, Indigenous-centered intellectual space open to multiple modes of engagement for faculty, students, staff, and community members; and
- develop and promote reciprocal and sovereignty-affirming relationships and partnerships with Native American and Indigenous peoples and organizations.



College Horizons group photo.

Indigenous Futures

100 Years Back, 100 Years Forward

In 1924 the Indian Citizenship Act was passed, making American Indians citizens of the United States, not by birth, but by congressional act. The act was followed in 1934 by the Indian reorganization act which provided monetary and land incentives for Native nations to adopt constitutions like that of the United States and to create city council-style governments. This era has had profound impact on Indian country and shaped citizenship, belonging, governance, communal relationships, and development, amongst many other dimensions that are central to self-determination and sovereignty. CNAIR sees this historic moment as an opportunity for engagement and reflection on the past 100 years and to imagine forward for the next 100 years. We are at the beginning of a new era of reform in Indian country in which citizenship, belonging, culture, language, law, and policy and much more will be remade given the significant social, political, ecological, and economic challenges that all communities face in the coming century.

Over the next decade we aim to create collective engagement with the many layers and dynamics that are implicated both by the historical conditions that have created the present and what is critical in exercising self-determination over the next 100 years. While we are grounding this theme in history and dynamics in North America, these issues are unfolding across the globe as Indigenous peoples continue to struggle for their existence and right to self-determination. We intend for our programming and focus to also engage global Indigeneities and therefore, our theme is **Indigenous Futures: 100 Years Back, 100 Years Forward.**

Know the **History**

CNAIR's origins stem from student activism in 2013, when undergraduates in the Native American and Indigenous Student Alliance asked the administration to acknowledge University founder John Evans' role in the 1864 Sand Creek Massacre. Evans was territorial governor of Colorado (a role that included acting as superintendent of Indian affairs) when US soldiers killed more than 200 Cheyenne and Arapaho people—primarily women and children—who had declared their peaceful intentions and placed themselves under the protection of US officials at Fort Lyon. The provost's office commissioned a John Evans Study Committee and a Native American Outreach and Inclusion Task Force, resulting in reports that included 60 recommendations. One of their recommendations was to start an Indigenous research center.

In 2015, Weinberg College Dean Adrian Randolph announced the Indigenous Studies Research Initiative with the goal of building research infrastructure, deepening Tribal relationships and supporting fellowships for Native and Indigenous research and scholarship on campus. The Center for Native American and Indigenous Research was formed and staffed in 2017. Outreach to local, regional, and national Native American communities and Tribes has been critical. Listening to Tribal leaders, understanding the research needs of Native communities, and finding opportunities for collaboration has and will continue to be central to the center's work.



2013 Native American outreach and inclusion taskforce: The Office of the Provost convened the John Evans Report Committee & the Native American Outreach and Inclusion Task Force

2014 John Evans study committee report completed: The John Evans Report is released in Fall 2014

2015 Indigenous studies research initiative announced: New initiative announced through Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences

2016 CNAIR is formed: The College received its first grant to support CNAIR

2017 CNAIR Programming Begins: Affiliates across departments and schools convened to establish the center's governance

2019 First annual research symposium: CNAIR hosted the first research symposium featuring cartographer and artist in residence, Margaret Pearce (Citizen Potawatomi)

2020 NAIS Minor Begins: The minor is offered beginning in Fall 2020

2021 Ojibwe wiigwaasi-jiimaan: Wayne Valliere (Lac du Flambeau), artist in residence collectively crafted a traditional Ojibwe birchbark canoe



PRITZKER SCHOOL OF LAW CONFERENCE
Pritzker hosts a 2-day convening in partnership with CNAIR intended to reflect on the last 100 years since the passing of the 1924 Indian Citizenship Act



LAND BACK FOR PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI NATION
In a historic decision, the U.S. Department of the Interior placed portions of the Shab-eh-nay Reservation land into trust for Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, making it the only federally recognized Tribal Nation in Illinois



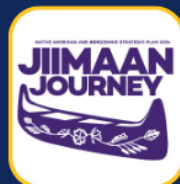
WOVEN BEING EXHIBIT OPENS
In February 2025, The Block Museum of Art celebrated the opening of *Woven Being: Art for Zhagagoynak*. The exhibit has 80 works by 33 artists exploring confluences that are continuing to shape Indigenous creative practices in the region and beyond

2025

THE RESEARCH FOR INDIGENOUS SOCIAL ACTION & EQUITY CENTER (RISE) JOINS NORTHWESTERN
The RISE Center is led by Dr. Stephanie Fryberg (Tulalip Tribes) who joined the Department of Psychology in WCAS: RISE is a multidisciplinary collaborative of humanists and humanistic social scientists dedicated to undoing Indigenous inequalities



NATIVE AMERICAN AND INDIGENOUS STRATEGIC PLAN LAUNCH
Native American and Indigenous Affairs launches strategic plan at the 3rd annual Pow Wow. The plan outlines key priorities for the next three years at Northwestern



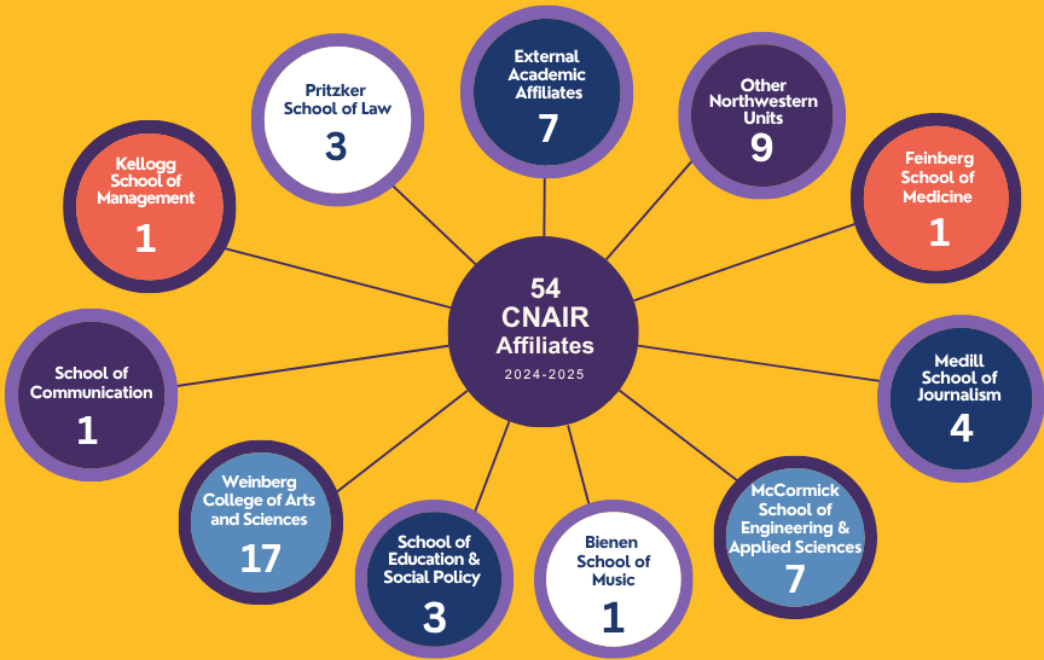
ONE BOOK SELECTION FOR 2024-25 IS THE NIGHT WATCHMAN BY LOUISE ERDRICH
The campus read Erdrich's novel based on her grandfather who worked as a night watchman and Erdrich visited the Evanston campus and was hosted by One Book faculty chairs Dean Bryan Brayboy and Professor Megan Bang



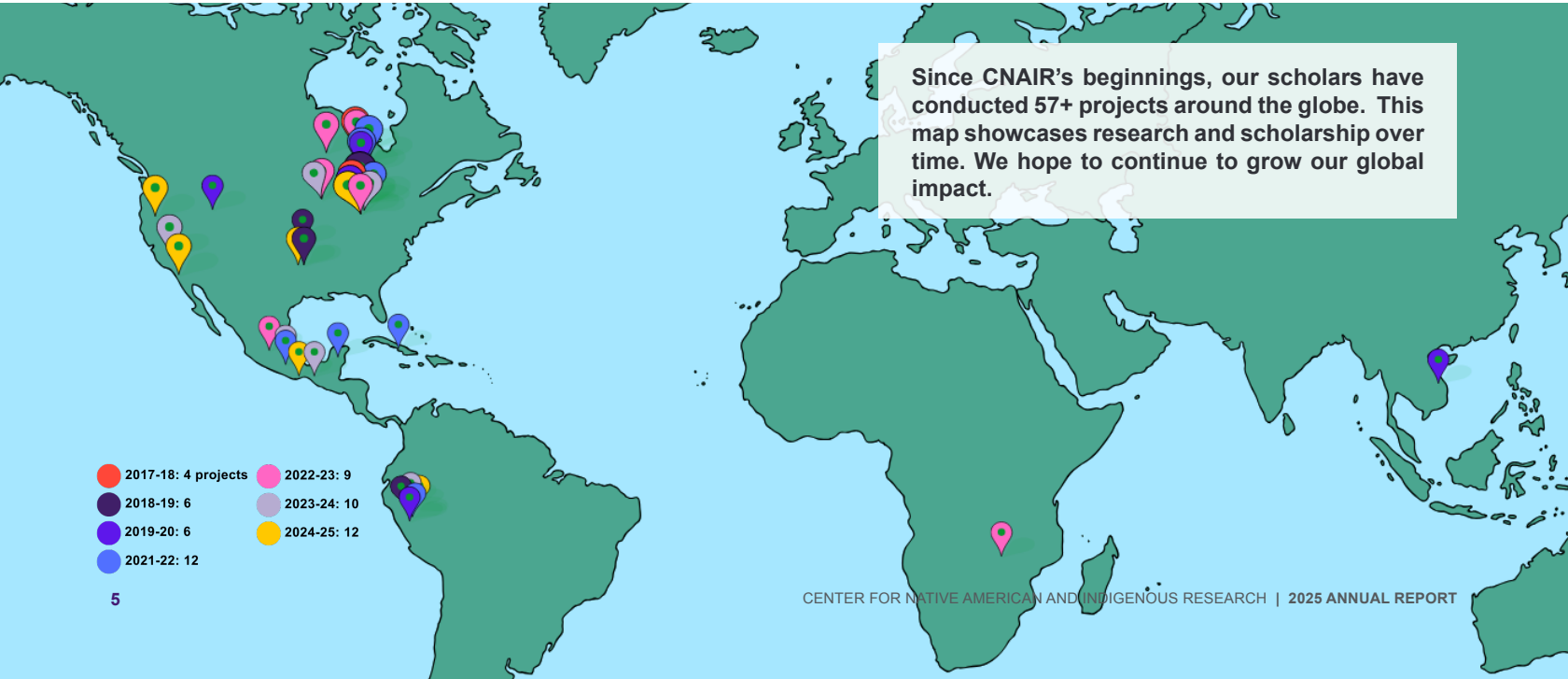
COLLEGE HORIZONS COMES TO NORTHWESTERN!
Northwestern was a host site for College Horizons, a non-profit organization that supports the higher education of Native American students by providing college and graduate admissions workshops to American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian students/participants from across the nation



CNAIR Overview: **By The Numbers**



CNAIR Research & Scholarship Across the Globe (2017 - 2025)



Faces of CNAIR



Sierra Rosetta

Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe
PhD Student, Class of 2028

Interdisciplinary PhD in Theatre and
Drama
School of Communication

I am a second-year PhD student working around the country as both a dramaturg and playwright in my professional theatre career. I am the literary associate for Native Voices in LA. We are the only equity theatre in the United States that is solely devoted to the development and production of works by Indigenous playwrights. In January 2025, my first play, *From the Old Wood Forest*, had a sold-out reading at the Newberry Library. I am currently dramaturging a show at La Jolla Playhouse by an Indigenous playwright called *Indian Princesses* by Eliana Theologides Rodriguez. This summer, I am developing one of my plays about intergenerational Ojibwe women, *A Century of Sparrows*, with Native Voices theatre.

I have been managing my professional career while navigating my PhD journey at Northwestern. I just completed my fifth show at Northwestern. This summer, I am working on submitting my dissertation prospectus and studying for my qualifying exams. Writing my dissertation prospectus has been challenging because I have had to continuously rewrite and overcome imposter syndrome. My committee members, who are professors in CNAIR, Kelly Wisecup, Doug Kiel, and Megan Bang, have been so helpful and essential while crafting my project. They have all encouraged me that I belong here and that my dissertation will be a meaningful contribution to the fields of theatre and NAIS.

I hope to continue my career in playwriting and dramaturgy, and work at a university to advocate for Native voices in theatre, so that others can thrive.



Brandi Berry Benson

Chickasaw
CNAIR Faculty Affiliate

Lecturer, Music Performance
Henry and Leigh Bienen School of
Music

I work with the Baroque Music Ensemble in Bienen. My research has primarily been focused on the influence of the Five Civilized Tribes on early American music. With support from the CNAIR fellowship I was able to consult with tribal knowledge and culture keepers of the Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek, Cherokee, and Seminole Nations, the Chickasaw Nation dance troupe, and faculty members of the College of the Muscogee Nation. The research led to forthcoming publications on methodologies used by non-native ethnomusicologists and musicologists as well as how to approach the use of these sources.

As a composer and artistic director outside of the university, I continue to incorporate Chickasaw and Choctaw traditions in my own artistic practice. My most recent premiere, *The Story of Pa I Sha*, is a musical narrative work I composed about my Chickasaw ancestors. I am currently composing a series of new works about different dynamic Chickasaw citizens called the *Chickasaw Caprices*. One of those pieces will premiere in Fall 2025, and the entire collection will premiere in 2026.

As an Indigenous scholar, it is extremely important to me to further that value in research and arts spaces from a Native perspective. I hope to produce more music and advance more scholarship that furthers the collective Native perspective. My vision is for more Indigenous music and language to be shared on the concert stage, and to have more available research sources about native music written by natives.

In Fall 2025 I will teach a course on Native American music. This will be the first time a course like this has been offered at Bienen in decades.

Learn more about Brandi Berry Benson's musical work on her website at brandiberrybenson.com.



Bella Kirkwood

**Delaware Tribe of Indians &
Cherokee Nation
Undergraduate Student,
Class of 2025**

Industrial Engineering &
Communication Studies
McCormick School of Engineering &
School of Communication

Being an Indigenous scholar and leader means bringing Indigenous presence and knowledge into spaces and unapologetically creating space where future generations can thrive. I would not be where I am without the people who have supported me along the way.

I've always been passionate about community building, and I was also able to do that through being a Peer Advisor and other opportunities at Northwestern. It has been a gift to help build those relationships and support others on their path to success.

Another gift Northwestern gave me was the self-confidence to believe that there is literally nothing I can't do if I put my mind to it even if it is challenging. That was a hard lesson to learn. Every time I got knocked down by a tough class, a brutal exam, a group project, or even interpersonal challenges, I was pushed to get back up. And every time I reached out for help, it was there.

Sometimes getting through meant staying up all night, sifting through lines of code trying to understand something I never thought I could—like building a convolutional neural network.

Learning to trust yourself is difficult. But once you do learn to trust yourself, you realize you're ready for most of what life throws at you.

I'll be joining Bain & Company this fall as a first-year Associate Consultant. This role will allow me to explore a variety of industries as I develop skills in analytics, strategy, and communication. I know that I will continue to make an impact as a leader because I'm deeply committed to building strong relationships and helping develop the next generation of leaders.



Kimberly Espinosa

**Bi' Xtidxa (Zapotec)
Undergraduate Student,
Class of 2026**

Communication Studies
School of Communication

Padyox! I study Health Communication, Cognitive Science, Native American and Indigenous Studies, and Human-Computer Interaction.

One of the best parts of my Northwestern experience has been being part of the Native American and Indigenous Student Alliance (NAISA). This past year, I collaborated with our Knowledge Keepers committee to create our first NAISA zine, *Honoring Our Relatives*, for the 4th Annual Traditional Spring Pow Wow. The zine, designed to align with this year's Pow Wow theme, contained artwork and reflections from Native and non-Native students and community members on the theme of honoring our relatives. Learn more by visiting bit.ly/naisa-zine.

This year, I also had the opportunity to work on two research projects. The first is starting a language revitalization project of the Zapotec language variant from my family's pueblo in Veracruz, Mexico. This has been a meaningful project as it aims to build on prior efforts by other community members to continue teaching younger and older generations the language through which many of our elders still communicate to share family stories and more.

I also started to work on my honors prospectus based in Koreatown, Los Angeles, in hopes of exploring intergenerational community understandings of healthcare algorithms as they relate to triaging for urgent care and how this affects future health-seeking behaviors.

With research and other work, I hope that communities' perspectives continue to be at the forefront of any actions that follow it and to build the communities our relatives thrive in. In the future, I hope to pursue a Master of Public Health and continue learning with the local communities in Los Angeles and back in the motherland, in Veracruz and Oaxaca, Mexico.



Kelly Wisecup
CNAIR Faculty Affiliate

Arthur E. Andersen Teaching
and Research Professor
Department of English
Weinberg Colleges of Arts and
Sciences

I am a professor in the English Department, and my research is at the intersection of literary studies and Native American and Indigenous Studies (NAIS). I'm a non-Native, settler scholar, and I work with contemporary Native nations and people to research, teach, and write about Indigenous literatures written between the 18th century and the present.

I have learned so much from my affiliation with CNAIR. This ranges from my work in the Center's early days as co-director (2018-2020) alongside my fellow co-director Patty Loew as well as Pamala Silas and Jennifer Michals to teaching literature courses for the NAIS minor. I was hired before CNAIR existed, shortly after undergraduate and graduate students asked the University to break its 150-year silence about its founder John Evans and his role in the 1864 Sand Creek Massacre. So much has changed at NU since those students' activism, and as I serve on committees for CNAIR, teach courses for the minor, and advise graduate dissertations in Indigenous Studies, I try to work toward those students' hopes that NU could be a place that welcomes Indigenous students and citizens and where Native Studies courses are a central part of the curriculum.

I am committed to learning with my students both about the long history of Indigenous sovereignty and survival and about histories and presents of settler colonialism. These histories shape our campus, our city, and our nation. One example is my "Indigenous Chicago" class. We read literatures by Indigenous peoples in or from Chicago—ranging from the Potawatomi writer Simon Pokagon's 19th century birchbark books to recent poetry by Turtle Mountain Ojibwe writer Mark Turcotte. In winter 2025, we paired literary texts with art in the *Block Museum's Woven Being: Art for Zhegagoynak/Chicagoland* exhibit.

Moving between literary texts and art works like Odawa/Potawatomi artist Kelly Church's beautiful black ash baskets and Potawatomi artist Jason Wesaw's stunning installation "Water Carries Memory," our class asked how Indigenous artists and writers imagined future flourishing even while grappling with the effects of forced removal from Chicago, the pollution of Lake Michigan, and invasive species threats to black ash trees. Art and literature, the course taught us, are tools for materially wrestling with historical and ongoing injustices while imagining other kinds of worlds.

Campus Partners – CNAIR couldn't do it without you!

One of the most critical ingredients from CNAIR's inception to the present is the value of working in collective. In that spirit, we want to highlight some of the campus partners that have been shoulder-to-shoulder with us since day one! The generosity, insights - and sometimes muscle - they honor us with has had exponential impact. **The Office of Community Enrichment (OCE)** and **Native American & Indigenous Affairs (NAIA)** has led the charge in resourcing Native American initiatives throughout Northwestern and beyond campus to Tribal partners, leaders and colleagues in other higher education institutions including Tribal colleges and the Cheyenne Arapaho Tribes. **Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities** has been the inspiration and staunch supporter of Indigenous programming and lifting up Indigenous scholars on campus. Their deep knowledge and support of the arts and humanities and CNAIR's Artist and Elder Residency is an intersection of values we share. **The Roberta Buffett Institute for Global Affairs** continues to guide and share the commitment we have for global Indigeneity, bringing Indigenous communities and scholars into their work and providing leadership and mentorship in navigating the University. Another campus partner is the **Council for Race & Ethnic Studies (CRES)**. CRES was an ally even before CNAIR existed, and their mission and leadership have been essential. From cosponsoring programs, sharing scholars, mentoring, creating safe space for all students to advancing interdisciplinary research for undergraduates, graduates and faculty - all of which has served as an exemplary model in CNAIR's genesis. All the work of these partners and (many more) has been essential to CNAIR's mission!

Miigwech, Waewaenin, Gú'a ch'ó'e, Gracias, Thank you!



ADVANCING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Partnership Highlights

Collaborative Project Highlights

Partnership Highlights

College Horizons



On opening ceremony day, students introduced themselves.



Niyo Moraza-Keeswood (Navajo and Chichimeca) shares welcome remarks. Niyo serves as senior assistant director of Undergraduate Admission for Native American and Indigenous Student Outreach.

Seeds planted over ten years ago bloomed this summer as Northwestern hosted College Horizons. We welcomed 108 Native American, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian students and 60 College Admissions “faculty” from across the country for a five-day “crash course” on the college admission and financial aid process. Aspirations to host this program originated with the 2014 Report of the Native American Outreach and Inclusion Task Force with the overarching goal to address the underrepresentation of Native students on campus.

Throughout the week, students attended daily lectures on the admissions and financial aid process, drafted college essays, and developed a list of prospective colleges to apply to. We also had the opportunity to highlight the robust community and resources for Native peoples at Northwestern. Students received welcome remarks from local elder Mavis Neconish alongside Provost Haggerty and President Schill; visited the *Woven Being* exhibit at the Block Museum; experienced a panel on Native student support with our Native American leadership team; helped caretake our Jiimaan relative; played lacrosse with the ISTEAM team; and learned about Indigenous research with the RISE interns. The program concluded with a pizza party on the beach featuring the Chicago staple, Lou Malnati’s.

Hosting College Horizons was a great success, blending both the learning goals of the program and encouraging students to think critically about belonging and how the Native community can impact their college experience. We are grateful to our campus partners who supported this program, as well as to the students, faculty, and staff who helped lay the groundwork to make hosting possible. We look forward to welcoming the influx of amazing Indigenous scholars who will be looking to make Northwestern their future home.

Special thank you to the planning committee members: Niyo Moraza-Keeswood, Jasmine Gunneau, Aaron Golding, Isabel St Arnold, Bryan Brayboy, Matt Stalzer, Athena GoingSnake, and Onis Cheathams. Hosting this program would not have been possible without the financial support of the Office of the President and the Office of Community Enrichment.

Gichigamiin Indigenous Nations Museum – New Name, Mission and a Fall Kick-off!



Our long-time partner underwent a transformative process this past year and became the Gichigamiin Indigenous Nations Museum. Formerly the Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, Gichigamiin, now a majority Native-led institution made the decision through an intensive public participatory process. This rebranding reflects a shift in the museum’s mission to celebrate the rich histories, cultures, and contemporary contributions of Indigenous communities in Chicago and the surrounding Great Lakes area. The name “Gichigamiin” (pronounced /gih-chee-gah-meen/) means “Great Lakes” in Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe), a language spoken by the Anishinaabe people. The process for the transformation was shared at their 47th Annual Benefit on November 16, 2024, where the award-winning chef, educator, author and activist Sean Sherman (Oglala Lakota) delivered a keynote address.

Northwestern Pritzker School of Law's Center for International Human Rights – Honoring Judge Izquierdo Torres

The Center for International Human Rights (CIHR) at Northwestern's Pritzker School of Law awarded their 10th Global Jurist of the Year Award to Judge Belkis Florentina Izquierdo Torres–Aty Seikuinduwa from Colombia, for her visionary jurisprudence recognizing the rights of Indigenous communities and the environment. She is a leader of the Arhuaco people, an Indigenous tribe from the north of Colombia and the first Indigenous woman to become an auxiliary judge of the Superior Council of Judicature. She now serves as president of the Truth Recognition Chamber within Colombia's Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP). The JEP is a transitional justice court that was designed to investigate, prosecute and punish those responsible for committing serious human rights violations during the armed conflict in Colombia from 1964 to 2016. CNAIR was honored to host her and her husband and artist, Kindi Lljajtu Álvarez Jacanamijoy, at the CNAIR house where we were blessed to participate in a water ceremony at the Lake.



From top to bottom, left to right: Megan Bang, Michaela Marchi, Priyanka Motoparthy, Siliva Toledo Enriquez, Daisy Hernández, Jasmine Gurneau, Isabel St Arnold, Marisa Cruz Branco, Kat Castillo Valentín, Judge Izquierdo Torres, Kindi Lljajtu Álvarez Jacanamijoy, Pam Silas



Global Jurist of the Year Award to Judge Belkis Florentina Izquierdo Torres – Aty Seikuinduwa from Colombia, for her commitment to Indigenous communities.

Bienen School of Music – Composers Jerod Tate and Brandi Berry Benson



Jerod Tate shares a presentation inside the CNAIR House.



Pa I Sha ensemble gathered on stage.

This past year we were so happy to partner with Bienen School of Music to cosponsor two wonderful Native American composers presenting on campus. On January 10, composer, pianist and alumni Jerod Impichchaachaaha' Tate ('90), a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation, shared his experiences and perspective as a Native musician and scholar with the CNAIR community. Later that evening, some of Jerod's compositions were played by the Bienen School of Music's Dover Quartet as part of the Winter Chamber Music Festival.

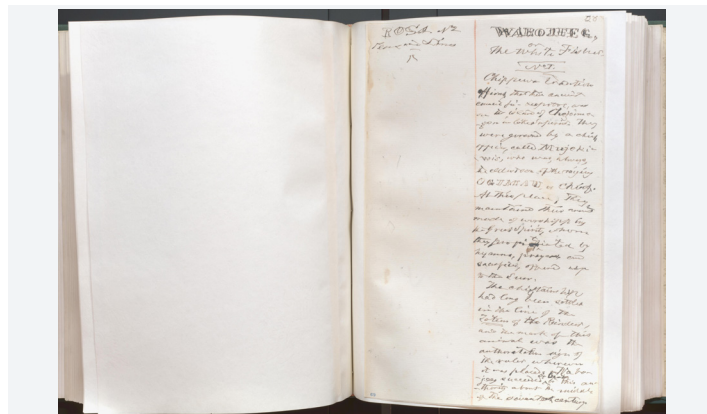
On May 15, CNAIR cosponsored a full performance of *The Story of Pa I Sha*, a musical narrative composed by the Bach and Beethoven Experience artistic director and Bienen music faculty, Brandi Berry Benson, a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation and CNAIR faculty affiliate. Benson's genealogical research formed the basis of this work, a 4-part chamber piece telling the story of four generations of her ancestors, mixing traditional classical and Indigenous instruments and compositional elements, using original settings of stomp dances, traditional songs, and hymns from the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations. Performed by the BBE, and including Rachael Youngman, vocalist and narrator (Choctaw); Leighann Daihl Ragusa, Native American flute and traverso; Brandi Berry Benson, violin (Chickasaw); Kiyoe Matsuura, viola; Erica Rubis, cello; and Michaela Marchi, Indigenous percussion (Isleta Pueblo).

Collaborative Project **Highlights**

The Ojibwe Muzzeniegun Digital Edition



The project team presents at NAISA 2025.



Archival photograph of the *The Literary Voyager*, also known as *The Muzzeniegun*.

Professor Kelly Wisecup (Department of English) helps to lead *The Ojibwe Muzzeniegun* Digital Edition project team, a team of Indigenous and non-Indigenous scholars from seven universities to create a digital edition of the literary magazine *The Ojibwe Muzzeniegun*. The Ojibwe poet Jane Johnston Schoolcraft and her family created the magazine in 1826-27. *The Muzzeniegun* is an amazing work that features Johnston Schoolcraft's poetry and Ojibwe histories and stories; the magazine attests to Johnston Schoolcraft's and her siblings' work translating Ojibwe stories into English—one of the first such translation projects.

But the *Muzzeniegun* exists only in a single manuscript copy that lives at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC, meaning that few people can read or study it.

In collaboration with an advisory board and Ojibwe tribal historians—from nations connected to the Johnston family through kinship ties, our team is making a digital edition to allow tribal historians, Indigenous students, and non-Indigenous scholars and students to study the magazine. The team is also working with Indigenous poets and scholars as part of our planning grant.

The Ojibwe Muzzeniegun Digital Edition project team is excited about the ways that the project is poised to support the flourishing of poetry by contemporary Indigenous writers, whether in organizations like Indigenous Nations Poets, or in readings in Chicago and elsewhere, or in classrooms and workshops. This work is funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

STRONG Manoomin Collective launches Noondawind



Noondawind - which can be translated as “as one is heard” in Ojibwemowin - is a custom-built online platform designed to connect Tribal partners, researchers, and community members with data, reports, and analysis that support the protection of Manoomin (wild rice) and the waters it depends on. The platform has been shaped by conversations with community members, Tribal resource staff, and research partners over the past five years.

Currently, *Noondawind* is piloting with several Tribal communities, such as Lac du Flambeau, Bad River, and Lac Courte Oreilles. Data from over a dozen makak (Ojibwemowin word for container) environmental sensors, which have been deployed across Tribal lands and ceded territories, will be available to assist in the understanding of the variability in Manoomin ecosystems. Additionally, resilience indicators and governance tools are also being integrated into the cyberinfrastructure development, to support Nations' capacities to translate this data into action. Ongoing and upcoming project milestones include capacity building and outreach.

The PIs of the collective include CNAIR affiliates Kim Marion Suiseeya, Josiah Hester, William Miller, and many postdoctoral scholars, graduate, and undergraduate students who are connected to CNAIR. Learn more about this project at www.manoomin.in.



ADVANCING ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL PRACTICES

| Featured Partnerships

Featured Partnerships

Opening of *Woven Being: Art for Zhegagoyanak/Chicago*



From left to right: Akina Curley and Nimkii Curley walk through Kelly Church's woven braided sweetgrass installation titled *Honoring Our Children: Never Forgotten*.



Visitors walk through the opening of the exhibit.

On February 1st, The Block Museum kicked off the opening of their major exhibit, *Woven Being: Art for Zhegagoyanak/Chicago*, with a day of family activities and a panel discussion featuring most of the artist curators from the exhibition, including Kelly Church (Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Tribe of Pottawatomi/Ottawa), Nora Moore Lloyd (Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe), and Jason Wesaw (Pokagon Band of Potawatomi) in dialogue with Jordan Poorman Cocker (Kiowa), Woven Being Terra Foundation Guest Co-Curator. Welcome speeches were shared by Block Museum Executive Director Lisa Corrin Graziose, NU President Michael Schill, and CNAIR Director, Megan Bang. *Woven Being* was a milestone endeavor for the Block Museum in its approach to involving community input at every step of the exhibition development process (which spanned over five years) and the result was a vibrant exploration of the confluences that continue to shape Indigenous creative practices in the region and beyond. The exhibit brought together over 80 works by 33 artists that speak to the diversity of Indigenous art, materials, and time.

You can view press coverage of the exhibition here: bit.ly/wovenbeing_press.

Highlights of One Book – *The Night Watchman* by Louise Erdrich



Erdrich signs books for guests during her visit at Northwestern.



Megan Bang and Bryan Brayboy discuss the novel with author Louise Erdrich.

What an amazing year it was sharing in this year's One Book authored by Louise Erdrich, *The Night Watchman*. Louise spoke at the Evanston campus along with this year's co-chairs for One Book, Dean Bryan Brayboy and Professor Megan Bang. This event, open to the public – provided an intimate space to hear from the author who shared more about her father and his letters that were the inspiration for this book. There were numerous off campus events as well including a Powwow at the Evanston Township High School; a visit to the Field Museum; *Living Stories: Contemporary Woodland Native American Art* exhibit at the Gichigamiin Indigenous Nations Museum; *Indigenous Chicago* exhibit at the Newberry Library. There were over **90** events in all - programs throughout Northwestern and the local community. See Pages 23 - 28 to see a few of the incredible visitors and programs inspired by One Book! We want to thank the One Book fellows, staff and especially Nancy Cuniff, who has managed the One Book program at Northwestern for the past decade. We wish her well as she retires from Northwestern at the end of the Spring quarter. What a year!



ADVANCING SCHOLARSHIP

Graduate Cluster

Externships

Fellowships

7th Annual Research Symposium

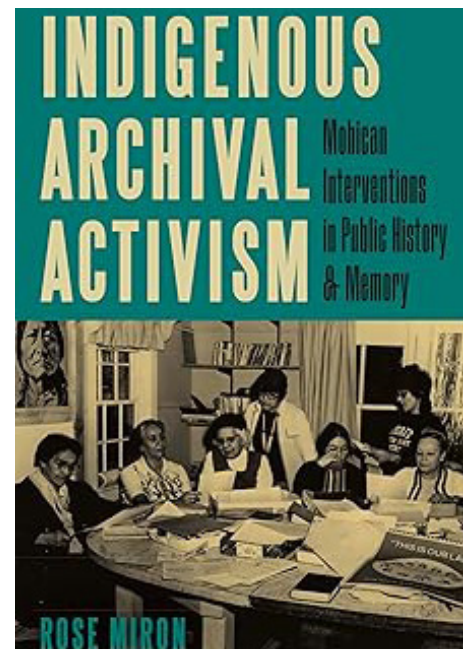
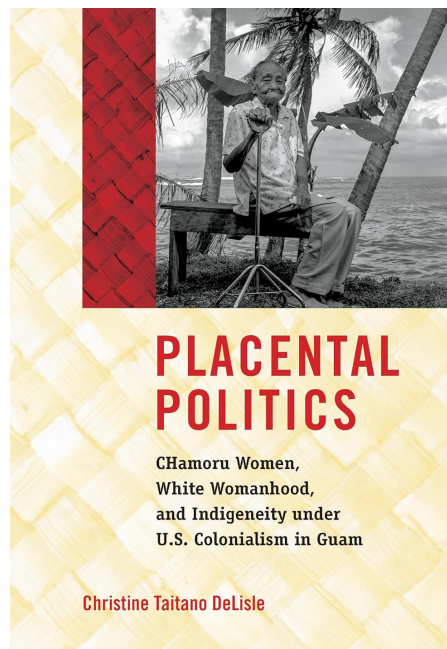
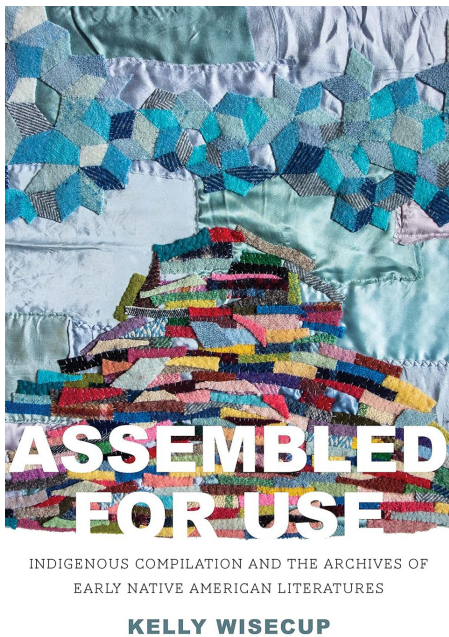
Graduate Cluster

The Native American and Indigenous Studies (NAIS) Cluster is one of many interdisciplinary clusters in The Graduate School and falls under the Mellon Cluster in the Humanities and Qualitative Social Sciences. Students apply to be a Mellon Interdisciplinary Cluster Fellow alongside their graduate school application, but many graduate students affiliate with NAIS cluster activities after admission.

The NAIS Cluster creates space for intellectual exchange and study in the theories and topics of NAIS. An interdisciplinary field encompassing such areas as history, law, literature, political science, medicine, environmental studies, and more, NAIS examines Native cultural expressions, legal and political issues, and lived experiences across time, place, and disciplinary categories. NAIS produces scholarship, creative expressions, and praxes that are theoretically informed and engaged with or responsive to Tribal nations and communities and that seek to understand and transform political, pedagogical, and institutional structures grounded in settler colonialism.

The NAIS Cluster aims to create opportunities and training in NAIS for our students through invited speakers, yearly themes, professionalization workshops, mentoring, and symposia. It is a space in which faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate students can come together for intellectual exchange, cross-pollination, and activism. History Professor Doug Kiel served as the NAIS Grad Cluster director for this academic year. This past year, the NAIS Cluster activities included a quarterly book club centering Indigenous methodologies which included:

- *Assembled for Use: Indigenous Compilation and the Archives of Early Native American Literatures* by Kelly Wisecup
- *Placental Politics: CHamoru Women, White Womanhood, and Indigeneity under U.S Colonialism in Guam* by Christine Taitano DeLisle
- *Indigenous Archival Activism: Mohican Interventions in Public History & Memory* by Rose Miron



Externships

The CNAIR Indigenous Engagement Externship launched in AY24-25 thanks to donors committed to student engagement with Indigenous communities. The externships allow for funding for students to participate in opportunities that have an Indigenous immersion component. In this first year, six undergraduate students were supported through CNAIR externships.

AY 2024-2025 Externship Awardees

Kadin Mills (First generation descendant of Keweenaw Bay Indian Community)
Medill '24

Major: Journalism
Minor: Native American and Indigenous Studies
Location: Based in Washington D.C.
Kadin Mills was immersed in with Tribal Nation leaders and national politics to cover the 2024 presidential election with ICT, a division of IndiJ Public Media.

Meadow Neubauer-Keyes (Yankton Sioux Tribe of South Dakota)
Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences '27

Major: Environmental Policy and Culture
Location: Little Traverse Band Bay of Odawa, Michigan (LTBB) and Chicago, IL for Indigenous STEM Collective (ISTEAM Collective)

Jennifer Salvador (Zapotec-Yalalag)
Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences '25

Major: Political Science; Sociology
Minor: Native American and Indigenous Studies
Location: Urban Zapotec Community, Los Angeles
Jennifer worked with Banda Filarmónica de Yalalag, a cultural organization committed to rehabilitating the Zapotec cultures and traditions in the greater Los Angeles area.

Elias Roberts (Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin)
School of Communication '27

Major: Theatre
Location: Madison, Wisconsin, Ho Chunk Nation
Elias was a participant in the Indigenous Field Based Learning for Land Stewardship course at UW Madison, offered by Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe University.

Olivia Bailey (Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians)
Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences '26

Major: Biological Sciences,
Minor: Native American and Indigenous Studies
Summer Location: Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa, Michigan (LTBB) ISTEAM, Jiimaan Journey camp at Camp Petosega in Alanson, Michigan

Lula Fox (Pacific Islander, Diasporic CHamoru, Guam)
Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences '26

Major: Anthropology; Environmental Policy
Minor: Global Health
Location: CHamoru community in Humatak, Guam
Lula worked with Guam Preservation Trust, a nonprofit public corporation run by CHamorus (the Indigenous people of Guam) that seeks to preserve and protect ancestral sites.

Fellowships

The Center's fellowship program seeks to generate and support research that is responsive to and engaged with Native communities and organizations. We awarded fellowships to undergraduate students, graduate students, and faculty, across disciplines and schools for projects and work conducted during the AY24-25 school year.

* = Undergraduate Fellows

* = Graduate Fellows

* = Faculty Fellows

Kimberly Espinosa* (Bi' Xtidxa, Zapotec)

Communication Studies
School of Communication
Research Topic: Language and Placemaking in Oaxacalifornia Across Zapotec Pueblos Originarios

Kai Chase*

PhD Candidate

Department of English
Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences
Research Topic: Southern Eco-Solidarities: A Syllabus on Mvskoke and Black Land Resistance

Daisy Donaji Matias*

PhD Candidate

Department of Performance Studies
School of Communication
Research Topic: Ella Quien Sabía: The Contemplative Performance and Poetry of María Sabina

Anamaria Leon*

PhD Candidate

Department of Spanish and Portuguese
Weinberg College Arts and Sciences
Research Topic: Learning through the more-than-human beings' eyes and ears in "Benko Enuuro" (Eyes of an Ant) by Morela Maneiro and "The Falling Sky" by Davi Kopenawa

Brandi Berry Benson* (Choctaw)

Adjunct Lecturer

Bienen School of Music
Research Topic: The Native Influence on Early American Music

Eli Suzukovich III, PhD* (Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa/Cree)

Assistant Professor of Instruction

Environmental Policy and Culture and Anthropology
Weinberg College
Research Topic: Telling Her Story: Community Co-Curation, Conservation, and the Blackfeet Stand-Up Headdress Society

7th Annual **Research Symposium**

Continuing the 100 Years Back, 100 Year Forward theme, the two-day symposium brought together our growing community of affiliated faculty, Native American, Indigenous and non-Indigenous students (graduate and undergraduate), local community members, Great Lakes tribal leaders, Tribal college students, and Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal education leadership and students. Over 190 people attended the symposium, an increase of over 30% in registrations from previous years! Given the shifting state of higher education, this collective space for sharing research, innovative ideas, good meals by Indigenous chefs and the comradery were greatly appreciated by all! The format featured 3 panels including 1) Interdisciplinary Perspectives: Integrating Knowledges, 2) Maternal Health and the Well-being of the Next Generation, and 3) Economic Development: Eyes to the Future. Panelists included two alumni, Dr. Ninah Divine (WCAS '16) and Dr. Bethany Hughes (PhD '18).

We were delighted to have Melissa Walls, Bloomberg Professor of American Health, Johns Hopkins University, as our first keynote, and Dean Bryan Brayboy, School of Education and Social Policy and Carlos Montezuma Professor of Education and Social Policy, as our closing keynote. The Indigenous knowledge exchange was outstanding with 24 projects from across the globe such as *Zebrafish Embryos: Red Dye vs. Ibuprofen* by Jessica Day (Navajo Nation), undergraduate at Chief Dull Knief College, and *Writing the 'Runa': Andean Epistemology in Peruvian Literature (1941-1974)* by Stephen McNabb, graduate student at Northwestern. The various roundtable sessions invoked great dialogue on scholarship topics, methods and shared interests on topics including *Language and Placemaking in Oaxacalifornia Across Zapotec Pueblos Originarios*; *Community Co-curation: conservation and the Blackfeet Stand-up Headdress Society*; and *Indigenous Data Sovereignty: Ethical Ontological Horizons of Data and Computer Science*.

Cosponsors: Native American and Indigenous Affairs, Office of Community Enrichment, Council for Race and Ethnic Studies, RISE Research and Indigenous Social Action and Equity, Center for Health Equity and Transformation, The Block Museum of Art, Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Institute for Policy Research, Roberta Buffett Institute for Global Affairs, Program in Environmental Policy and Culture, Medill School of Journalism, and Center for Engineering Sustainability and Resilience



NU alum, Haku Blaisdell, '21, reviews symposium program.



Maternal Health panel from left to right: Deana Around Him, Camie Goldhammer, Melissa Walls, and NU alum, Ninah Divine, '16.



Ian Her Many Horses shares perspectives on computer science.



So much valuable knowledge was shared - I would love to have a list of resources published about their work if possible!"



Members of the RISE team gather around research poster. From left to right: Jordy Begay, Jacqueline Schram, Solo Miner



Left to right: Kimberly Espinosa, Jennifer Salvador, Olivia Bailey, Meadow Neubauer-Keyes, Carmen Edith Freeze

“Appreciated the range of disciplines represented - loved hearing more about computer science”



Chief Dull Knife College student, Amelio Blackhorse (Cheyenne) shares his experiences with horses in his community.



Center: Bethany Hughes, PhD, '18



CNAIR Advisory Board Member, Alex Red Corn, shares current Indigenous education initiatives at the University of Kansas

“Loved hearing from Tribal college students - would love to see their presence again next year”



Melissa Walls delivers keynote. Melissa serves as co-director for the Center for Indigenous Health and is a Professor of American Health at Johns Hopkins University.



Symposium attendees join together for lunch.



ADVANCING TEACHING AND LEARNING

NAIS Minor

Visiting Scholars

Partners

Events and Program Lineup

Major Academic Affiliate Accomplishments

NAIS Minor

Since the minor was first offered in Fall 2020 at the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, there have been **14 students** who have graduated with the minor. In 2025 we had **five** NAIS minor graduates. The NAIS minor is designed for the student who is interested in understanding the identities and experiences, cultural practices and lifeways of Native American and Indigenous people. It requires six courses from across a variety of departments, taught by faculty across the university and includes explorations of creative expression, the social and natural world, and Indigeneity within a global context. We are working toward WCAS curriculum committee approval to have NAIS courses cross-listed with a new NAIS course code. Two Global Health courses have been approved this year, including GBL HLTH 326/NAIS 326 (below). History Professor, Doug Kiel, served as the NAIS coordinator for this academic year.

In AY25, there were **16 courses applicable to the NAIS minor**. To date, there have been over **75 NAIS** courses taught since the minor was first offered in 2020. The following exemplify some of the courses being offered:



ANTHRO 101: NATIVE/INDIGENOUS FEMINISMS

SPRING 2025 | T/TH 9:30-10:50AM
MEGAN BAKER

Native/Indigenous Feminisms are key to understanding settler colonial societies like the United States and Canada. As a field of study, Native/Indigenous Feminisms analytically centers Indigenous sovereignty to understand how settler colonialism evolved to displace Indigenous peoples politically and within their own lands. This course will examine the historical formation and dynamics of settler colonialism to elucidate how it has shaped the lives of all people living within settler societies.

- **ANTH 390/490** Indigeneity and Race – Megan Baker, Anthropology Dept
- **ANTH 101** Native/Indigenous Feminisms – Megan Baker, Anthropology Dept
- **JOUR 390** Global Indigeneity, Environment Policy and Media Representation – Reynaldo Cardenas, Medill School of Journalism
- **ENG 374** Woven Being: Studies in Native American and Indigenous Literatures – Kelly Wisecup, English Dept
- **GBL HLTH 326/NAIS 326** Native Health Systems and US Policy – Beatriz Reyes, Global Health
- **SPAN 342** Representing the Indio in Latin American Literature – Jorge Coronado, Spanish & Portuguese Dept
- **HIST 300** Indigenous People and US Law – Doug Kiel, History Dept
- **LRN SCI 301/451** Design of Learning Environments for Just and Sustainable Futures – Megan Bang, SESP

Visiting Scholar



Dylan Robinson presenting on the ways in which art in public spaces seek to hail the public.

Professor Dylan Robinson, xwélmexw (Stólo/Skwah) artist, curator and writer, is the author of one of our NAIS book club selections from last year: *Hungry Listening: Resonant Theory for Indigenous Sound Studies*, which examines Indigenous and settler colonial practices of listening, and was awarded best first book for the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association, Canadian Association for Theatre Research, and the Labriola Centre American Indian National Book Award.

He presented a talk in Bienen's Regenstein Master Classroom, titled "*Hearing the Calls of Settle Colonialism & Indigenous Resurgence*," which shifts the attention to representations of the ideology of the state present in public art and everyday spaces. He explored the notions of settler subjectivity and Indigenous resurgence in this context.

The talk was preceded by a welcome breakfast and followed by a reception. Robinson is associate professor and acting associate dean of equity at the University of British Columbia. Cosponsored by the Sound Arts and Industries (SAI) master's program in the School of Communication and Bienen School of Music.

List of **Programming & Events Partners**

Alice Kaplan Institute of the Humanities
American Cultures Colloquium
Asian American Studies Program
Association of Native American Medical Students, NU
Medicine
Bach and Beethoven Experience
Bienen School of Music
Block Museum of Art
Buffett Institute for Global Affairs
Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists
Center for International Human Rights
Chicago American Indian Community Collaborative (CAICC)
Chicago Wilderness
Council of Race and Ethnic Studies
Department of Anthropology
Department of Black Studies
Department of Environmental Studies
Department of Spanish and Portuguese
Dittmar Memorial Gallery
East Asia Research Forum
Endangered Language Fund, Harvard
Environment Policy and Culture Program
Evanston Township High School
Field Museum
Gichigamiin Indigenous Nations Museum

Gender and Sexuality Studies
The Graduate School
Indigenous Graduate Student Collective (IGSC)
Latina & Latino Studies Program
Latin American and Caribbean Studies
Master of Arts Medical Humanities and Bioethics Program
Medical Humanities and Bioethics Graduate Program, NU
Medill School of Journalism
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
Middle East and African Studies
Native American and Indigenous Affairs (NAIA)
Native American and Indigenous Student Alliance
(NAISA)
Office of Community Enrichment
Office of the Provost
Office of the President
One Book One Northwestern
Performance Studies
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
School of Education and Social Policy (SESP)
Sound Arts and Industries Program, School of
Communication
Trickster Cultural Center
University of Chicago



Indigenous Peoples Day at ETHS included a Pow Wow

Program and Event **Lineup AY25**

cosponsored programs in blue

Sept 26, 12-2pm

Welcome Back!

Everyone joins in to welcome back new and continuing students, faculty and staff in Northwestern's Native American community where they learn how to connect throughout the year!

Oct 8, 7-8:30pm

MENA: Understanding Allied Struggles: Palestine, Turtle Island, United States

A conversation among leading scholars of violences, racial capitalism, settler colonialism, and militarism in Palestine, Turtle Island, Israel, and the US, exploring connection across these geographies through interdisciplinary, intersectional, and historical lenses. Speakers included Hadeel Assali, Columbia, Jodi Byrd, University of Chicago, Marc Lamont Hill, City University of New York and Alex Lubin, Penn State University.

Oct 8-19, multiple days

Artist/Elder-in-Residence: Fern Renville and Roger Fernandes Welcome Breakfast, Storytelling and Traditional Indigenous Artmaking

CNAIR welcomed Fern Renville (Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate) and Roger Fernandes (Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe) as our artists/elders in residence for 2024-25. While on campus, Fern and Roger facilitated multiple harvesting sessions in LaBagh Woods for natural materials, artmaking while storytelling workshops, visited classes, and held open studio sessions.

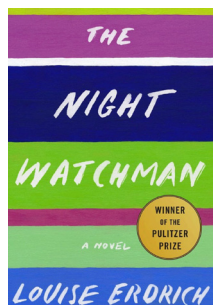


Participants harvest yellow iris with Fern Renville

Oct 14, 8am-8pm

Indigenous Peoples Day Conference and 1st Pow Wow at ETHS

Through consult and collaboration with CNAIR, Evanston Township High School presented a full day of learning opportunities and professional development for their staff and students about Indigenous peoples. In addition, through a partnership with the Gichigamiin Indigenous Nations Museum (formerly Mitchell Museum), the high school presented their first ever pow wow!



Oct 15, 5pm

One Book Keynote: Louise Erdrich, author of *The Night Watchman*

Louise Erdrich, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for her novel, *The Night Watchman*, came to Northwestern for a conversation with One Book faculty co-chairs Dean Bryan Brayboy and Professor Megan Bang, followed by a reception. Free and open to the public.

Oct 23, 3:30pm

Transmitting the Word of God through Music and Poetry: The Cases of Luis Jerónimo de Oré and Juan Pérez Bocanegra

Lecture cosponsored with the Spanish & Portuguese Department to host scholar, Catalina Andrango-Walker (Virginia Tech), to share research on missionary poetry projects in Quechua in the 16th/17th centuries.

Oct 24-26

56th Algonquian Conference

This conference, co-organized by James Pepper Henry (Kaw Nation; First Americans Museum), Raina Heaton (Sam Noble Museum, University of Oklahoma) and Douglas H. Whalen (Endangered Language Fund, Harvard), is an international meeting for Indigenous and non-Indigenous scholars and community members to share research relating to Algonquian peoples. There is a major focus on language, both description and revitalization, as well as cultural aspects of the Algonquian peoples.

Nov 6, 3:30pm-4:30pm

Sand Creek Massacre Commemoration - Film Screening and Discussion

In the spirit of healing, the Native American and Indigenous Student Alliance (NAISA), and the Office of Community Enrichment invites our community to reflect on Northwestern's role in supporting the healing efforts of Cheyenne and Arapaho communities. We screened the film "Only the Mountains and the Earth" and followed with facilitated discussion, reflection, and smudging. This event is part of a 3-part series to learn about the massacre and Northwestern's place in this history.

Nov 11, 4:30pm-6:30pm

Sand Creek Massacre Commemoration - Making Activity

In the spirit of healing, the Native American and Indigenous Student Alliance (NAISA), and the Office of Community Enrichment invites our community to reflect on Northwestern's role in supporting the healing efforts of Cheyenne and Arapaho communities. We made tobacco ties, custom pins, and a banner to be used in the procession planned for November 18. This event is part of a 3-part series to learn about the massacre and Northwestern's place in this history.

Nov 12, 5:30-7pm

NAIS Book Club: *Assembled for Use: Indigenous Compilation and the Archives of Early Native American Literatures* by Kelly Wisecup

Quarterly gathering book discussion open to all but focused on bringing together and building intellectual community among our students who are completing a NAIS undergraduate minor, are participants in the NAIS graduate cluster, and/or are recipients of fellowship funds from CNAIR. Facilitated by Doug Kiel, NAIS minor/cluster coordinator.

Nov 15, 6-8pm

Friends, Food and Fire with the Indigenous Graduate Student Collective (IGSC)

The Graduate School's Indigenous community gathered with food, warm beverages, and outdoor bonfire to celebrate Native American and Indigenous heritage and cultures and connect with one another.

Nov 16, 10-12pm

47th Annual Benefit – Gichigamiin Indigenous Nations Museum (formerly Mitchell Museum of the American Indian)

The Gichigamiin Indigenous Nations Museum, longtime project partner to CNAIR, celebrated 47 years at this annual benefit celebrating Native American and Indigenous cultures and the museum's newly developed mission, and featured a VIP reception and book signing with Sean Sherman, the Sioux Chef, followed by a tasting of traditional and contemporary Indigenous cuisine crafted by regional chefs.

Nov 18, 4:30pm-6:30pm

Sand Creek Massacre Commemoration - Procession

The Native American and Indigenous Student Alliance (NAISA), and the Office of Community Enrichment invited our community to reflect on Northwestern's role in supporting the healing efforts of Cheyenne and Arapaho communities. Community members gathered and walked together to learn about the Sand Creek Massacre and Northwestern's place in this history.



Participants gather around a fire after the Sand Creek procession.

Nov 20, 12-2pm

Lunch with Elders from Tokomaru Bay, New Zealand

Three elder partners from Tokomaru Bay in Aotearoa (New Zealand) came to visit Ruatēpupuke II, their beloved meeting house in care of The Field Museum for decades now, and asked to meet Northwestern's Native American colleagues, partners, and friends, to discuss the possibility of collaborating on future projects. CNAIR hosted a lunch in their honor with students and CNAIR staff and faculty.

Nov 20, 5:00pm

Inuit Ecohorror: Spirits and Law Breaking in Nyla Innusuk's "Slash/Back": Film Discussion by Madeleine Reddon, Loyola University

Madeleine Reddon (Metis Nation of Alberta) is an assistant professor of Indigenous literature in the Department of English at Loyola University of Chicago. This American Cultures Colloquium talk discussed the ecohorror of Nyla Innusuk's *Slash/Back* in the context of traditional practices and contemporary Inuit filmmaking to show how the film negotiates climate changes as a problem stemming from the antithesis between settler and Indigenous laws and norms.

Jan 7, 9am-10:30am

Welcome Breakfast, Chelsea Bighorn

CNAIR welcomed visiting artist Chelsea Bighorn with community, as she prepared for her opening reception at Dittmar Memorial Gallery in Norris University Center. Her exhibition, *Regal Adornment*, ran for over a month in the centrally located student-curated gallery space at Norris.

Jan 9, 6-8pm

Regal Adornment Opening Reception

Chelsea Bighorn, (Lakota, Dakota, Shoshone-Paiute), graduate of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, featured eleven pieces in this solo show inspired by childhood memories of attending pow wows, with a focus on the fringe found in pow wow regalia and using a variety of materials, including beads, artificial elk teeth, buffalo teeth, and buffalo yarn handspun by Bighorn herself.



Chelsea Bighorn showcases one of her pieces at the welcome reception.

Jan 10, 3-5pm

Composer and Scholar Jerod Tate Presentation and Reception

Special guest Northwestern alumni ('90), Jerod Impichchaachaaha' Tate (Chickasaw) stopped at CNAIR for a heartfelt presentation about his experiences as a Native composer and musician in higher education and out in the world of classical music. Later that evening, Bienen School of Music's Dover Quartet played some of his works as part of the Winter Chamber Music Festival in Pick-Staiger Music Hall.

Jan 16, 6-8pm

Regal Adornment Hands-on Workshop

Dittmar Gallery Artist Chelsea Bighorn facilitated a workshop on how to make mini jingle cones, like those used in traditional Ojibwe jingle dresses, and fashion them into earrings with community.

Jan 22, 5:30-7pm

One Book Dittmar Dinner Lecture: *Indigenous Land & Water Based Education: Cultivating Just and Sustainable Futures*, by CNAIR Director Megan Bang

Discussion about some of the key needs of educational transformation in land and water-based education in which Indigenous peoples and their territories intersect with these issues globally.

Jan 25, 8am-5pm

Native Led Climate Summit

The Native Led Climate Summit, led by Chicago Wilderness and Trickster Cultural Center, brought together Native American and non-Native stewards, growers, academics, and changemakers of the Chicagoland/Great Lakes region and beyond to spend a day learning about the climate issues impacting urban Indigenous communities and how we can work collaboratively to mitigate and adapt to these changes. The vision for the Native Led Climate Summit includes formulating a Collaborative Climate Action Plan centered in Native perspectives, as well as Indigenous foods and interactive workshops.

Jan 28, 5:30-7pm

NAIS Book Club: *Placental Politics: Chamoru Women, White Womanhood, and Indigeneity under US Colonialism in Guam* by Christine Taitano DeLisle

Quarterly gathering book discussion open to all but focused on bringing together and building intellectual community among our students who are completing a NAIS undergraduate minor, are participants in the NAIS graduate cluster, and/or are recipients of fellowship funds from CNAIR. Facilitated by Doug Kiel, NAIS minor/cluster coordinator.

March 6, 12pm-2pm

Welcome Lunch for Visiting Guest Scholar, Dylan Robinson

CNAIR welcomes Dylan Robinson with luncheon with students, faculty and staff.

March 6, 4:00-6:00pm

CNAIR Invited Guest Scholar: *Hearing the Calls of Settler Colonialism and Indigenous Resurgence*, presented by Dylan Robinson

Professor Dylan Robinson, xwélmexw (Stólo/Skwah) artist, curator and writer, author of one of our NAIS book club selections from last year: *Hungry Listening: Resonant Theory for Indigenous Sound Studies*, presented a talk at Bienen, followed by a reception.

March 18, 4:00-6:00pm

Welcome Breakfast for Honored Guest Judge Belkis Izquierdo Torres-Aty Seikuinduwa

CNAIR hosted a welcome breakfast for Judge Belkis Izquierdo Torres-Aty Seikuinduwa who was honored by the Center for International Human Rights at their Global Jurist Award Ceremony at Northwestern's Pritzker School of Law.

April 2

Future Generations in Indigenous Political Science Research Workshop

This was a dissertation workshop for Native students in political science, whose research is informed by interactions with or within Indigenous communities, organized by junior Native scholars. They invited both Native and non-Native faculty who are experts in the field to review their work and provide encouragement to finish their dissertations. CNAIR director, Megan Bang, agreed to speak at this event and support their efforts as a cosponsorship.



April 9, 5-6pm

Potawatomi Land Transfer

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribal Council member and CNAIR Advisory Council member, Raphael Wahwassuck,

presented a talk on the process of reclaiming ancestral lands in Illinois. This conversation was facilitated by One Book faculty co-chairs Dean Bryan Brayboy and Professor Megan Bang.

April 9, 6-8pm

Welcome Reception for CNAIR 7th Annual Research Symposium

The Office of Community Enrichment hosted a welcome reception for symposium guests and speakers in partnership with and at the Block Museum. In addition to connecting with community and other guests, attendees were able to view the *Woven Being* and *it takes a long time to stay here: Paintings* by Jordan Ann Craig exhibitions.

April 10-11, 8:30am-5pm

CNAIR 7th Annual Research Symposium

CNAIR's signature annual event, a two-day gathering to highlight Native and Indigenous scholars and their research, with a focus on exploring this year's theme, *Indigenous Futures: 100 Years Back, 100 Years Forward*, which highlights the anniversary of the 1924 Indian Citizenship Act, prompting opportunities for reflection, and also imagination for the future of Indigenous sovereignty and community. More information on pages 18 - 19.

April 11

5th Thinking Andean Conference

This biennial conference strengthens the interdisciplinary network of scholars thinking through theory and praxis from the Andes. The conference provided a space for participants to share their research through paper presentations and roundtable discussions, in the hopes of showcasing the increasing number of scholars globally conducting research in and about the Andes. Coordinated by CNAIR affiliate and anthropology professor Diego Arispe-Bazán and the Thinking Andean committee, hosted by the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program.

April 12

Namaew Kewaemakat Piaaetuaq – Sturgeon Coming Home Feast

CNAIR supported this feast and the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, as one of our tribal partners. This annual event is dedicated to restoring our interconnectedness between namaewak (sturgeon), the Menominee people, and non-Native allies, whom they consider extended relatives. It seeks to raise awareness about tribally-led conservation, preserve cultural knowledge, inspire intergenerational resilience, and restore land and waterways.

April 22, 5:30-7pm

NAIS Book Club: *Indigenous Archival Activism: Mohican Interventions in Public History & Memory* by Rose Miron

Quarterly gathering book discussion open to all but focused on bringing together and building intellectual community among our students who are completing a NAIS undergraduate minor, are participants in the NAIS graduate cluster, and/or are recipients of fellowship funds from CNAIR. Facilitated by Doug Kiel, NAIS minor/cluster coordinator.

May 1-2

Mapping Nuclear Legacies Symposium

This was a two-day symposium covering nuclear disarmament, peace-promoting practices, the role of cities in nuclear policy and security, and intergenerational nuclear justice. Coordinated by CNAIR affiliate and anthropology professor Hirokazu Miyazaki and the Mapping Nuclear Legacies team.



May 3

4th Annual NAISA Traditional Spring Pow Wow: Honoring Our Relatives

Northwestern's Native American and Indigenous Student Alliance (NAISA) present their fourth annual Pow Wow at Welsh-Ryan arena.

Head dancers and NAISA students collectively welcome community to Pow Wow during grand entry.

May 12

Relanguaging: From semiotic marginalization to decolonization

Barbara Meek (Comanche), University of Michigan, presents on her current research and teaching focus on representations and performances of linguistic difference in the management of social inequality, including her project work in the Yukon Territory in collaboration with colleagues at the University of British Columbia, teachers and administrators at the Department of Education (Yukon), and Dene First Nations.

May 13

Indigenous Language Policy Student Gathering

Backed by a committee made up of key players from the Office of Community Enrichment, CNAIR and students, SESP Professor and CNAIR director Megan Bang initiated a conversation with a broader group of students from various disciplines interested in pursuing the study of Indigenous languages at Northwestern.



Students, faculty, and staff discuss students taking Indigenous languages at Northwestern

May 14

Welcome Breakfast for Kai Pyle – SPAN conference speaker

CNAIR welcomed invited guest SPAN conference (more info below) speaker Assistant Professor Kai Pyle, University of Wisconsin-Madison, interdisciplinary scholar of queer Indigenous history, literature, language and artist, with a focus on Anishinaabe and Métis Two-Spirit and trans studies.

May 15, 12pm-12:45pm

Carlos Montezuma Lecture Series: Wayfinding Through the Human Genome, Lecture by Keolu Fox

This presentation was the Medical Humanities & Bioethics Montgomery Lecture Series' fourth annual Carlos Montezuma Native Health Lecture, which is named in honor of the first Native American graduate of Northwestern University's medical school. Keolu Fox, PhD, Assistant Professor of the Department of Anthropology in the University of California, San Diego, presented.



Keolu Fox at Feinberg School of Medicine

May 15, 3-4pm

Coffee Chat with Dr Keolu Fox

CNAIR welcomed Dr Keolu Fox with an afternoon coffee chat with students, faculty and staff. Keolu's research uses genetic data to rewrite the narratives of Indigenous people, emphasizing that the human genome, much like the vast Pacific Ocean, contains clues about our history, health, and future.

May 15, 7:30pm

The Story of Pa I Sha

This was a full performance of *The Story of Pa I Sha*, a composition inspired by the stories of CNAIR affiliate, Bienen School of Music faculty and Bach & Beethoven Experience (BBE) artistic director Brandi Berry Benson's Chickasaw ancestors.



May 15-16

SPAN Annual Conference: Critical Fabulation as Queer Method

The Sexualities Project at Northwestern (SPAN) is a multi-pronged, critical

and interdisciplinary initiative to promote research and education on sexuality, sexual orientation, and health in social context. The conference, *Critical Fabulation as Queer Method*, will bring together scholars, writers, artists, and others whose work imagines Indigiqueer and Black futures, non-European pasts, and blurred boundaries between human and non-human, fiction and history.

June 17

2nd Native American Inclusive History Symposium

The 2nd Native American Inclusive History Symposium builds on the successful passage of HB1633 in Illinois in 2023, the release of ISBE's Native American and Indigenous Resource Guide, and a shared goal to effectively implement the law. This gathering focused on identifying what educators need and creating tools and resources to help our Native community support those needs. This event reached 80 participants, including Indigenous Community members, Native-serving organization Leadership, Tribal Education Offices, Teachers, State Education leaders in the education field.

June 24-July 2

College Horizons

Northwestern was proud to host College Horizons, a 501c3 non-profit dedicated to increasing Native American, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian students in enrolling, succeeding and graduating from college, professional and graduate schools. An enthusiastic group of over 100 Native high school students and Native and non-Native faculty visited Northwestern's campus for a week packed with activities and events.

June 29

Chicago Pride Parade 2 Spirit/Indigiqueer Float

CNAIR supported the NU NAIS and greater Chicago Native community in participating in the Chicago Pride parade with a 2 Spirit/Indigiqueer float.

Ongoing Events

Wednesdays, 6-7:30pm

Let's Learn Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe Language Circle)

A weekly community Ojibwe language circle that began in May 2023 and continues to meet weekly in-person to share a meal and learn the language together at the CNAIR house.

Major Accomplishments of Affiliates

Our CNAIR affiliates are continuously making an impact in their fields, at Northwestern, and in both local and national policy. All our affiliates had a combined reported number of **116** for publications, accomplishments, awards, and significant updates this past academic year. Here are a few highlights:

Megan Baker contributes to Choctaw Tribe history

Megan Baker writes on coal in the Choctaw Nation as part of Iti Fabvssa's publications. Iti Fabvssa seeks to increase knowledge about the past, strengthen the Choctaw people and develop a more informed and culturally grounded understanding of where the Choctaw people are headed in the future. To view Coal in Choctaw Nation Parts I-III, visit bit.ly/tobaksj.



Professor Kelly Wisecup

Kelly Wisecup was an invited scholar at The A.S.W. Rosenbach Lectures in Bibliography and selected as a fellow for the Harvard Radcliffe Institute

Wisecup was invited to serve as the 2025 Rosenbach Fellow at University of Pennsylvania and gave lectures on

Indigenous books. The Rosenbach Lectures are the longest continuing series of bibliographical lectureships in the United States. Rosenbach Fellows typically present three lectures over a period of two weeks. At the Harvard Radcliffe Institute, Wisecup was selected as a 2025-2026 Humanities Fellow for the Beatrice Shepard Blane Fellowship. At Radcliffe, she is writing a book about Indigenous birch bark bookmaking as environmental protest.



SESP Dean Bryan Brayboy and Professor Megan Bang

Investiture Ceremony of Bryan Brayboy and Megan Bang

At Northwestern, our faculty advance the missions of research, education, and service. Investiture ceremonies are an opportunity to recognize the achievement

of every endowed professorship and highlight the success of our faculty. In Spring, we celebrated the distinguished careers of Dean Bryan McKinley Jones Brayboy and Professor Megan Bang during investiture ceremonies that recognized their groundbreaking contributions to education, access, and community-centered research. Dean Bryan Brayboy and Professor Megan Bang were celebrated for their endowed professorships. Brayboy is the Carlos Montezuma Professor of Education and Bang is the James E. Johnson Professor of Learning Sciences.

Doug Kiel wins the Weinberg College Distinguished Teaching Award

In Spring quarter, Kiel won the Weinberg College Distinguished Teaching Award and was recognized by Dean Adrian Randolph on their contribution to the History department and the Native American and Indigenous Studies Minor.

Megan Bang Elected to MacArthur Board of Directors

Megan Bang was elected to join the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Board of Directors. Bang, a scholar of the learning sciences, whose work centers Indigenous communities, will join the Board at its September 2025 meeting.

Rose Miron receives honorable mention for first book

Miron's book, *Indigenous Archival Activism: Mohican Interventions in Public History and Memory*, was awarded an Honorable Mention for "Best First Book" by the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA).

Reynaldo A. Morales film, *The Fly Back: Restoring Territorial Rights in the Ucayali Basin* is screened at multiple film festivals and in communities

This past academic year, the documentary was recognized and awarded at the Los Angeles Film and Documentary Awards, New York Film & Cinematography Awards, International Film Festival, The Hague Film Festival, International Multicultural Film Festival, Artist Emerged International Film Festival, Antakya International Film Festival, Canada Three Fires Film Festival, Cannes World Film Festival, Hispanic International Film Festival, and Beyond Border International Film Festival. Morales also screened the film for Indigenous communities in the Peruvian Amazonia in Pucallpa for Shipibo, and Konibo communities and students.

CNAIR celebrates promotion of Beatriz Reyes

Beatriz Reyes has been promoted to Associate Professor of Instruction in Global Health Studies. Reyes has contributed significantly to developing the NAIS minor, mentoring students, and offering courses that NAIS students take each year.

CNAIR Affiliates co-author chapters in book on the new Native North America Hall in the Field Museum

In fall of 2024, an open access book was published titled: *The Future is Indigenous: Stories from the new Native North America Hall at the Field Museum*. The book contains chapters and stories from collaborators that documented the journey of the new permanent exhibition, *Native Truths: Our Voices, Our Stories*. Affiliates that published chapters in the book include Doug Kiel, Eli Suzukovich, and Patty Loew.

CNAIR Faculty and Alumni published chapters in *Beyond Blood Quantum: Refusal to Disappear*

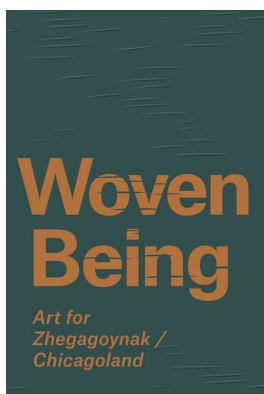
Doug Kiel published a chapter titled “Bleeding Out: Histories and Legacies of ‘Indian Blood’” within the book, *Beyond Blood Quantum*. Kadin Mills (Medill ‘24) also contributed a chapter to the book. In this second volume of *The Great Vanishing Act*, Indigenous authors write about the impacts of the Indian Reorganization Act.

Doug Kiel receives Mellon New Directions Fellowship (2025-2027)

The New Directions Fellowship from the Mellon Foundation for Kiel’s project entitled “Colonization and the Law in the United States and Outer Space” will allow Kiel to enroll in law school courses for one year and advance two book projects.

Drone Training for Tribal Historic Preservation Officers

Dr. Eli Suzukovich III (EPC/CNAIR/ Office for Research) and Dr. Mark Hauser (Anthropology/Latin American Studies), in partnership with the Ho Chunk Nation of Wisconsin and the Jo Davies County Conservation Foundation, facilitated a two-day summer workshop focusing on the use of drone photogrammetry for land management and documenting and protecting cultural resources.



Woven Being: Art for Zhegagoynak/Chicagoland book published in Summer 2025

The 160-page multi-authored publication centers Indigenous voices and explores the exhibition’s expansive themes and questions around the *Woven Being* exhibit. CNAIR Affiliate, Kathleen Bickford Berzock, was an editor of the book. Teagan Harris and Marisa Cruz Branco are new CNAIR affiliates who also contributed to the exhibit.

Elspeth Giger presents ‘Bounty by Fire: The Anishinaabe Legacy of Human-Mediated Fire Regimes on Drummond Island, Michigan.’

The U.S. National Science Foundation Center for Braiding Indigenous Knowledges and Science (NSF CBIKS) held a virtual webinar for their Indigenous Sciences Speaker Series in Winter. The series featured Dr. Elspeth Geiger and her presentation “Bounty by Fire: The Anishinaabe Legacy of Human-Mediated Fire Regimes on Drummond Island, Michigan.” Geiger’s presentation highlighted archaeobotanical evidence of intentional fire management. Geiger is a visiting professor of anthropology and the Center for Native American and Indigenous Research at Northwestern University and a curator path research scientist at the Anthropology Field Museum of Natural History.

SB West publishes article titled *Gender Abolition as Border Crossings in Maya Piña’s “Devenir transmigrante en la Windy City”*

This 2024 article aims to consider how “Devenir transmigrante en la Windy City,” Maya Piña’s contribution to *Palabras migrantes: 10 ensayistas mexican@s de Chicago* (2018), dialogues with research that addresses systemic forms of oppression at three definitional nexuses: the first, what West calls gendered immigration; second, linguistic oppression; and finally, the rhetoric of the American Dream.

Jennifer Dunn research team presents in US and Chile on sustainable systems and technologies

Students in Jennifer Dunn’s group have been developing analyses regarding the life cycle environmental effects of proposed mines in Minnesota aiming to supply nickel to decarbonization and other supply chains. Students Maggie O’Connell and Jenna Trost provide updates to the Mille Lacs Department of Natural Resources answering questions and gaining stakeholder input into which directions of analysis would be valuable. Maggie has led efforts to gather community feedback and concerns about water pollution at local events in Mille Lacs. The research has been presented at conferences in the U.S. (the International Symposium on Sustainable Systems and Technologies) and in Chile (Sustainable Mining 2025) and is in preparation for submission to a peer-reviewed journal.

Brandi Berry Benson is 2025 Native Performing Arts Grantee at First Peoples Fund

The program will support Brandi in developing and enhancing artistic skills and knowledge. With this opportunity, Brandi will focus on *Chickasaw Caprices*, a series honoring influential Chickasaw figures, and researching Native influence on early American music.

Who **We Are**



Directors

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Swapnil Gandhi, student employee, events manager aide

John Hughes (Muscogee Creek Nation), student employee, composition aide 3

Advisory Council



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Assistant Professor
Department of History
Northwestern University



Stephanie Fryberg
Professor of Psychology
Director of Research for Indigenous
Social Action and Equity Center
(RISE), Northwestern University



Bryan Brayboy
Dean, Carlos Montezuma Professor
of Education and Social Policy
Northwestern University



Chris Caldwell
President
College of Menominee Nation



Eli Suzukovich III
Professor of Anthropology and
Environmental Policy and Culture
Northwestern University



Alex Red Corn
Director and Associate Professor
Indigenous Studies
Associate Vice Chancellor for Sovereign
Partnerships and Indigenous Initiative
Kansas University



Eva Flying
President
Chief Dull Knife College



Heather Menefee
PhD Candidate in History
(WCAS)
Northwestern University



Sierra Rosetta
PhD student in Theater
(SoC), Northwestern
University



Raphael Wahwassuck
Member, Tribal Council
Prairie Band Potawatomi
Nation

Ex Officio Members: CNAIR Director and Associate Director
2024-2025: Megan Bang & Pamala Silas

Affiliates

**blue titles indicate external affiliates*

Aaron Golding, senior program coordinator, School of Education and Social Policy

Aaron Packman, professor of civil and environmental engineering and (by courtesy) mechanical engineering and chemical and biological engineering, McCormick School of Engineering

Abigail M. Foerstner, associate professor, director of the Health, Environment and Science specialization (Medill Chicago newsroom), Medill School of Journalism

Alex Red Corn, director and associate professor, Indigenous Studies; associate vice chancellor for Sovereign Partnerships and Indigenous Initiatives, University of Kansas

Annalise Buth, clinical associate professor of law; co-director, Center on Negotiation, Mediation, and Restorative Justice, Pritzker School of Law

Beatriz O. Reyes, Beatriz O. Reyes, assistant professor of instruction, Global Health Studies, Weinberg College

Beth Redbird, assistant professor of sociology, Weinberg College

Brandi Berry Benson, lecturer, Bienen School of Music; artistic director, Bach and Beethoven Experience

Bryan McKinley Jones Brayboy, dean, Carlos Montezuma professor, School of Education and Social Policy

Caroline Egan, assistant professor, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Weinberg College

Chris Caldwell, president, College of Menominee Nation

Clifford Zimmerman, professor of practice, Pritzker School of Law

Diego Arispe-Bazan, assistant professor of anthropology, Weinberg College; faculty fellow, Buffett Institute for Global Affairs

Doug Kiel, associate professor of history, NAIS minor coordinator, TGS NAIS cluster director, Weinberg College

Douglas Medin, professor emeritus of psychology, Weinberg College

Eli Suzukovich III, assistant professor of instruction, environmental policy and culture, and anthropology, Weinberg College

Elizabeth Hurd, professor and chair of religious studies, professor of political science, Weinberg College

Elsbeth Geiger, visiting assistant professor of anthropology, Weinberg College; Curator Path Research Scientist Negaunee Integrative Research Center, Field Museum of Natural History

Erin Delaney, professor of law, Pritzker School of Law

Eva Flying, President, Chief Dull Knife College

Gregory Phillips II, assistant professor of medical social sciences and preventive medicine, Feinberg School of Medicine

Hirokazu Miyazaki, Kay Davis professor of anthropology, Weinberg College

Jasmine Gurneau, director of Native American and Indigenous Affairs, Office of Community Enrichment, Office of the Provost

Jeff Feng, postdoctoral scholar, Northwestern Argonne Institute for Scientific and Engineering, Manoomin Collective

Jennifer Dunn, professor, chemical and biological engineering, McCormick School of Engineering; associate director, Northwestern-Argonne Institute of Science and Engineering; director, Center for Engineering Sustainability and Resilience

Jen Young, metadata coordinator, Northwestern University Libraries; Native American and Indigenous Studies Librarian

John Low, associate professor, history department; Director, Newark Earthworks Center, Ohio State University

Jorge Coronado, professor, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Weinberg College

Josh Honn, digital humanities librarian, University Libraries

Jess Linke, associate director, Global Co-Curricular Experience, Kellogg School of Management

Josiah Hester, associate professor of interactive computing and computer science at Georgia Institute of Technology; director, Center for Advancing Responsible Computing, College of Computing, Georgia Institute of Technology; director, *Ka Moamoa* – Ubiquitous and Mobile Computing Lab

Kathleen Bickford Berzock, professor of practice, anthropology, associate director of Curatorial Affairs, Block Museum of Art

Kelly Wisecup, Arthur E Andersen Teaching and Research professor, professor of English, Weinberg College

Kimberly Marion Suiseeya, associate professor, Division of Environmental Social Systems, Duke University

Marisa Cruz Branco, curatorial associate, Block Museum of Art

Megan Baker, assistant professor, anthropology, Weinberg College

Megan Bang, James E Johnson professor of learning sciences, School of Education and Social Policy, CNAIR director

Michael Turcios, assistant professor, Department of Radio/Television/Film, School of Communication

Michelle Guittar, department head, Library, Learning and Engagement, Northwestern University Libraries

Nitasha Tamar Sharma, professor of Black Studies and Asian American Studies, Charles Deering McCormick Professor of Teaching Excellence; director of the Asian American Studies Program and co-director of the Council for Race and Ethnic Studies (2017-2025), Weinberg College

Nivedita Arora, Allen K and Johnnie Cordell Breed Junior Professor of Design; assistant professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and CS department, McCormick School of Engineering

Niyo Moraza-Keeswood, senior assistant director of admissions, Native American and Indigenous student outreach

Patrick Eccles, senior associate director, Global Learning Office

Patty Loew, professor emeritus, Medill School of Journalism

Raphael Wahwassuck, tribal council member of the Potawatomi Prairie Band Nation

Reynaldo A. Morales, assistant professor, Medill School of Journalism

Rose Miron, vice president, research and education, The Newberry Library

S.B. West, associate professor of instruction, gender and sexuality studies, Weinberg College

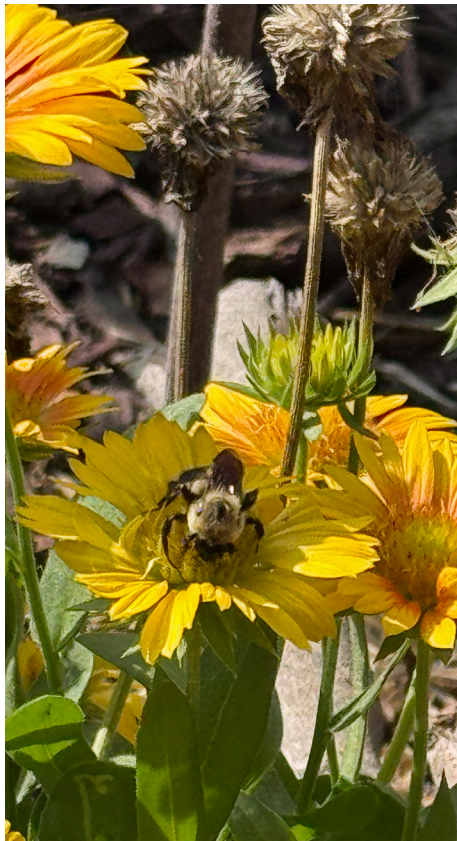
Sam Carter, postdoctoral scholar, Northwestern Argonne Institute for Scientific and Engineering, Manoomin Collective

Stephanie Fryberg, professor of psychology, Weinberg College; director of Research for Indigenous Social action and Equity Center (RISE Center)

Stephen Hersh, lecturer, Medill School of Journalism

Teagan Harris, Terra Foundation Engagement Fellow, Block Museum of Art

William M. Miller, professor emeritus, chemical and biological engineering, McCormick School of Engineering



Pictured is the Ethnopharmacology Garden outside of the CNAIR house, curated by Dr. Eli Suzukovich III (Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa/Cree) cultivated over the past few years with Native and medicinal plants. Over the past few decades, Eli has played an important role in cultivating award winning Native gardens around the Chicagoland area for many organizations including the American Indian Center and Gichigamiin Indigenous Nations Museum. The garden has been a welcome addition to the CNAIR community and has been an essential pedagogical tool for Suzukovich's courses in the Program for Environmental Policy and Culture (EPC). This past spring, Suzukovich taught a course titled Introduction to Ethnopharmacology where students engaged with the garden and Native plants around the area.



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