“Respect for all life is the foundation.”
The Iroquois, Great Law of Peace
The Great Law of Peace, 1090 C.E., is the oral constitution of the Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy. According to several historians, the democratic ideals of the Great Law of Peace, beginning with, “We the people, in order to form a union, to establish peace, equity and order...” provided a significant inspiration to the framers of the United States Constitution. The U.S. Congress passed a Concurrent Resolution in 1988 specifically recognizing the influence of the Iroquois Constitution on the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights.