Did You Know…November is Native American Heritage Month?

**November is Native American Heritage Month**, a time to pay tribute and acknowledge the many contributions that Native people have made to America. The first inhabitants of these lands contributed to modern day society through foods, medicine, literature, arts, common names of states and counties, and our modern day governmental structure.
Lesson Plans & Resources

We've added even more resources!

Visit our website to view our list of lesson plans and resources that teach about Thanksgiving from an Indigenous perspective.

Learn More!

Upcoming NIEA Webinars

Utilizing Data to Build Capacity of Tribal Education Departments (TEDs)

November 19, 2019
1:30-3pm CT

Register!

NIEA Foster Care Webinar

November 20, 2019
2-3pm ET

Register!

Mark your calendars for our December 2019 webinars!

Shape the Future for Your Students: Teaching About the 2020 Census

NIEA Book Club: "There, There" by Tommy Orange

Educator Initiative Webinar & Collaborative Working Session
December 5, 2019
1-2pm ET

Join NIEA in partnership with the U.S. Census Bureau as we highlight the U.S. Census Bureau’s Statistics in Schools (SIS) program.

Register!

December 2, 2019
2-3pm ET

Join NIEA and guest speaker, Tommy Orange, as we discuss his New York Times best-selling novel, "There, There".

Register!

December 12, 2019
1-2:15pm ET

Join NIEA and TNTP to engage in a conversation with NIEA, and discuss all things Educator Initiative.

Register!

NIEA’S Program Team at Work

Handbook of Research on Teachers of Color

Call for Teacher Testimonies

Several chapters include:

- Recruitment;
- Preparation;
- Mentorship;
- Policy;
- Human Resource Development & Induction;
- Professional Development;
- Pedagogical & Leadership Practices;
- Educational Impact;
- Minority-Serving Institutions;
- Intersectionality; and
- Retention.

In partnership with the Handbook of Research on Indigenous Teachers & Teachers of Color, NIEA is putting out a call for Teacher Testimonies from Native teachers in Indian Country to comment on a chapter focusing on a specific area of the teaching profession.

Warrior Spirit Project

The Library of Congress, in collaboration with the National Indian Education Association, partnered with KAIROS Canada to become certified facilitators of the Kairos Blanket Exercise.

NIEA Indigenous Empowerment and Resilience Project (NIERP)
Native Language Immersion Model

NIEA is currently working on a project with the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) to build capacity for both improving and creating Native Language Immersion Programs in schools across the United States. NIEA will undertake this work by collaborating with local Native education partners that have a deep level of knowledge and expertise about Native education at the state level. Additionally, NIEA will be holding Language Convenings within target states to gather as many stakeholders together as possible, including parents, tribal leaders, school principals, superintendents, teachers, and students.

The goal of this project is to develop a model of a Native Language Immersion Program that will employ best practices from our research, as well as strategies to mitigate any potential challenges of pitfalls.

We will be addressing two key questions:

- What is the current status of your Native Language Immersion program?
Native Youth Community Project (NYCP)

The National Indian Education Association (NIEA), Communities in Schools Mid-America, Inc. (CIS-MA), Anadarko Public Schools (APS), and Wichita and Affiliated Tribes of Oklahoma are working together to address school readiness barriers experienced by Native students.

The goal of the project, "Tribal Communities in Schools: An Integrated School Support Model for Serving Native Students", is to dramatically improve outcomes for Native students by implementing a community-wide integrated student support approach that provides academic, social, and other supports that ensure college and career readiness, and lifelong success.

NIEA State Engagement

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) has provided an opportunity for tribes and states to support tribal sovereignty in education and create positive and inclusive learning environments for Native students. The National Indian Education Association (NIEA) is supporting Native communities by providing technical support and resources as they build and strengthen relationships among Native education leaders, states, and allied stakeholders. Our collective efforts serve one goal—provide opportunities for Native students to thrive in the classroom and beyond.

NIEA’s state strategies include: (1) focused attention and monitoring of education issues to engage states with high Native populations and (2) providing resources, technical assistance, and training to Native education advocates to build successful partnerships between communities and state governments.

NIEA has identified several priority states within which to begin this work, including: Alaska, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, and Wisconsin.

For more information, contact Rusty Creed Brown,
NIEA Events Across Indian Country

November 13-15, 2019
Hinkley, MN
Through the McKnight Foundation, NIEA is looking to partner with established community coalitions to enhance/support the Native Education Landscape in the state of Minnesota.

November 18, 2019
Oklahoma State Capitol
Oklahoma City, OK
NIEA will be involved with this planning meeting to support objectives related to the Gates Foundation Project in support of building the capacity of tribal education departments.

November 19-20, 2019
El Reno, OK
NIEA will be providing a 2-day workshop that will include the blanket exercise and trauma training to the El Reno Public Schools.

November 20-22, 2019
Albuquerque, NM
Through the Gates Foundation Grant, NIEA is looking to collaborate and support Native Educational systems and Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) implementation in the state of New Mexico.

December 3-5, 2019
Hotel Albuquerque
Albuquerque, NM
This project is an element of the BIE Language Immersion grant to support building the capacity of BIE schools and tribally-controlled schools to enhance their language programs.
Oklahoma Council of Indian Education (OCIE) Annual Conference

December 8-10, 2019
Grand Lake Casino
Shawnee, OK
As part of the Gates Foundation Grant, NIEA is partnering with OCIE at its annual conference to support our Oklahoma partner through advocacy and community engagement of Indian education issues. NIEA has our own strand during the conference.

February 4-6, 2020
Washington, D.C.
Head to the Hill with NIEA to learn from national experts and meet with congressional staff to advocate for the tools and resources necessary for Native students to succeed in the classroom and beyond.

Program Updates in Indian Country

2020 Junior Fellows Summer Intern Program

The Library of Congress is seeking applicants for its 2020 Junior Fellows Summer Intern Program. This is a 10-week paid fellowship for undergraduate and graduate students interested in learning more about the work done at the largest library in the world. The deadline to apply is Friday, Dec. 20.

For more information contact juniorfellows@loc.gov

Visit the LOC website

Culture-Based Education Looks Like This Wellness Program for Native Youth

This event, Journey to Discovery and Wellness hosted by NIEA, was geared to middle-school-aged youth. This event offered activities and lessons to encourage healthy choices for holistic wellness and academics. Healthy lifestyles and self-acceptance are particularly important for Native youth, who experience the highest rate of suicide among 15- to 24-year-olds in the U.S., elevated exposure to violence, and high rates of addiction and unmet mental health needs.

Read the full article!
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