

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY

WRITING, SINGING, AND
SHAPING THE FUTURE:
INDIGENOUS FILM, ART, AND
PERFORMANCE

OCTOBER 9, 2023

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
UNION BALLROOM
Manhattan, Kansas

k-state.edu/indigenous-alliance

KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY
Indigenous Faculty & Staff Alliance

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY

WRITING, SINGING, AND SHAPING THE FUTURE: INDIGENOUS FILM, ART, AND PERFORMANCE

8:15 A.M

COFFEE AND BREAKFAST

9:00 A.M - 9:30 A.M

INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME

Opening Song

Land Acknowledgement

Color Guard: The National Society of Pershing Rifles G-7

Blake Flanders, President of the Kansas Board of Regents

LaVerne Bitsie-Baldwin (Diné), Co-Chair of the K-State Indigenous Faculty and Staff Alliance; Director of the Multicultural Engineering Program, Kansas State University

Alex Red Corn (Osage), Co-Chair of the K-State Indigenous Faculty and Staff Alliance; Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership, Kansas State University; Executive Director of the Kansas Association for Native American Education

Aimee Krauss (Ioway Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska), ASL Interpreter

9:30 A.M - 10:20 A.M

KEYNOTE AND Q & A: ARIGON STARR (KICKAPOO TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA)

Title: *Arigon Starr: Storyteller For Life*

Introduction: Jennifer Bonilla (Kiowa-Apache Tribe of Oklahoma), Lawrence Public Schools and Doctoral Student in Educational Leadership at Kansas State University



Arigon Starr is an award-winning musician, actor and playwright, plus a renowned comic book creator and book illustrator. She has toured as a musician and actor, with her plays commissioned by theatre production companies such as Native Voices at the Autry in Los Angeles, Mixed Blood Theater in Minneapolis and Oklahoma City's Oklahoma Indian Theater Company. Arigon's comic *Super Indian* was created as an audio theater production and became two graphic novels to be followed by *Super Indian Volume Three*.

A former Tulsa Artist Fellow, she teamed with fellow alumna, Cherokee author Traci Sorell as the illustrator for the book *The Contenders*, published by Penguin/Random House/Kokila Books. This fall, Arigon will be featured in the national broadcast of the PBS series, *Native America* Season Two. She is an enrolled member of the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma, in addition to SAG-AFTRA and Actors' Equity. She is based in Los Angeles, CA.

Super Indian and *The Contenders* are for sale next to the registration table.

10:30 A.M - 11:20 A.M

KEYNOTE AND Q & A: DUSTIN TAHMAKHERA (COMANCHE)

Title: *Creative Natives: Performing Futurity Now*

Introduction: **McKenna Moten**, K-State Theatre major, Performance/Directing Emphasis
Nikéla Reed, K-State Theatre major, Performance Emphasis



Born in the Comanche Nation capital of Lawton, Oklahoma, **Dustin Tahmahkera** is a parent of four, playwright of Comanche-centric theatre, and professor of Native American cultural studies at the University of Oklahoma. His books include *Tribal Television: Viewing Native Peoples in Sitcoms* (University of North Carolina Press) and *Cinematic Comanches: The Lone Ranger in the Media Borderlands* (University of Nebraska Press). He recently consulted on Hulu's feature film *Prey*, interviewed for Ken Burns' new PBS film *The American*

Buffalo, and co-wrote and narrated the TED-Ed film about his ancestor and Chief Quanah Parker. Tahmahkera's short play 9-1-1 COMANCHERÍA, starring a Comanche man who challenges a west Texas town's 1970s centennial celebration, received both the best play and audience favorite awards at Native Voices at the Autry's play festival in Los Angeles. 9-1-1 COMANCHERÍA is part of a series of original short plays for Tahmahkera's manuscript "Comanche vs. the World." He currently serves as a Mellon-funded Generation Now Fellow with the Autry and the Children's Theatre Company in Minneapolis for his new Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA) play *Comanche Girl on the Moon*.

11:30 A.M - 12:00 P.M

LUNCH BREAK



Food and educational commentary on lunch, Indigenous food, and healthy living by **Jason Champagne (Red Lake Band of Chippewa)**, Native Chef LLC.

Native Chef Jason Champagne is from Baldwin, Kansas and a member of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa. He is a motivational speaker and chef/owner of Native Chef LLC. Through his business, Jason strives to motivate others to get into the kitchen on a consistent basis. He is a proponent of using whole foods and easy cooking techniques to help improve an individual's overall health and well-being.

12:00 P.M - 1:15 P.M

9-1-1 COMANCHERÍA: A STAGED PLAY READING AND Q & A

This short play by Dustin Tahmahkera won the Thomas Studi Award & the Playwriting in Excellence Award for best play at *Native Voices at the Autry*, the Autry's 11th Annual Short Play Festival: *Home*.

Co-Directed by Dustin Tahmahkera and David Mackay, Associate Professor and Associate Director of the K-State Theatre Program

STARRING:

- **Arigon Starr** as **The Caller**
- **Mackenzie Brown** as **The Operator** - Mackenzie is a sophomore dual major in theatre and psychology. She acted in the K-State Theatre production, *Exit, Pursued by Bear*, and served as assistant stage manager for *In the Next Room*.
- **Jay Garrison** (Stage Directions) - Jay is honored to have been able to help out with this piece. She is an avid lover of theatre and a firm believer that theatre can show us new things that we could have never thought possible. Please learn from and enjoy *9-1-1 COMANCHERÍA!*
- **David Mackay** and **Melissa Poll** as **Rowdy Settlers**

PRODUCTION TEAM:

- **James Davis**, Assistant Professor of Theatre, K-State - **Sound Design**
- **Melissa Neville**, K-State Department Costume Shop Manager, K-State - **Costumes**
- **Chuck Leonard** - **Props**

1:15 P.M - 1:30 P.M

BREAK AND TRANSITION TO BREAKOUTS

1:30 P.M - 2:20 P.M

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

BREAKOUT SESSIONS FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

BREAKOUT SESSION 1A:

Indigeneity in the Innovation Lab (Middle & High School Visitors Only)

Sunderland Foundation Innovation Lab in Hale Library

MODERATORS AND FACILITATORS:

- **Jahvelle Rhone**, Project Manager and Media Director, Media Development Center
- **Cheryl Bachelor Boothe**, Innovation Services Coordinator

BREAKOUT SESSION 1B:

University Greenhouse Tour

Walking tour of campus on the way to the greenhouses to see current plant research projects

MODERATORS:

- **Dr. Charlie Barden**, Professor, Director of Geyer Forestry Center
- **Adam Ahlers**, PhD, Associate Professor, Horticulture and Natural Resources

BREAKOUT SESSION 2: Indigenous Perspectives on Libraries & Data Sovereignty

Bluemont Room

MODERATOR:

- **Kelly Berry (Kiowa-Apache)**, Indigenous Initiatives Research Coordinator, K-State Department of Educational Leadership



Abigail Whitney (Choctaw)

K-State Libraries Student Ambassador and K-State McNair Scholar

Abi is a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. She is in her senior year of undergraduate studies at K-State majoring in English and Spanish. Her research on the field of Indigenous librarianship and Indigenous Data Sovereignty began during her summer search internship with the TRIO McNair Scholars Program at K-State, which culminated in a project titled "Arc of Indigenous Librarianship." She is also involved with K-State Libraries Student Ambassadors and is serving as the secretary this year. She hopes to continue researching Indigenous librarianship during her graduate studies.



Audrey Swartz (Miami)

Librarian, Manhattan Public Library

Audrey Swartz hails from the Miami Nation of Indiana, from the Banks of the Wabash River. She holds bachelor's degrees in both History, and Law, Philosophy, & Rhetoric, as well as master's degrees in both U.S. History and Library & Information Science. In addition to these impressive credentials, Audrey is also a certified archivist. Audrey has spent the last decade working for Indigenous representation across the country, using her various roles to serve her community. She is a contributing writer for the *Manhattan Mercury* and as luck would have it, she is a Manhattan Public Library Adult Services Librarian and their Readers Advisory Librarian.

BREAKOUT SESSION 3: Indigenous Animation's Ecological Aesthetics

Flint Hills Room

MODERATOR:

- **Sydnee Clubine (Kickapoo)**, K-State Sophomore in Biology, Animal Biology option



Joanna Hearne

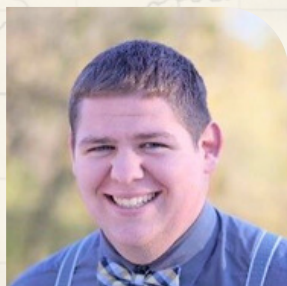
Jeanne Hoffman Smith Professor of Film and Media Studies at the University of Oklahoma

Professor Hearne's teaching and research center on Native American and global Indigenous media studies, archival recoveries of Indigenous presence in cinema history, and contemporary digital media, digital storytelling, and animation. She teaches courses on Global Indigenous Media, History of Animation, History of Documentary, the Short Film, and Westerns, as well as FMS core courses including Introduction to Film & Media, Film Theory, Film History I and II, and the Capstone.

Her books argue for the centrality of Indigenous images and image-making to American film history. She is the author of *Native Recognition: Indigenous Cinema and the Western* and *Smoke Signals: Native Cinema Rising*, and the co-editor of the collection *Refocus: The Films of Wallace Fox*. She also served as a guest editor for the May 2017 special issue of *Studies in American Indian Literatures* on "Digital Indigenous Studies: Gender, Genre and New Media" and the Winter 2021 *Journal of Cinema and Media Studies* In-Focus dossier, "Indigenous Performance Networks: Media, Community, Activism."

BREAKOUT SESSION 4: Art Gallery Talk and Showcase - Welcome to the Endean

William T. Kemper Art Gallery (2nd Floor)



Justice Catron (Cherokee)

Artist, Manhattan Arts Center Studio Manager, & K-State Alumni

Justice Catron graduated in May 2023 with a BFA in Studio Arts focusing in Ceramics. Justice currently works at the Manhattan Arts Center as the Clay Studio Manager. His previous position as an intern at the Anderson Ranch Arts Center came with an exhibition opportunity. He has also exhibited at the Chanute Art Gallery, Salina Arts Center, and The Mark A. Chapman Gallery at K-State. Born in Tahlequah, OK, his ethnic identity as a Cherokee is a paramount influence on his work. He juxtaposes this ethnicity with his outward racial identity and the struggle inherent in that opposition.

2:30 P.M - 3:20 P.M

LITTLE SOLDIER DANCE TROUPE: A SPECIAL EXHIBITION PERFORMANCE

K-State Union Courtyard - Downstairs from Ballroom



The Little Soldier Dance Troupe comes from Prairie Band Potawatomi Reservation near Mayetta, Kansas. Here they offer a small piece of their culture through song & dance & would like to thank K-State Indigenous Faculty and Staff for the invitation.

*Special thanks to Tara Mitchell (Prairie Band Potawatomi) for beaded lanyards.
Follow her @Tara.Turtle on Instagram for her latest beadwork.*

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