

Indigenous Connections Summit: Beyond the Land Acknowledgement

**Golden, Colorado
March 18-20, 2025**



Presented by

**Golden History Museum & Park
and 1st Tribal Consulting LLC**

SPONSORS



City of Golden Land Acknowledgment

We begin by acknowledging the First Peoples, the Hinono’ei (Arapaho), Tsistsistas or Tsétséhéstàhese (Cheyenne) and Núuchiú (Ute), as the stewards and relatives of this ancestral territory that was seized from them in what is now known as Golden, Colorado. With respect to their elders, past and present, we recognize the original caretakers of this land, air, and water.

We make this statement to show respect, honor the truth, and encourage more substantive, sustained action to correct the false narratives and hostile practices that seek to erase Indigenous peoples’ histories, cultures, and daily presence in a colonized world.

We commit to highlighting true stories of the people who were and are already here and to address harm, work to build trusting relationships, and engage in restorative collaboration with Native communities.

We recognize as we move forward that we must hold ourselves and each other accountable so that we can move forward with a spirit of belonging, reconciliation, and justice. We recognize that all members of the community of Golden, Colorado are needed in this work.

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

Tribal Leadership Gathering and Dinner (Invitation Only)

Golden History Museum, 923 10th St. Golden, CO 80401
5–8 pm

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

Indigenous Connections Summit: Beyond the Land Acknowledgement—Day 1

Golden Community Center, 1470 10th St., Golden, CO 80401

8–8:45 am **Check-in & Continental Breakfast**

8:45–9:15 am **Welcome and Invocation**

Steven LaPointe (Sicangu Lakota), 1st Tribal Consulting LLC, Founder and CEO,
1st Tribal Consulting LLC

Nathan Richie, Director, Golden History Museum & Park / City of Golden

9:15 am–12:15 pm Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPO) Panel Conversation

THPO travel generously underwritten by Denver Museum of Nature & Science, Studio Tectonic, and Office of Climate Action, Sustainability & Resiliency, City and County of Denver

Moderator: Steven LaPointe (Sicangu Lakota), 1st Tribal Consulting LLC, Founder and CEO, 1st Tribal Consulting LLC

Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) Members:

Amanda Hill	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer & NAGPRA Representative, Kiowa Tribe
Teanna Limpy	Director, Tribal Historic Preservation Office, Northern Cheyenne Tribe
Crystal C'Bearing	Director, Tribal Historic Preservation Office, Northern Arapaho Tribe
Alvonnia McElroy	Deputy Director, Tribal Historic Preservation Office, Northern Arapaho Tribe
Donald Little Shield	NAGPRA Coordinator, Northern Arapaho Tribe
Cassandra Atencio	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Crystal Rizzo	Director, Cultural Preservation Department, Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Fred Mosqueda	Arapaho Outreach Specialist, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma
Chester Whiteman	Cheyenne Outreach Specialist, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma
Ione Quigley	Director, Tribal Historic Preservation Office, Rosebud Sioux Tribe
Benjamin Young	Assistant, Tribal Historic Preservation Office, Rosebud Sioux Tribe
Lisa Velarde	Archivist, Cultural Affairs & Tribal Historic Preservation Office, Jicarilla Apache Tribe

12:15–12:30 pm **Break/Lunch Transition**

12:30–1:30 pm **Lunch**

1:30–2:30 pm **Keynote Speaker**
Sponsored by the Colorado Health Foundation

Dr. Tink Tinker (Wazhazhe, Osage Nation), Professor Emeritus, Iliff School of Theology

A citizen of the Osage Nation (wazhazhe), Tink Tinker is Emeritus Professor of American Indian Studies at Iliff School of Theology. As an American Indian academic teaching at a eurochristian school for training ministers, Tinker has always been committed to a scholarly endeavor that takes seriously both the liberation of Indian peoples from their historic oppression as colonized communities and the liberation of eurochristian americans, the historic colonizers and oppressors of Indian peoples, whose own history of violence has been largely suppressed.

A scholar/activist, Tinker has worked closely with both Four Winds American Indian Council in Denver and the American Indian Movement of Colorado. Under Tinker’s leadership, Four Winds worked closely with the Rocky Mountain Synod (ELCA), who eventually donated the building to Four Winds. He has published several books and nearly a hundred chapters and journal articles. One journal article of some renown, because it was about his home institution, is: “Redskin, Tanned Hide: A Book of Christian History Bound in the Flayed Skin of an American Indian: The Colonial Romance, christian Denial and the Cleansing of a christian School of Theology,” available online at the Iliff website. A follow-up article was “‘Damn it, he’s an Injun!’ Christian Murder, Colonial Wealth, and Tanned Human Skin,” The New Polis, January 21, 2019: <http://thenewpolis.com/2019/01/21/damn-it-hes-an-injun-christian-murder-colonial-wealth-and-tanned-human-skin-tink-tinker-wazhazhe-udsethe/>. Iliff is today trying to rectify its history of violence by inviting a delegation of Lenape elders to consult with the school about that history. Tink works very closely with that Lenape delegation. Tinker’s current book project is a description of the radically disparate worldviews of eurochristians and American Indians.

2:30–2:45 pm **Coffee Break/Transition**
Sponsored by Native VISA

2:45–3:45 pm Roundtable Discussions

- 1. Navigating Complexities While Developing Exhibits and Programs**
Moderator: Danielle Stephens, Senior Interpretive Specialist, Denver Art Museum

- 2. Indigenous Youth Projects**
Moderator: Nicole Cromartie, Director of Learning & Engagement, Clyfford Still Museum

- 3. NAGPRA Implementation Steps**
Moderators: Amy Gillaspie, BIA NAGPRA Assistance Program Coordinator, Archaeology Southwest & Liz Kriebel, Assistant Curator of Collections-Registrar, Littleton Museum

- 4. Working with Native Artists**
Moderator: George Curtis Levi, Southern Cheyenne Artist

- 5. Reconciling Indigenous Perspectives and Pioneer Narratives**
Moderator: Candace Bannister, Director, Tread of Pioneers Museum

- 6. Re-Indigenizing Outdoor Spaces**
Moderator: Scott Gilmore, Deputy Director, Denver Parks and Recreation

- 7. Co-Creating Exhibits and Projects with Native Communities**
Moderator: Erika Heacock, Assistant Collections Manager, Denver Museum of Nature & Science

- 8. Engaging with Local Indigenous Communities**
Moderator: Monserrat Alvarez, Bilingual Community Engagement Specialist, Boulder County Parks & Open Space

- 9. Cities and Counties Working with Tribes and Indigenous Communities**
Moderator: David Allison, History and Museum Supervisor, City and County of Broomfield

3:45–4 pm Wrap Up

4:30–7 pm *This is Native Art Exhibit Reception*
Golden History Museum, 923 10th St. Golden, CO 80401
Sponsored by Colorado Creative Industries

5:30 pm Guest Curator Talk: Danielle SeeWalker

Danielle SeeWalker is Hún̄kpap̄ña Lak̄hóta and citizen of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in North Dakota. She is a fine artist, muralist, writer, activist, and boymom of two, based in Denver, Colorado. Her visual artwork often incorporates the use of mixed media and experimentation while incorporating traditional Native American materials, scenes, and

messaging. Her artwork pays homage to her identity as a Lakǎóta wínyan (woman) and her passion to redirect the narrative to an accurate and insightful representation of contemporary Native America while still acknowledging historical events.

Alongside her passion for creating visual art, Danielle is a freelance writer and published her first book in 2020 titled, *Still Here: A Past to Present Insight of Native American People & Culture*. She is also very dedicated to staying connected and involved in her Native community and has served as a mayoral appointed City Commissioner for the Denver American Indian Commission since 2019. Danielle has also been working on a personal, passion project since 2013 with her long-time friend called The Red Road Project. The focus of the work is to document, through words and photographs, what it means to be Native American in the 21st century by capturing inspiring and positive stories of people and communities within Indian Country.

Thursday, March 20, 2025

Indigenous Connections Summit: Beyond the Land Acknowledgement—Day 2

Golden Community Center, 1470 10th St., Golden, CO 80401

8–8:45 am **Check-in & Continental Breakfast**
Sponsored by ERO Resources

8:45–9:15 am **Welcome and Invocation**

9:15–10:30 am **Concurrent Sessions**

Maintaining Relationships from a Boulder County and Broomfield County Perspective

Moving beyond consultation and equity to lasting relationships takes commitment from individuals and institutions. In Longmont, Broomfield, and Boulder, there have been efforts to focus on relationship-building between our historic tribes, current Native residents, government representatives, institutions, and individual residents. Hear from individuals whose focus is on building and maintaining relationships, and insisting that government, higher education, and institutions do the same.

Moderator: Jordan Dresser (Northern Arapaho): Curator of Collections at the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery, former Chairman of the Northern Arapaho Tribe

Fred Mosqueda (Southern Arapaho): Arapaho Language and Culture Program Coordinator for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma

Christie Yoshinaga-Itano: Right Relationship Boulder, Museum of Boulder

Jenny Diaz-Leon: Community Coordinator-Prevention through Education for the City of Longmont, Children, Youth and Families Division of Human Services, involved in the Sister City between Longmont and Northern Arapaho Wind River Reservation

Dave Allison: History and Museum Supervisor for the City and County of Broomfield, institutional partner for the Sister Cities – Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes effort

Cross-Cultural Curation: Working with Native Advisors on Exhibits and Programming

There is much to gain from cross-cultural collaboration, but how do you go about it? In this moderated panel discussion, we will have curators and Native advisors from Golden History Museum and the Longmont Museum discuss recent collaborations. What went well? What didn't go so well? How can we improve for future projects?

Moderator: Stephanie Gilmore, Curator, Golden History Museum & Park / City of Golden

Ann Macca, Curator of Education, Longmont Museum

Jared Thompson, Curator of Exhibits, Longmont Museum

Raelene Whiteshield, (Cheyenne-Arapaho / Kiowa), Co-Curator *We Are Still Here*

Erlidawn Roy, (Meskwaki / Anishnaabe / Laguna Pueblo / Isleta Pueblo), Co-Curator *We Are Still Here*

Tara Deer-Gover, (Oklahoma Kickapoo / Otoe-Missouria), Co-Curator *We Are Still Here*

Kristina Maldonado Bad Hand, (Sicangu / Cherokee), Graphic Designer / Co-Curator *We Are Still Here*

Danielle SeeWalker, (Hunkpapa Lakota & Citizen of Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North Dakota), Artist/Curator *This is Native Art*

Ruth Wilson, Administration & Partnerships Director, Colorado Creative Industries

10:30–10:45 am Break

10:45 am–12 pm Panel Conversation: Learning from Mistakes

Institutional missteps during cross-cultural projects can create lasting damaging effects with Tribal partners. During this candid conversation, hear about how the Denver Museum of Nature &

Science and History Colorado learned from serious mistakes and how they responded to rebuild relationships and trust.

Chris Patrello, Assistant Curator of Anthropology and NAGPRA Officer, Denver Museum of Nature & Science

George Curtis Levi, Artist (Southern Cheyenne)

Sam Bock, Director of Interpretation and Publications, History Colorado

Shannon Voirol, Director of Affiliates and Traveling Exhibits, History Colorado

Fred Mosqueda (Cheyenne and Arapaho), Arapaho Outreach Specialist, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma

Chester Whiteman (Southern Cheyenne), Cheyenne Outreach Specialist, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma

12–1:30 pm Working Lunch: Developing a Native American Engagement Plan

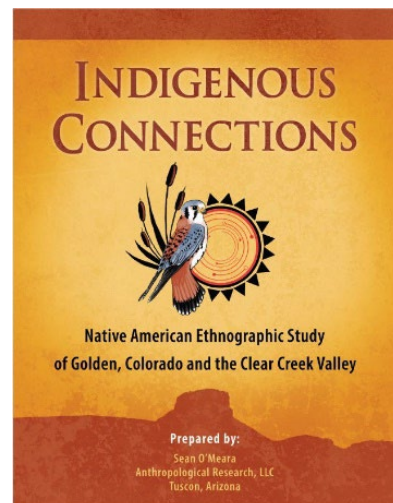
Moderator: Steven LaPointe (Sicangu Lakota), 1st Tribal Consulting LLC, Founder and CEO, 1st Tribal Consulting LLC

1:30–2 pm Conclusion & Closing Ceremony

Ethnographic Study

Download the 2022 publication *Indigenous Connections: Native American Ethnographic Study of Golden, Colorado and the Clear Creek Valley*.

Scan the QR code and use the “Additional Media” link at the very bottom of the linked page to download the free PDF. Alternatively, visit GoldenHistory.org/ethnography.



Sponsors

Anonymous donors

City of Golden, Colorado

Colorado Creative Industries

Colorado Health Foundation

Denver Museum of Nature & Science

El Pomar Foundation

ERO Resources

Golden Community Center

Native Visa

Office of Climate Action, Sustainability & Resiliency, City and County of Denver

Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD)

Studio Tectonic

Thank You!

Dave Allison	Philip Gover	Erlidawn Roy
Monserrat Alvarez	Erika Heacock	Vanya Scott
Cassandra Atencio	Jon Hedlund	Danielle SeeWalker
Kristina Maldonado Bad Hand	Valerie Herrera	Veronica Shaver
Candace Bannister	Amanda Hill	Doug Skiba
Libby Barbee	Britton Kang	Danielle Stephens
Patricia Barela Rivera	Dr. Michele Koons	Jared Thompson
Josh Blanchard	Liz Kriebel	Dr. Tink Tinker
Sam Bock	Steven LaPointe	Sarah Vaine
Crystal C'Bearing	George Curtis Levi	Scott Vargo
Nicole Cromartie	Teanna Limpy	Lisa Velarde
Marcus Cyrus	Donald Little Shield	Shannon Voirol
Tara Deer-Gover	Ann Macca	Aron Wahkinney
Jenny Diaz-Leon	Ramona Martinez	Kathleen Weller Horky
Jordan Dresser	Jennifer Mayberry	Chester Whiteman
Kathleen Eaton	Alvonia McElroy	Raelene Whiteshield
Seth Frankel	Jacinthe Messier	Ruth Wilson
Jesse Gagnon	Fred Mosqueda	Christie Yoshinaga-Itano
Amy Gillaspie	Chris Patrello	Benjamin Young
Scott Gilmore	Ione Quigley	Emily Zinn
Stephanie Gilmore	Don Ragona	
Golden City Council	Emma Ragona	
Golden Community Center	Nathan Richie	
	Crystal Rizzo	
	Ellen Roth	