



A dancer performs at the Santa Fe Indian Market. (Photo by TOURISM Santa Fe)

Seeing Indiana through Southwestern Eyes

By: Anne King, Culinary Job Training Employment Specialist

Have you ever thought about the people who came before us and inhabited the space beneath our feet? The last time I had to learn about it was in social studies in elementary school.

I have always been fascinated with the Southwest and the Native American population. Part of my interest comes from my upbringing. My dad was Cherokee; he was adopted at birth in Oklahoma, and his parents (my grandparents) moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Since I was adopted, I am not of Cherokee descent (I happen to be 90% Irish; go figure!), but my love for the Southwest has been in my blood since I was a child. When I was young, my

summers consisted of packing the Buick station wagon (we called it the Green Machine) and taking long car trips with my three brothers out to see our artist grandparents in Santa Fe. I had the opportunity to see pueblo life and attend ceremonial dances while visiting with my grandparents and their friends of Native American descent. I was so attracted to the colorful clothing and jewelry, the rituals, and the food of the Southwest in particular. The countryside – red rock, desert, mountains – was breathtaking for me.

Growing up in Indiana, it isn't quite as obvious that we all sit on Native American land. Most of the tribes in Indiana were forced to leave during the 1800s, per the federal [Indian Removal Act](#), and were relocated to Oklahoma. You can see references to our Native American history in the names of our towns, cities, streets, rivers, and monuments named after different tribes. We happen to have an amazing Native American museum, the Eiteljorg, right here in Indianapolis. But mostly, during our daily lives it goes unnoticed that we sit on very rich history and land that belonged to others.

While not set in Indiana, I loved the book [Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI](#), about a series of murders committed in the Osage Nation in Oklahoma after oil was discovered on tribal land. [Killers of the Flower Moon is coming out as a movie](#) on October 20th and I'm looking forward to seeing it using my DEI Experience funds.** Let me know if you'd like to join me.

You can find out more about Native American tribes and presence in Indiana today [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#)* and in the Events section, below.

**Fun fact: Second Helpings delivered meals to the American Indian Center in 2022!*

*** See the Sept ABIDE newsletter for more info on the DEI Experience funds and how to access your \$50 allotment before June 30.*

Observances & Celebrations

LGBT History Month

Equality Forum coordinates LGBT History Month, which celebrates the achievements of 31 lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender icons. Each day in October, a new LGBT icon is featured with a video, bio, bibliography, downloadable images, and other resources. To see this year's list of icons, visit [here](#).

Indigenous Peoples' Day – October 9

Usually held on the second Monday of October, Indigenous Peoples' Day recognizes the Indigenous communities that have lived in the Americas for thousands of years. In 2021, President Biden became the first US president to formally commemorate the day with [this proclamation](#). While the day is not a federal holiday, at least a dozen states (and over 130 cities, including Indianapolis) have adopted it as such in place of Columbus Day. Learn more [here](#) and [here](#).

Our Minds, Our Rights: World Mental Health Day – October 10

The World Health Organization promotes [World Mental Health Day](#) as an opportunity for people and communities to unite behind the theme “Mental Health is a universal human right” to improve knowledge, raise awareness, and drive actions that promote and protect everyone’s mental health. As Second Helpings employees, we have access to our Employee Assistance Program (EAP) through Magellan for more mental health resources; [log in here](#) or call 1-800-356-7089 to access resources.



Subcommittee Updates

Education

We've officially launched the DEI Experience. Our ABIDE Library is officially registered with the Little Free Library network and we look forward to participating in their free resource giveaways. We've promoted recent opportunities to see noted authors (whose work we've discussed) speak locally and will discuss Indigenous peoples' past and present in our optional monthly staff conversation. **Add your voice and ideas to the planning by joining our next committee meeting on Monday, Oct 9 at 11 am in the board room!**

Community Engagement

We organized a day for staff to volunteer at Horizon House in August and this rewarding experience has us wondering what other amazing organizations are near us. With this in mind, we are exploring different ways to engage with our immediate neighbors. Want to be part of the brainstorming? **Talk to Emily or Keion about joining the next meeting!**

Staff Insights



Why I Read the *Indianapolis Recorder*

By: Nora Spitznogle, Senior Director of Programs

Did you know that the [Indianapolis Recorder](#) weekly newspaper is the longest running African-American newspaper in Indiana and the fourth longest in the country?

The *Indianapolis Recorder* started as a two-page church bulletin in 1895 and morphed into a four-page newspaper in 1899. In the earlier years, the *Recorder* urged their readers to be proud of their heritage; in the 1920s and 1930s, the paper pressed for the end of discrimination and spoke out against the Ku Klux Klan. During WWII, the *Recorder* supported the war effort and supported NAACP's push to integrate the armed services. Through the 1950s and 1960s, the paper reported on the civil rights movement, Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King, Jr.

The *Indianapolis Recorder* is locally owned and continues to publish articles on local issues, including hunger and homelessness, church activities, events, and political editorials. They are hosting a debate of the mayoral candidates focused on issues facing the Black community on October 8 at 5 pm; it will be livestreamed on their [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) pages and broadcast on Radio One.

I look forward to reading the paper each week because of the focus on local issues and events and I learn something every time. I hope you'll join me; you can find the weekly copies of the *Indianapolis Recorder* in the ABIDE library.

Upcoming Events

Optional Staff Discussion

October 25 | 12:00 PM



Location: Board Room

Whose land do you live on and how do you see Native American culture in and around your spaces? Join us as we watch a video and discuss these questions together.



Indigenous Peoples' Day Community Celebration

Saturday, October 7 | 10am-5pm

Eiteljorg Museum, 500 W Washington St, Indianapolis, 46204

The Eiteljorg celebrates the vibrancy, resilience, and immeasurable impact Native peoples have made across the world. Enjoy performances, storytelling, beadwork and weaving demonstrations, food, activities, and more. Saturday's events are included with regular admission, and members get in free. See schedule [here](#).

Indigenous Peoples' Day FREE DAY

Monday, October 9 | 10am-5pm

Eiteljorg Museum, 500 W Washington St, Indianapolis, 46204

The Eiteljorg will offer free admission to the museum for everyone to enjoy cultural performances, art-making demonstrations, and in-gallery programming. More info [here](#).

Images from Eiteljorg Indian Market and Festival, above, and previous Eiteljorg Día de Muertos celebration, below



Día de Muertos Community Celebration

Saturday, October 21 10am-7pm

Free. Experience Dia de Muertos/Day of the Dead at the Eiteljorg with partners Arte Mexicano en Indiana and Nopal Cultural. More info [here](#).

Resources



Article:

[A Tour of Black Excellence in Indianapolis](#) covers BUTTER, Indiana Avenue, Crispus Attucks, and much more in this invigorating and engaging article from Forbes.



Watch:

Named [one of the 25 Coolest Film Festivals in the World](#), the Heartland International Film Festival runs October 5-15 and will show [120+ mesmerizing movies](#)* around Indianapolis. Heartland was founded in 1991 with the mission to curate, promote and celebrate thoughtful and engaging films from diverse perspectives. (race, socioeconomic status, ability)

****Any of these movies would be great options for your DEI Experience funds!***



Listen:

[TED Talk by Valarie Kaur: Three Lessons of Revolutionary Love in a Time of Rage](#) (race, socioeconomic status, ability)



Explore:

[Banned Books Week](#) is October 1-7. Celebrate the freedom to read and find a new read by browsing [this list of banned and challenged books](#). (race, socioeconomic status, ability)

More A.B.I.D.E. News

Keeping up with the Library: an ABIDE Library Update

By: Caitlin Bartnik, Hunger Relief Manager

I'm absolutely blown away by the quality and variety of books that everyone has been donating to the ABIDE Little Free Library. Thank you! I foresee even more great books in our future.

This month we completed the registration process to receive our official Little Free Library charter. This means we are part of the Little Free Library network and have access to many of their learning materials and opportunities to gain free resources and books.

The library checkout process remains the same as the last time we shared at an All Staff Meeting: books are free to borrow, no paperwork needed. Merely take the book home and enjoy.

If you'd like to donate a book, place it in the donation basket on the top shelf of the ABIDE Little Free Library or leave it in Caitlin's office with a note indicating that it's a donation.

Once the break room opens, the library will be moving to the cafeteria area in the hopes of being more accessible for everyone.

I hope you are comfortable and excited to take advantage of this free, easy-to-use resource.



A.B.I.D.E. News

Have an idea for the newsletter? Let Heather know by [emailing](#) her or using this [form](#).