

NEWS RELEASE

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Penn Museum Honors Indigenous Peoples of the Americas



A monthlong festival of virtual happenings.

CULTUREFEST!

APRIL: Celebration of Indigenous Peoples of the Americas

Image: Guadalupe de la Cruz Rios (Huichol) created this yarn painting of a multi-colored sun with serpent rays. Object: 98-25-1.

PHILADELPHIA — The Penn Museum honors the contributions of Indigenous Peoples of the Americas in April with [CultureFest!](#), which offers virtual activities and events for all ages:

Tuesday, April 6 at 11:00 am ET | [Global Voyagers: Expedition to Indigenous North America](#)

In a highly interactive virtual tour, everyone is welcome to see some of the Museum's oldest artifacts and hear stories about the world's origins that have been passed down through generations. **FREE.** [Register here.](#)

Tuesday, April 6 at 1:00 pm ET | [At-Home Anthro LIVE: Let's Play Indigenous Games!](#)

Families with children ages 5-12 learn about Indigenous games from North, Central, and South America, and how similar games are still played today. **FREE.** [Register here.](#)

Tuesday, April 13 at 1:00 pm ET | [At-Home Anthro LIVE: Escalonada Symbols](#)

For many cultures like the Aztec and Maya, the greca escalonada (or stepped fret, a symbol found in Indigenous art) represented the perfect harmony of the universe. Kids ages 5-12 can draw their own greca escalonada to use in household decor. **FREE.** [Register here.](#)

Friday, April 16 at 6:00 pm ET | [Our Language Sits Alive Inside of Us](#)

Artist & Curator Talk with Dr. X'unei Lance Twitchell and Dr. Lucy Fowler Williams

In a virtual conversation that highlights Indigenous perspectives, Associate Curator Lucy Fowler Williams, American Section, and language professor and mixed media artist X'unei Lance Twitchell will discuss his newest art piece, *Our Language Sits Alive Inside of Us*, now on view in the [Native American Voices: The People—Here and Now](#) exhibition. Primarily an homage to Tlingit language speakers, ancestors, and future speakers, this new artwork sheds light on how amplifying traditional cultural languages is helping to heal and push against erasure of Alaska's Native peoples. \$5. [Register here](#).

[Native American Voices](#) presents contemporary topics that are of importance to Native peoples, including language loss and revitalization, identity, representation, and ongoing activism. *Our Language Sits Alive Inside of Us* will be on display through 2023.

Monday, April 19 at 6:00 pm ET | [Beyond Land Acknowledgment](#)

In an online roundtable, members of *Natives at Penn* (formerly *Six Directions*, Penn's Native student organization that increases Indigenous awareness and visibility) discuss ways to expand land recognition. **FREE**.

Tuesday, April 20 at 1:00 pm ET | [At-Home Anthro LIVE: Aztec Symbols and Stamps](#)

Kids ages 5-12 create a geometric design found on an Aztec stamp. **FREE**. [Register here](#).

Wednesday, April 21 at 4:00 pm ET | [World Wonders: Exploring Mesoamerican Frescoes](#)

After school, kids ages 5-12 safely globetrot with an interactive workshop that examines frescoes (paintings on buildings) and artifacts from Mexico and Central America. Local artist Cesar Viveros will teach attendees about preparing the surface before painting and kids design their own fresco.

Pay-what-you-wish. [Register here](#).

Thursday, April 21 at 4:00 pm ET | Living Room Lecture: Preserving Indigenous Language

In a [Facebook live](#) happy hour, creator of the [Quechua Language Program](#), Penn Professor Americo Mendoza-Mori, talks about the most widely spoken pre-Columbian language family of the Americas. **FREE**.

The full *CultureFest!* lineup, including activities families can do at any time can be found [here](#).

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About the Penn Museum

Since 1887, the Museum has been transforming our understanding of the human experience. Dedicated to building connections between cultures, the Museum welcomes everyone to uncover the past, gain an understanding of our shared humanity, and find one's own place in the arc of human history. The Penn Museum is open Tuesday–Sunday, 10:00 AM–5:00 PM with safety guidelines. For more information, visit www.penn.museum, call 215.898.4000 or follow [@PennMuseum](#) on social media.