



NATIVE
AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH

Deb Haaland



"Immigrants and NATIVE AMERICANS have MADE OUR COUNTRY what it is today, and if we've LEARNED ANYTHING through these HUNDREDS OF YEARS - it should be that we can ACCOMPLISH MORE WHEN WE WORK TOGETHER."

Did you Know?

Born in 1960 in Arizona, Haaland is a member of the Laguna Pueblo Native American people. Haaland said that one reason she entered politics is because she wants more Native Americans to get out and vote. Haaland started work as a volunteer and eventually joined the 2012 campaign for Barack Obama. In 2018 Haaland launched a campaign to win New Mexico's 1st congressional district and she was also part of the wave of new women who joined the House of Representatives during the 2018 elections. In 2021, President Biden nominated Haaland to become a member of his Cabinet and she became the First Native American Cabinet Secretary after being confirmed by the U.S. Senate. She will lead the Interior Department as Secretary and will be responsible for overseeing the US's land, sea and natural resources, which includes national parks and public lands.

Ben Nighthorse Campbell



"No longer will NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE be BOTTLED UP in COLLECTIONS and HIDDEN FROM so many PEOPLE in the world who WISH TO SHARE THEM."

Did you Know?

In 1992, Ben Nighthorse Campbell, a rancher, teacher, judo champion, and jewelry designer became the first Native American to serve in the U.S. Senate in more than 60 years. He was born April 13, 1933, in Auburn, California, the son of Albert Valdez Campbell, who was part Northern Cheyenne Indian, and Mary Vierra, a Portuguese immigrant. In 1950, he dropped out of high school and joined the U.S. Air Force, where he served in the Korean War. Another passion of Campbell's was Judo. In 1963, he won a gold medal at the Pan-American Games and, in 1964, he was captain of the U.S. Olympic Judo Team at the Tokyo Olympic Games. Campbell entered the world of politics by chance. In 1986, Campbell decided to run for the U.S. House of Representatives from Colorado's third district. During his three terms as a U.S. representative, Campbell acted as a spokesman for all Native Americans. He cosponsored legislation to establish the Museum of the American Indian at the Smithsonian Institution.

Charlene Teters



"Often, people think about **NATIVE AMERICANS** as we were **ENVISIONED** at the **TURN OF THE CENTURY**.

If we're not walking around in buckskin and fringe, MIMICKING THE STEREOTYPE in DRESS and ART FORM, we're NOT SEEN AS REAL. NATIVE AMERICANS ARE HERE, and we are CONTEMPORARY people, yet WE ARE very much INFORMED and CONNECTED TO OUR HISTORY."

Did you Know?

Charlene Teters is a Native American artist, educator, and lecturer. She was born on April 25, 1953 in Spokane Washington near the Spokane Indian Reservation. Her paintings and art installations have been featured in over 21 major exhibitions, commissions, and collections. She is a member of the Spokane Tribe, and her Spokane name is Slum Tah. Teters has been active in opposing the use of Native American mascots and other imagery in sports since 1989. She is a founding board member of the National Coalition on Racism in Sports and the Media (NCRSM). Her activist-career began with a dispute with the University of Illinois over their use of a stereotyped image of an American Indian for the school's sports mascot. She picketed sports events and launched a national debate about the appropriateness of this practice by sports and media. Teters is presently a professor at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Ira Hayes



**"I AM NOT a
HERO but the
BRAVE MEN
WHO DIED
DESERVED this
HONOR."**

Did you Know?

Ira Hamilton Hayes was a Akimel O'odham Native American and a United States Marine during World War II. Hayes was an enrolled member of the Gila River Indian Community, located in Pinal and Maricopa counties in Arizona. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps Reserve on August 26, 1942, and, after recruit training, Hayes volunteered to become a Paramarine. He fought in the Bougainville and Iwo Jima campaigns in the Pacific War. Hayes was generally known as one of the six flag raisers immortalized in the iconic photograph Raising the Flag on Iwo Jima by photographer Joe Rosenthal. Hayes did not feel worthy of his fame. He suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder and descended into alcoholism. On November 10, 1954, he attended the dedication of the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, which was modeled after the photograph of Hayes and five other Marines raising the second flag on Iwo Jima.

Allan Houser



"When I'm **CREATING something, I'm there with the **CLAY**, and after a while something **BEGINS TO BUILD**. One of the **GOOD THINGS** is **CREATING SOMETHING** that **YOU'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE**."**

Did you Know?

Allan Capron Houser or Haozous was a Chiricahua Apache sculptor, painter and book illustrator born in Oklahoma. He was one of the most renowned Native American painters and Modernist sculptors of the 20th century. Born in 1914 to Sam and Blossom Haozous on the family farm near Apache, Oklahoma was the first member of his family from the Warm Springs Chiricahua Apache tribe born outside of captivity since Geronimo's 1886 surrender and the tribe's imprisonment by the U.S. government. The tribe had been led in battle by the spiritual leader Geronimo, who would later rely on his grandnephew Sam Haozous, Allan's father, to serve as his translator. In 1934, Houser left Oklahoma at the age of 20 to study at Dorothy Dunn's Art Studio at the Santa Fe Indian School in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Houser's work can be found at the Smithsonian Museum of American Art, the National Museum of the American Indian, the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C., and in numerous major museum collections throughout North America, Europe and Japan. Additionally, Houser's Offering of the Sacred Pipe is on display at United States Mission to the United Nations in New York City.

Jim Thorpe



**"I am NO MORE PROUD
of my CAREER as an
athlete than I am of
the fact that I am a
DIRECT DESCENDENT of
that NOBLE WARRIOR
[Chief Black Hawk]."**

Did you Know?

Jim Thorpe was born circa May 28, 1887, near current-day Prague, Oklahoma. A child of Sac and Fox and Potawatomi Indian bloodlines, as well as French and Irish roots, he was given the name Wa-Tho-Huk, meaning "Bright Path," but christened Jacobus Franciscus Thorpe. Thorpe learned to hunt and trap prey at an early age, developing his legendary endurance via extensive excursions through Indian Territory. Thorpe joined a track-and-field practice session on campus. Clad in his work clothes, he launched himself over a 5'9" high bar to break the school record, catching the attention of coach Pop Warner. Starring as a halfback, place kicker, punter and defender, Thorpe led his team to a surprise victory over top-ranked Harvard in November 1911, and fueled a blowout of West Point a year later. Jim Thorpe won the pentathlon and decathlon at the 1912 Olympics before his gold medals were revoked on a technicality. Thorpe played professional baseball and football, and sought an acting career after retiring from sports.

John Herrington



**"HONOR and RESPECT
people of ALL ETHNICITIES;
we're all on this TEAM
TOGETHER and have the
SAME GOAL. HONOR them
for WHO THEY ARE and
WHAT THEY'RE CAPABLE OF
DOING and WHAT THEY
BELIEVE IN."**

Did you Know?

John Herrington, a member of the Chickasaw tribe, was born in Wetumka, Oklahoma. After an unsuccessful attempt at college, John worked on a survey team in the mountains of Colorado. There he found that he had an aptitude for math and for solving real-life problems. He returned to college at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and received his degree in applied math in 1983. Having always wanted to be a pilot, Herrington joined the Navy and received his commission from Aviation Officer Candidate School in March of 1984 and was designated a Naval Aviator in 1985. In 1995 Herrington received a master's degree in aeronautical engineering from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School. NASA selected Herrington in 1996 as an astronaut. Herrington was a member of the sixteenth Shuttle mission to visit the International Space Station and the first Native American to walk in space. Herrington honored his Native American heritage during that walk by carrying six eagle feathers, a braid of sweet grass, two arrowheads and the Chickasaw nation's flag.

Joy Harjo



**"My GENERATION
is now THE DOOR
TO MEMORY.**

**That is WHY I AM
REMEMBERING."**

Did you Know?

Joy Harjo was born on May 9, 1951 and is a member of the Muscogee Nation. She is an American poet, musician, playwright, and author. She studied at the Institute of American Indian Arts, completed her undergraduate degree at University of New Mexico in 1976, and earned an MFA at the University of Iowa in its creative writing program. She is the incumbent United States Poet Laureate, the first Native American to hold that honor. In addition, Harjo is an important figure in the second wave of the literary Native American Renaissance of the late 20th century. She has taught in numerous United States universities, performed at poetry readings, and released five albums of her original music. Harjo is the author of nine books of poetry, and two award-winning children's books, *The Good Luck Cat* and *For a Girl Becoming*. Her books include *An American Sunrise*, *Conflict Resolution for Holy Beings*, *Crazy Brave*, and *How We Became Human: New and Selected Poems*. She was a recipient of the 2017 Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize.

Maria Tallchief



**"If anything at all,
PERFECTION is NOT
when THERE IS
NOTHING TO ADD,
but when THERE IS
NOTHING LEFT
TO TAKE AWAY."**

Did you Know?

Born Elizabeth Marie Tall Chief on January 24, 1925, in Fairfax, Oklahoma, Tallchief was one of the country's leading ballerinas from the 1940s to the '60s. The daughter of an Osage tribe member, she was also a trailblazer for Native Americans in the world of ballet. Tallchief grew up in Los Angeles, California, where she studied ballet for years. During her early career, in the 1940s, Tallchief danced with the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo. It was also around this time that she became known professionally as Maria Tallchief, combining the two parts of her Indian name. In 1947, she became the first prima ballerina of the New York City Ballet—a title that she would hold for the next 13 years. That same year, Tallchief became the first American to dance with the Paris Opera Ballet. In addition to her work with the NYCB and Paris Opera Ballet, she was a guest performer with the American Ballet Theatre.

Mary Youngblood



"I am **ONLY A VESSEL**
between **CREATOR** and this
INSTRUMENT.

As a sculptor would tell
you, the clay has a **SPIRIT**
OF ITS OWN and **DECIDES**
WHAT IT WILL BECOME;
SO IT IS WITH THE FLUTE.

These **SONGS CAME** from
THOSE WHO WALKED
BEFORE ME."

Did you Know?

Native American Mary Youngblood, half Seminole and half Aleut, is the first woman to professionally record the Native American Flute, and the first woman to win not just one, but two Grammy Awards for "Best Native American Music Album". She was born in Kirkland, Washington, and adopted as a child by Dr. Bob and Leah Edwards, both educators. Youngblood has a lifetime of musicianship behind her, starting with piano lessons at age six and guitar at ten; she is also a renowned classically trained flutist. As an adult, when Youngblood received her first wooden Native flute she was compelled to pursue this ancient instrument traditionally played only by men. She has been honored with numerous awards and furthers her craft and knowledge of music and her Native traditions through teaching. Now years later with five unique and accomplished albums under her belt, Mary owns over 250 hand carved Native American Style flutes in her collection and uses a wide variety of them throughout every one of her albums. Each of her flutes is masterfully crafted from different types of wood, bringing a unique sound and texture to each song.

Sharice Davids



**"STRONG ALLIANCES
can THRIVE even
where DISAGREEMENTS
EXIST, but they
CANNOT THRIVE where
FREE and OPEN
COMMUNICATION IS
SHUT DOWN."**

Did you Know?

Sharice Davids is the first openly LGBTQ Native American elected to the U.S. Congress, the first openly lesbian person elected to the U.S. Congress from Kansas, and one of the first two Native American women elected to Congress, along with Deb Haaland of New Mexico. Davids was born on May 22, 1980, in Frankfurt, West Germany. Davids is a member of the Ho-Chunk (Winnebago) people, and an enrolled member of the Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin. Sharice was raised by a single mom who spent more than 20 years serving in the US Army. Before joining Congress, she was a lawyer educated at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and Cornell Law School. Sharice went on to work in economic and community development on Native American reservations, helping tribes to create programs and initiatives for growth. This work inspired her to apply for the prestigious White House Fellowship program, where she served under President Barack Obama.

Susan La Flesche Picotte



"It is VITAL that EVERY CHILD in Nebraska, whether NATIVE, white, immigrant or offspring of former slave, BE AFFORDED AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN."

Did you Know?

Susan La Flesche Picotte was a Native American doctor and reformer in the late 19th century. She is widely acknowledged as one of the first Native Americans to earn a medical degree. She was born in June 1865 on the Omaha Reservation in eastern Nebraska. Her parents were culturally Omaha with European and Indigenous ancestry. As a child, LaFlesche witnessed a sick Indian woman die after a white doctor refused to treat her. She later credited this tragedy as her inspiration to train as a physician, so she could provide care for the people she lived with on the Omaha Reservation. She campaigned for public health and for the formal, legal allotment of land to members of the Omaha tribe. Picotte was an active social reformer as well as a physician. She worked to discourage drinking on the reservation where she worked as the physician, as part of the temperance movement of the 19th century. In 1889, LaFlesche took up her position as the physician at the government boarding school on the reservation, run. There she was responsible for teaching the students about hygiene and keeping them healthy.

Tommy Orange



**"I WRITE BECAUSE
I truly BELIEVE IN
THE IMPACT of
WHAT ART CAN DO
IN LIVES and to
HELP A VERY
TROUBLED WORLD."**

Did you Know?

Tommy Orange is an American novelist and writer from Oakland, California. He was born on January 19, 1982. Orange is a citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma. From ages 14 to 24, Orange played roller hockey on a national level. After graduating with a bachelor's of science in sound arts, he began working at a bookstore, Gray Wolf Books, where he developed a love for reading which led him to begin writing. He attended Institute of American Indian Arts and earned the Masters in Fine Arts. His first book *There There* was one of the finalists for the 2019 Pulitzer Prize and received the 2019 American Book Award. *There There* tells the story of twelve characters who each have private reasons for traveling to the Big Oakland Powwow, and who come together after a brutal act of violence. When he was younger, he was more into sports than reading.

Will Rogers



**"The WORST THING
that happens to YOU
may be the BEST
THING for YOU if
you DON'T LET IT GET
THE BEST OF YOU."**

Did you Know?

Will Rogers was an American humorist, actor and author best known for his Broadway and film performances, as well as his folksy persona. As an entertainer and humorist, he traveled around the world three times, made 71 films (50 silent films and 21 "talkies"), and wrote more than 4,000 nationally syndicated newspaper columns. Rogers was born on November 4, 1879 to a Cherokee family in Indian Territory (now part of Oklahoma). He left Oklahoma as a teenager, eventually finding work in the traveling Wild West shows popular at the time. Rogers parlayed his vaudeville success into a Broadway career. He debuted in New York in 1916, performing in *The Wall Street Girl*. In addition to acting, Rogers became nationally-known as a writer. He penned a column for the *Saturday Evening Post* that ran in newspapers across the country. His columns dealt with contemporary issues from a perspective of small-town morality, emphasizing the integrity of working people. Many of his books, including *The Cowboy Philosopher* on Prohibition and *There's Not a Bathing Suit in Russia*, achieved best-seller status.

Wilma Mankiller



**"In Iroquois society,
LEADERS are ENCOURAGED
to REMEMBER SEVEN
GENERATIONS IN THE PAST
and CONSIDER SEVEN
GENERATIONS IN THE
FUTURE when MAKING
DECISIONS that AFFECT
the PEOPLE."**

Did you Know?

In July 1987 Wilma Pearl Mankiller became the first woman elected as chief of the Cherokee, the second-largest Indian nation in the United States. Born on November 18, 1945, in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, she was the sixth of eleven children born to Charley and Clara Irene (Sitton) Mankiller. Before Wilma Mankiller's election as chief of the Cherokee, she served as the first woman deputy chief of the Cherokee beginning in August 1983 and became principal chief in December 1985 when Chief Ross Swimmer resigned. Mankiller was elected in 1987 and reelected in 1991, serving as principal chief until 1995. Before Wilma Mankiller's election as chief of the Cherokee, she served as the first woman deputy chief of the Cherokee beginning in August 1983 and became principal chief in December 1985 when Chief Ross Swimmer resigned to head the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C. Mankiller was elected in 1987 and reelected in 1991, serving as principal chief until 1995. After leaving office, Mankiller remained an activist for Native American and women's rights until her death, on April 6, 2010, in Adair County, Oklahoma.

Cheri Madsen



"To MAKE a U.S. PARALYMPIC TEAM is one of the HARDEST THINGS TO DO. I STILL HAVE a lot of WORK to do in a short amount of time. I QUALIFIED. Now I HAVE TO MEDAL."

Did you Know?

Cheri Madsen is an American Paralympic wheelchair racing athlete. She was born on September 27, 1976 in Omaha, Nebraska. Madsen is a Native American from the Omaha tribe. At the age of three, she lost the use of her legs due to an unknown viral infection in her spine. She grew up in Nebraska, graduating from Nebraska City High School in 1995. She took up wheelchair racing in 1994 and two years later qualified for the 1996 Paralympics. There, she competed in four events and won two silver and two bronze medals. She participated in the 2000 Summer Paralympics in Sydney in the same four events winning two gold medals and one silver medal. After the Sydney games, she semi-retired from competitions to build a family. In 2007 her younger brother and father were killed in a car-train crash. Madsen returned to competitions in 2013 to honor her brother, who was her avid supporter in sport. She qualified for the 2013 IPC World Championships, the 2015 Parapan American Games and the 2016 Rio Paralympics, where she won medals at each competition.

Sean Sherman

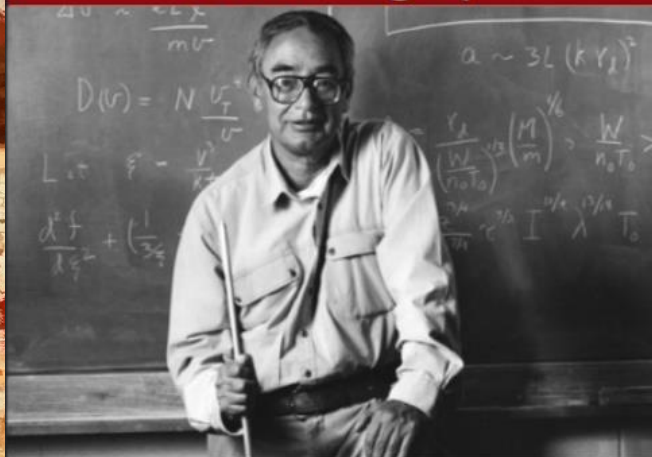


**"FOOD is the ONE THING
that CENTERS ALL OF US.
It's the ONE THING that
we ALL HAVE IN
COMMON, no matter who
we are. It's a GREAT WAY
to UNDERSTAND
SOMEBODY ELSE'S CULTURE.**

Did you Know?

Sean Sherman is an Oglala Lakota Sioux chef, cookbook author, and promoter of indigenous cuisine. Sherman founded the indigenous food education business and caterer The Sioux Chef, as well as the nonprofit North American Traditional Indigenous Food Systems. He received a James Beard Foundation Leadership Award and his 2017 cookbook, *The Sioux Chef's Indigenous Kitchen*, won the 2018 James Beard Award for Best American Cookbook. Sherman got his first restaurant job washing dishes at 13, soon moving onto the line. He spent a summer working for the US Forest Service in the Black Hills, identifying plants. He spent most of his twenties working in a series of Minneapolis restaurants and by 27 was working as an executive chef. By 29 he was burnt out and spent some time in Mexico regrouping; while in Puerto Vallarta he spent time with some Huichol people and had an "epiphany", saying: "After seeing how the Huicholes held onto so much of their pre-European culture through artwork and food, I recognized I wanted to know my own food heritage. What did my ancestors eat before the Europeans arrived on our lands?"

Fred Begay



"It turns out **MANY of the **PRAYERS** and **SONGS** have **BUILT IN LOTS OF SCIENCE**. I was **IMMERSED IN** all that **KNOWLEDGE BEFORE I** even got to the **FIRST GRADE**. "**

Did you Know?

Begay was born in 1932 on the Ute Mountain Indian Reservation in Colorado. His parents, who were Navajo and Ute healers and spiritual leaders, taught him traditional Navajo ceremonies. At age ten, Begay was sent away from home to a government-run vocational school, where his teachers decided to train him in farming. School officials discouraged the students from practicing the Navajo language and culture, forcing them to speak English and attend a Christian church. In 1951, after eight years learning to be a farmer, Begay joined the U.S. Air Force and fought in the Korean War. When he returned, with funding from the Department of Veterans Affairs, Begay enrolled at the University of New Mexico in 1955. To make up for his lack of a standard pre-college education, Begay had to take high school classes in the evenings while attending college courses during the day. He continued to pursue the subject, and after receiving a PhD in nuclear physics from the University of New Mexico in 1972, he joined the research staff of Los Alamos National Laboratory. Much of Begay's research has focused on controlled thermonuclear fusion. Fusion in plasmas- hot ionized gases- could potentially provide a clean, practically unlimited energy source as an alternative to fossil fuels.

Matika Wilbur



**"Given the CHOICE
BETWEEN POWER and
HELP, I WANT POWER.**

**I WANT the
OPPORTUNITY to
REPRESENT MYSELF."**

Did you Know?

Matika Lorraine Wilbur is a member of the Swinomish and Tulalip tribes of the State of Washington where she was raised in a family of commercial fishermen. Before focusing on photography as a tool for social justice, Matika received her teaching certification and worked in primary education at for 5 years. There, she experienced firsthand the lack of educational resources to teach indigenous intelligence and dismayed that the curriculum being taught did not provide Native youths with positive imagery and understanding. Thus began the momentum behind *Project 562*, Wilbur's mission to photograph and collect stories of Native Americans from each federally-recognized Indian tribe in the United States to create comprehensive visual curricula and publications representing contemporary Native America. In order to create this project, Wilbur sold everything and began traveling throughout all 50 states. Wilbur also hosts the podcast "All My Relations" with Adrienne Keene. The podcast's purpose is "to explore our relationships— relationships to land, to our creatural relatives, and to one another.

Mary Brave Bird



**"The thing
to KEEP
IN MIND
is that
LAWS ARE
FRAMED
BY**

**THOSE who happen
to be IN POWER and
FOR THE PURPOSE of
KEEPING THEM IN
POWER."**

Did you Know?

Mary Brave Bird was a Sicangu Lakota writer and activist who was a member of the American Indian Movement during the 1970s and participated in some of their most publicized events, including the Wounded Knee Incident when she was 18 years old. Born Mary Ellen Moore-Richard in 1954 on the Rosebud Indian Reservation, South Dakota, she was a member of the Sicangu Oyate, also known as the Brulé Band of Lakota. She was raised primarily by her grandparents while her mother studied in nursing school and was working. Brave Bird was influenced by several relatives who followed traditional practices, including her granduncle Dick Fool Bull. In addition to activism, Brave Bird was the author of two memoirs, *Lakota Woman* and *Ohitika Woman*. *Lakota Woman*, which described her life until 1977, won the 1991 American Book Award. *Ohitika Woman* continues her life story. Her books describe the conditions of the Lakota Indian and her experience growing up on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota, as well as conditions in the neighboring Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

Notah Begay III

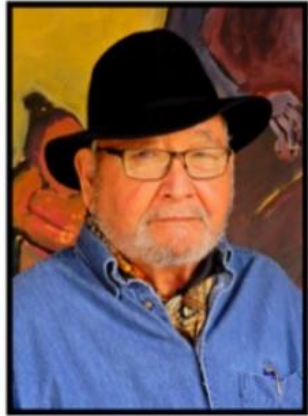


**"I REALIZED that the
SECRET TO GOLF ISN'T
HOW LOW YOU SHOOT
when it's GOING
GOOD, it's HOW TO
MAKE YOUR BAD
ROUNDS BETTER."**

Did you Know?

Notah Ryan Begay III is a Native American professional golfer and one of the only Native American golfers to have played in the PGA Tour. He was born on September 14, 1972 in Albuquerque, New Mexico and is a Native American of the Navajo, San Felipe, and Isleta people. Notah secured a scholarship to Stanford University where he earned a degree in Economics in addition to earning All-American Honors three times and leading the golf team to a National Championship in 1994. In addition to winning 4 PGA TOUR tournaments, he became only the third player in the history of professional golf to shoot 59 in a professional event. In 2002, Begay founded NB3 Consulting, which consults with tribal communities looking to build golf courses for the purpose of economic development. When Begay is not on the golf course, he dedicates his time to positively impacting the Native American community. In 2005, Notah launched The Notah Begay III (NB3) Foundation. The Foundation works to battle obesity and diabetes in the Native American youth. Since 2013, Begay has served as an analyst with the Golf Channel and NBC Sports.

N. Scott Momaday



**"WE ARE WHAT
WE IMAGINE.**

**OUR very
EXISTENCE
CONSISTS in**

**OUR
IMAGINATION
OF OURSELVES.**

**OUR best DESTINY is TO
IMAGINE, at least,
completely, WHO AND
WHAT, and THAT WE ARE.**

**The GREATEST TRAGEDY
that can befall us is TO
GO UNIMAGINED."**

Did you Know?

Navarre Scott Momaday is a Kiowa novelist, short story writer, essayist, and poet. His novel *House Made of Dawn* was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1969, and is considered the first major work of the Native American Renaissance. He was born on February 27, 1934 in Lawton, Oklahoma. His mother was a writer and his father a painter. In 1935, when N. Scott Momaday was one year old, his family moved to Arizona, where both his father and mother became teachers on the reservation. Growing up in Arizona allowed Momaday to experience not only his father's Kiowa traditions but also those of other southwest Native Americans including the Navajo, Apache, and Pueblo traditions. After high school, Momaday attended the University of New Mexico, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English. He continued his education at Stanford University where he was awarded a Ph.D. in English Literature. Momaday has procured many honors, which include the designation as a UNESCO Artist for Peace, 2007 Oklahoma Centennial State Poet Laureate, Golden Plate Award from the American Academy of Achievement, and more.

Dallas Goldtooth



"WE still HAVE the CAPABILITY and the CAPACITY to DREAM BIG. To DREAM FOR SOMETHING BETTER for our next seven generations ... to HAVE those COMPLICATED CONVERSATIONS about WHY WE ARE HERE, WHO WE ARE REPRESENTING, and WHAT WE ARE BRINGING TO THIS SPACE."

Did you Know?

Dallas Goldtooth, a member of Mdewakanton Dakota & Diñe and second generation activist, leads the Keep It in the Ground Campaign of the Indigenous Environmental Network. He is the son of Tom B.K. Goldtooth, the globally recognized activist and founder of the Indigenous Environmental Network. Learning from his father, he grew up blending humor, people skills and protest. He spent his youth traveling to events with his father, watching him navigate between native and largely white audiences. He had a chance to see how differently Native Americans lived and were perceived in various parts of the country. Dallas represents a new generation of leaders who organize using social media to amplify on the ground activism. He is a Dakota cultural/language teacher and co-founder of the Indigenous comedy group, The 1491s. He is also a poet, traditional artist, powwow emcee, and comedian. Many learned of Dallas' work because of his leadership at Standing Rock. He was one of the outstanding Water Protectors at Standing Rock/Oceti Sakowin Camp fighting the Dakota Access Pipeline.

Louise Erdrich



"What I **SEE**
in the **BOOK**
is an
EXQUISITE
FORM of
TECHNOLOGY:
ONE that
DOESN'T REQUIRE a
POWER SOURCE and
can be **PASSED FROM**
HAND TO HAND and
LASTS a lot **LONGER**
than an **ELECTRONIC**
READER."

Did you Know?

Louise Erdrich was born in Little Falls, Minnesota in 1954. She is a Native American author, writer of novels, poetry, and children's books featuring Native American characters and settings. As the daughter of a Chippewa Indian mother and a German-American father, Erdrich explores Native-American themes in her works, with major characters representing both sides of her heritage. She is widely acclaimed as one of the most significant writers of the second wave of the Native American Renaissance. She has written 28 books in all, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and children's books. In 2009, her novel *The Plague of Doves* was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and received an Anisfield-Wolf Book Award. In November 2012, she received the National Book Award for Fiction for her novel *The Round House*. She is a 2013 recipient of the Alex Awards. In 2021, she was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for her novel *The Night Watchman*.