November is...

**AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH**

*In celebration, we bring you news and events from across the Nations*

**Things to know about native people:**

- There are 561 registered indigenous tribes and bands in the U.S.
- There are many more native groups who remain embattled with federal and/or state governments for the recognition of their people.
- The Native American population in the US is estimated at nearly 1.5 million.
- Many American Indians live on reservations.
- Many American Indians live off them.
- About 40% of American Indians are of mixed heritage.

For more information about different Native groups, try: [http://www.nativeculturelinks.com/nations.html](http://www.nativeculturelinks.com/nations.html)

**Native Americans at Bowdoin**

Many students may not be aware of the challenges Native American's face in adjusting to life on a college campus. NASA aims to nurture a healthy and supportive
community for Native American students here at Bowdoin, as well as develop a greater understanding of Native issues throughout the campus. In addition, we work to help the College fulfill its desire to increase the Native representation in the school. NASA is a fantastic forum to address concerns you may have about Native Americans at Bowdoin, or to educate yourself and others about Native history, culture, and current issues. NASA invites you to join us at our meetings and events, and be a part of our growing American Indian community on campus.

For more information contact amoore@bowdoin.edu or rbryan@bowdoin.edu

UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES –

On September 13, 2007, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted The Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The declaration was almost 20 years in the making, and represents the first real global stance on Indigenous issues. 143 countries voted in favor, and 4 voted against (the United States, Canada, New Zealand and Australia – all with large indigenous populations and poor histories with indigenous people). The declaration asserts indigenous peoples' right to control over their land and resources, and defends their right to self-determination. It also upholds collective rights, cultural rights and identity, in addition to rights to education, health, employment and language among others.


The National Museum of the American Indian

In 2004, the National Museum of the American Indian opened in Washington D.C. It was the first national museum to be dedicated entirely to Native Americans. Exhibitions are shown from a Native viewpoint, and the museum itself is largely run and managed by people of American Indian ancestry. Along these lines, the museum works with tribal groups and artists, who select the pieces to be shown, and represents both historic and contemporary Native American identities.

http://www.nmai.si.edu/