

NAS NEWS

www.nativeamericanstudies.org

Summer 2024 Edition Volume 14 Issue 2



Waccamaw artist Lisa Lindler carves a wooden figure during the Center's annual Spring Art and Craft Festival in May.

Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.



Native American Studies Center
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA LANCASTER

Greetings from the Director!

Summer at the NAS Center is always both a quiet time and a busy time. Fewer students are around, and many faculty are off doing research or getting a well-deserved break. But at the Center, we are gearing up for upcoming exhibits, programs, and classes. The pages that follow illustrate many of our recent activities and our colleagues' accomplishments. Congratulations to Chris Judge for his induction into Alpha Sigma Lambda and to his student Cynthia Curtis for her recent accomplishments. Dr. Evan Nooe, in addition to sharing his experiences with the new Epcot exhibit in this edition, has continued to receive accolades for his book, "Aggression and Sufferings," and is giving a number of talks about his research. If he is in your area, go see him (or check out August's Lunch and Learn at the Center).



In April, the Center hosted a historic meeting with representatives from the Catawba Nation, the South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs, USC, and USC Lancaster to discuss Native American enrollment at USCL and within the USC system. Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.

We have a number of [new exhibits](#) coming in the fall including the travelling exhibit "Soul of the South," which examines music in South Carolina (I was honored to be a part of this exhibit when it originally opened at the Morris Center for Lowcountry Heritage). Music will also be our theme for this year's Native American Heritage Month celebrations at the Center. We'll be sharing more information soon.

We are also opening the exhibit "Clay and Play!", an interactive children's exhibit, and "'We always knew about being Native American and being a community': Celebrating Indigenous Identity and Culture in the Lowcountry," the latter based on my on-going fieldwork with state-recognized tribes. I want to thank all of the tribes that I have been working with and hope to include all SC tribes in my documentation work (and thanks to Chief Lisa Collins of the Wassamasaw for the exhibit title). I'd also like to use this space to thank a few others. Thanks to the SC Arts Commission for supporting former Catawba Chief Bill Harris's recent residency at the Center. We are always grateful for the support of the SCAC's Folk and Traditional Arts Program. And thanks to the SC Humanities Council and Dr. Alice Colbert for allowing us to participate in their program "Just Sharing: Building Community Through Stories of Our Past." We are also very grateful for the USC and USCL faculty and staff, Catawba Nation Administrators, and representatives from local schools who joined us for a discussion regarding recruiting more Native American students to USC Lancaster and the USC system in general. If you are a member of a tribal community and are interested in higher education (regardless of your age, economic status, or location), please reach out to us. We would love to discuss with you all that the University of South Carolina and its various campuses have to offer.

As always, come see us at the NAS Center, visit our [website](#), and check out our [YouTube](#) and other [social media](#).

Stephen Criswell

**NOTE
FROM THE
DIRECTOR**

Hours and Location:

Monday: Closed to the public
Tuesday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Wednesday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Thursday: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Friday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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Lancaster, SC 29720

To visit our website [click here!](#)

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Learn more about
Native American Studies
Faculty and Staff [here!](#)

NAS News Staff:

Feature Writer and Newsletter Editor:
Ashley Lowrimore

Design and Production Editor:
Elisabeth Avelar



President Biden declared May 5 as National Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Awareness Day. The Eastern Cherokee, Southern Iroquois and United Tribes of South Carolina held a MMIW dance during their powwow on Saturday, May 4 in Pickens, S.C. Photo by Chris Judge.

Follow the Center on social media!



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The Center was pleased to coordinate a special behind-the-scenes tour in March for Andrew Jackson Middle School students Ethan Lowrimore (left) and Allie Amsler (right). Here, Center Archaeologist Chris Judge discusses archaeology while showing spear points and other artifacts. Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.

“PAINTED VOICES” PREMIERES AT NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER

Discover the two-dimensional array of landscapes, abstracts, and portrait-style artwork from Catawba Nation artists DeAnn Beck and Nicole Foxx Braswell in the “Painted Voices” exhibit, now open through Thursday, June 20 in the Center’s Red Rose Gallery.

Center visitors may remember Beck’s work previously on display at the Center in the 2018 exhibit, “The View From My Window,” which featured her watercolor and graphite paintings. Beck is a self-taught Catawba artist who has done quilting and crochet work in the past, learning quilting at a young age from her grandmother Evelyn George. She became interested in working with

watercolors around 2015 and enjoys painting flowers and botanical items; the new exhibit features her renderings of these flowers, animals, and other natural items. She has participated in several craft fairs and previously has done work for the Catawba Cultural Preservation Project and the ISWA Head Start program.

Braswell’s work is on display for the first time at the Center. Daughter of Charles “Buster” Foxx and great-granddaughter of Mary Evelyn Ayers, she recalls being introduced to the world of art by coloring with her grandmother for hours when she was a child. She began sketching as a child and as a young adult, honing her craft in painting.

The self-taught artist teaches painting to Catawba citizens at the Cultural Center Preservation Project and has recently taken classes through the CCPP on creating traditional Catawba pottery. She also holds seats on the Catawba Corps Board of Directors and the new N.C. Governors Board of the Catawba Indian Nation Foundation.

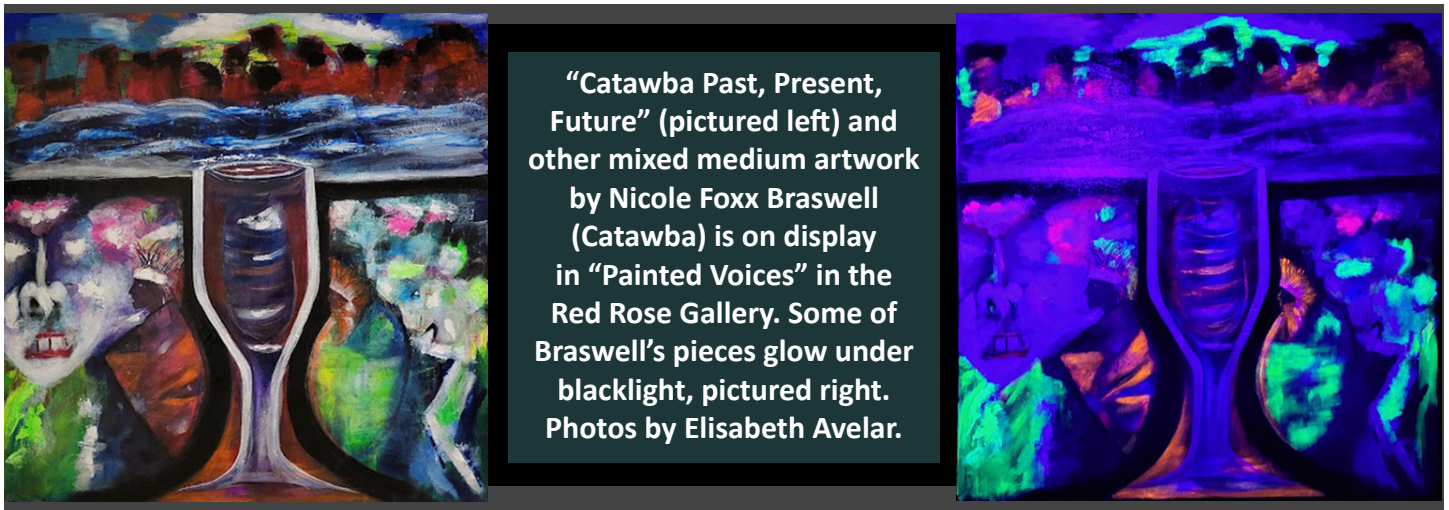


The untitled watercolor paintings of DeAnn Beck (Catawba) are featured in the exhibit, “Painted Voices,” now open through Thursday, June 20, 2024. Photo by Elisabeth Avelar.

Though she has worked with ceramics and stained glass, Braswell says that her love resides in canvas painting.

“I find inspiration in the smallest of things, such as an expression on someone’s face, a turn of phrase in a book, or a leaf falling on the ground. I have always been drawn to the ‘abstract’ whether it is within thought, or art, as I believe that is where the ‘creative spirit’ comes alive,” said Braswell. “Since the passing of my father in 2020, many of my artistic themes have been around the Indigenous experience. He was a very proud Catawba and was one of my biggest fans, so I paint to honor him, our legacy as Indigenous peoples, and to promote our experience to the world.”

In her creative process, Braswell says she sometimes begins with an exact form of work in mind, while other times, her process is more fluid and delivers a more surprise outcome in the artwork.



“I gravitate toward symbology and allegory within paintings,” said Braswell. “I may paint a form and compose structures and colors, but there is a meaning that is hidden beneath brush strokes and composition. In some of the more abstract surrealist paintings that I have completed, I find complete joy when people share what they see and feel from the painting. I find that the more ambiguous the piece is, the more relevant it becomes to the viewer, as they have placed their interpretation of the piece based on their personal history, and experience and it becomes special in a personal way to the viewer.”

Influenced by such visual artists as Pablo Picasso and Frida Kahlo, Braswell also is influenced by many literary artists.

“I love to read, and have been inspired by many authors over the years, specifically the early feminist writers and artists of the literary ‘Salon Days’ of Paris,” said Braswell. “Early influencers such as Natalie Clifford Barney, Simone De Beauvoir, Virginia Woolf, and Romaine Brooks paved the way for females in the literary, theatrical, and art worlds of modern times.”

In April, Braswell gave an online artist talk about her work in the exhibit; the talk can be viewed on the Center’s [YouTube Channel](#).

Prints from the exhibit are available for purchase; inquiries may be made at the Center’s front desk. For more information about “Painted Voices” or the Native American Studies Center, call [\(803\) 313-7172](tel:8033137172) or visit www.nativeamericanstudies.org.

GARDEN TALKS, ART DEMONSTRATIONS HELD DURING ANNUAL AG + ART

The Center hosted a day of agricultural-related talks and art demonstrations as part of Lancaster County's Ag + Art Tour on Saturday, May 11!

Members of the Leaf & Petal Club discussed the Center's Three Sisters and Medicine Wheel Gardens located across Main Street in Red Rose Park, Catawba artist and Center Assistant Curator/Program Assistant Sharon Simmers-Norton led visitors in "make and take" corn husk doll demonstrations, and Catawba artist and Center Program Assistant Beckee Garris demonstrated pine needle basket making techniques. Photos by Ashley Lowrimore.



Members of the Leaf and Petal Club speak with visitors at a table by the Center's gardens.



Sharon Simmers-Norton shows visitors how to fold a corn husk to make a doll.



Beckee Garris shows a visitor the long leaf pine needle she is weaving.

Nearly 20 artists participated in our 2024 Spring Art and Craft Festival, featuring beautiful artwork displays from vendors, artist demonstrations, drumming performances by A.J. Wurdermann, book signings and author meet and greets from artists and co-authors Jeannie Sanders-Smith and Debbie Sistare, USC Lancaster Assistant Professor of History and Center Historian Dr. Evan Nooe, and University of Tennessee Assistant Professor of History and Catawba Historian Dr. Brooke Bauer.

Pictured, watercolor paintings by Catawba artist DeAnn Beck are displayed on a table. Iroquois artist Michael Cruz demonstrates his painting techniques. Flintknapping artwork by Lenape artist Michael Hartje is displayed on a table. Vice Chief Helen Jeffcoat of the Beaver Creek Indians works on a dream catcher. Catawba artist Teresa Dunlap works on needlepoint artwork. A.J. Wurdermann performs a song while drumming. Caddo jewelry maker and beader Kathleen Hays speaks with visitors at her table. Photos by Ashley Lowrimore.



SPRING ART & CRAFT FESTIVAL 2024

CURTIS PRESENTS AT LANCER EXCELLENCE, WINS SECOND PLACE AT DISCOVER USC

Congratulations to Palmetto College BLS student Cynthia Curtis for presenting Phase 2 of her research project, “The Sleeping Woman Speaks: Memory and Voice of the Women of the Guazapa Volcano, El Salvador” during the inaugural Celebration of Lancer Excellence at USC Lancaster and Discover USC at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center in April, where she won Second Place.

Curtis and her mentor and Center Archaeologist/ Instructor of Anthropology and Archaeology Christopher Judge first received the Palmetto Undergraduate Research Experience (PURE) Award in 2022, a Palmetto College research initiative providing funding for faculty-student summer projects, allowing Curtis to elevate Indigenous women through her ANTH 399 Independent Study research project, “The Sleeping Woman Speaks: Memory and Voice of the Women of the Guazapa Volcano, El Salvador.”

In 2023, Curtis and Judge received a grant through the Magellan Scholars Program at USC, another undergraduate-mentor award providing support for travel, materials, and salary for the undergraduate researchers. The grant allowed Curtis to travel to El Salvador that summer to further her research among the women.

Mentored by Judge, Curtis conducted oral history interviews among 12 Salvadoran female war survivors whose lives have been impacted by structural violence and war. The project was centered around two women focused sites in El Salvador: Cihuatlan, the archaeological site seven miles away from the women’s homes meaning “place of the woman” in Nahuatl, and the Guazapa Volcano, referred to as “the sleeping woman” due to its silhouette. The Guazapa Volcano, Curtis explains, was a water volcano that served as a base to the Salvadoran military during the war. The women that Curtis interviewed were from the communities located at the foothills of the volcano that were attacked by the military.

The goal of her research was to hone the craft of oral history to learn what the women knew about their Indigenous identities, what they knew about the archaeological site and history in their own backyard, and what more they would like to know of their Indigenous culture and roots. Curtis, who did education and advocacy work around El Salvador during the country’s 1980-1992 civil war, lived in El Salvador from 1993 to 2013 and is fluent in Spanish. She recorded and translated the interviews.



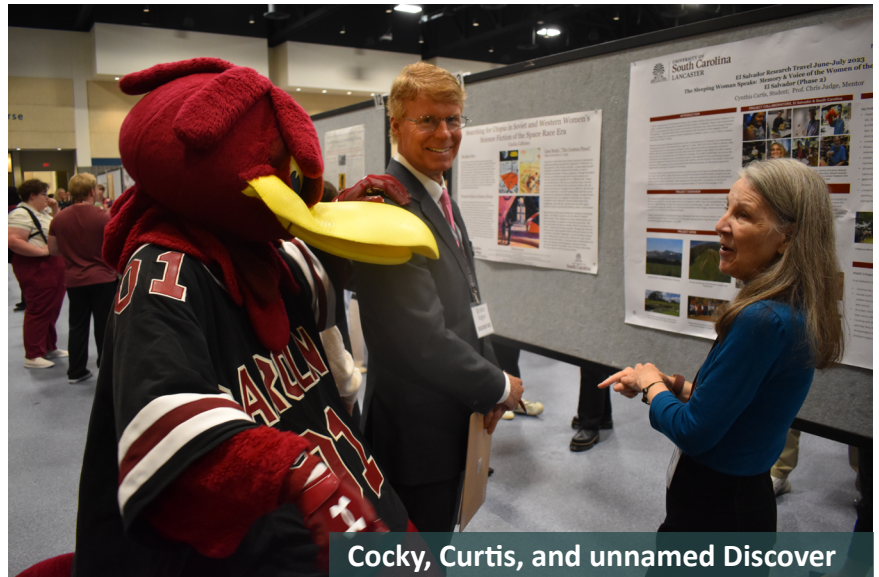
Curtis walking at USCL’s 2024 spring commencement. Photo by Ashley Collins.

Curtis, who presented Phase 1 of her research during Discover USC 2023, graduated in April with a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts/Studies, studying Anthropology and Native American Studies. Congratulations, Cynthia!



Curtis pictured with Chris Judge at Lancer Excellence. Photo by Liz Easley.

View current and upcoming exhibits from the Special Collections and galleries [here!](#)



Cocky, Curtis, and unnamed Discover USC judge. Photo by Chris Judge.

Watch our previous virtual programming on the Center's [YouTube Channel!](#) Be sure to like, subscribe, and ring the bell for the notifications!

INDIGENOUS REPRESENTATION AT WALT DISNEY WORLD'S EPCOT

Photos and article by Dr. Evan Nooe, USC Lancaster Assistant Professor of History

Over Spring Break in early March (2024), I had the opportunity for a family vacation at the mecca of family vacation destinations: Walt Disney World in Central Florida. Traveling as a family of four with two small children, ages one and five, we enjoyed all of the typical Walt Disney World attractions. The kids met Mickey and Minnie Mouse, Olaf from Frozen, Winnie-the-Pooh and friends, and even BB-8 from the most recent Star Wars trilogy. And of course, we enjoyed the rides! The indoor roller coaster Space Mountain is firmly established as my five-year-old's favorite attraction while my younger one-year-old enjoyed the slower pace of the classic It's a Small World.

In addition to the rides and characters, we took some time to explore the exhibit "Creating Tradition: Innovation and Change in American Indian Art" at the American Adventure Pavilion in EPCOT. Opened in the summer of 2018 at EPCOT's American Heritage Gallery, the exhibit features historic and contemporary art from Indigenous communities across seven regions of the United States. "Creating Tradition" aims to demonstrate how modern Indigenous artists draw inspiration from centuries-old traditions.

Throughout the "Creating Tradition" exhibit, displays are organized by regional Indigenous cultures such as the Plains, Eastern Woodlands, and Great Basin and Plateau. The regions are featured on a large, illuminated map that serves as a navigational centerpiece for the exhibit.



Dress by Acoma Pueblo fashion designer Loren Aragon.

Each regional display pairs historic artifacts with modern works of Indigenous art. Items are on loan from renowned cultural centers such the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture in New Mexico and the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

Inside the gallery, one display case prominently features the work of fashion designer Loren Aragon (Acoma Pueblo) alongside traditional Pueblo pottery from the American Southwest. Loren's "Ancient Resonance" piece is a one-of-a-kind dress featuring a contrasting black on white design specifically created for the exhibit. According to Loren, he drew inspiration from a traditional Acoma Pueblo olla (jar or cooking pot). Displayed together, the Ancient Resonance dress alongside its inspirational olla show the throughline of traditional Southwestern Indigenous art across centuries. On the opportunity to display his design studio ACONAV's work at EPCOT, Loren expressed that it was "a dream come true . . . to share [his] talents with so many viewers who will see" the dress on display. In describing his design, Loren stated the dress "incorporates everything I've always wanted to explore in my fashion talents and truly represents my Acoma Pueblo culture both respectfully and responsibly."

The Disney Company also worked with Indigenous cultural centers. One of the most closely involved partnerships was with the Seminole Tribe of Florida. The Tribe's Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum loaned items such as a century-old children's dress, traditional dolls, baskets, and a medicine coat for the exhibit's "Southeast" regional culture cabinets. Seminole cultural leaders even participated in the grand opening of the exhibit. Seminole Representative Bobby Henry gave a blessing at the ceremony and led several Seminole and Miccosukees in a traditional Stomp Dance.



An interactive display in the "Creating Tradition" exhibit.

While the kids jumped from exhibit to exhibit at lighting speed, they did slow down to hear the stories of featured artists. Three interactive kiosks provided an opportunity to hear a recorded message and multimedia slideshow from three artists on their communities, inspiration, and creations. These moments provided my wife and I an opportunity to both listen and take a closer look at the nearby displays.

The Walt Disney Company is no stranger to coming up short regarding representations of Native American people and culture. The company's 2013 *The Lone Ranger* elicited numerous critiques for Johnny Depp portraying the Comanche Tonto. In California, a high-end spa that opened in 2021 at Disney's Grand California Resort received criticism for perpetuating stereotypes of the "ecological Indian" and appropriating Native rituals. At Disney's Magic Kingdom, *Peter Pan's Flight* still features cartoonish representations of Native people as an endless stream of visitors experience the ride.

EPCOT's "Creating Tradition" exhibit is different. The exhibit excels as a collaborative endeavor to show the historic and contemporary presence of Native people across the country. Displays paired with historic

Indigenous art alongside contemporary items such as sneakers and skateboards illustrate how Native artists represent their heritage in continuously evolving forms. For the Disney Company and Walt Disney World, the exhibit signals a genuine effort to provide a space for Indigenous representation and the possibility for similar projects in the future.



Wooden map title display.

Further Reading:

Amy Van Allen, "Going to Disney World: Native Art at Epcot Center, American Indian, 19.4 (Winter 2018), <https://www.americanindianmagazine.org/story/going-disney-world-native-art-epcot-center>.

Bethanee Bemis, August 22, 2018, "Epcot Just Got a New Smithsonian Museum Exhibition," Smithsonian Magazine, <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/epcot-just-got-new-smithsonian-museum-exhibition-180969985/>.

Damon Scott, Sept. 6, 2018, "Epcot Debuts 'Creating Tradition' Exhibit With Seminoles," The Seminole Tribune: Official Newspaper of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, <https://seminoletribune.org/epcot-debuts-creating-tradition-exhibit-with-seminoles/>.

Loren Aragon, "Dreams Really Do Come True," ACONAV, <https://www.aconav.com/aconavdisneycollaboration>.

RECENT EVENTS

Recent Acquisitions

In mid-March, Director of Campus Collections & Galleries Brittany Taylor-Driggers and Center Assistant Curator Sharon Simmers-Norton visited Catawba potter Caroleen Sanders at her home for the acquisition of documents for the Center's Archives. Thanks to a generous donation from OceanaGold/Haile Operation, the Center has purchased pottery, prints, posters, and other printed material from Sanders' collection. Photo by Sharon Simmers-Norton.



Nooe Discusses Award-Winning Book

USC Lancaster's Medford Library hosted an author talk and book signing by USCL Assistant Professor of History and Native American Studies Dr. Evan Nooe, who discussed his book, "Aggression and Sufferings: Settler Violence, Native Resistance, and the Coalescence of the Old South." The book, awarded the 2022 Anne B. and James B. McMillan Prize in Southern History, is available for purchase through the University of Alabama Press [website](#). Photo by Chris Judge.



Judge Inducted into Alpha Sigma Lambda

Congratulations to Center Archaeologist Christopher Judge, who in April was inducted as an honorary member into Palmetto College's Alpha Sigma Lambda, a national academic honor society for adult learners. Judge was nominated by USCL Associated Dean of Academic and Student Affairs Todd Lekan in recognition of his support for adult students. Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.



Researcher Wes Taukchiray Visits Center Faculty, Staff

It was a pleasure to host professional researcher, compiler, and genealogist Wes Taukchiray for a day in April as he researched his papers in the Center's Archives! Did you know that you can also research his files in our Archives? Click [here](#) to learn more about what's in the Taukchiray Collection! Top photo by Sharon Simmers-Norton. Bottom photo by Chris Judge.



Statewide Panel Series Discusses Historical Memory

Thanks to all who joined in the great conversation on historical memory during the “Just Sharing: Building Community Through Stories of Our Past” panel discussion! Special thanks go to our historians and scholars who participated in the discussion of South Carolina’s tri-racial history at the Center on Friday, May 3, (pictured here from left to right) Dr. Evan Nooe of USC Lancaster, Dr. Jennifer Gunter of the University of South Carolina, and Dr. Vernon Burton of Clemson University. The “Just Sharing” series began Sept. 2023 as a partnership between South Carolina Humanities with Clemson University and the University of South Carolina. The series continues through June 2024 in libraries, museums, cultural arts centers, community centers, historic sites, and more in cities and towns across the state.



“Just Sharing” is sponsored by South Carolina Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities’ “United We Stand: Connecting through Culture” initiative, combating hate-based violence through cultural engagement.

Thank you to Southern Yankee 903 Drive In and The Cookhouse for catering the event. Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.

Looking for a “Cool” Class?



For a second year in row, Dr. Stephen Criswell’s Anthropology of Magic and Religion ANTH 206/RELG 360 has been named as one of the “Cool Classes Fall 2024” social media campaign by USC this spring. Click the [here](#) to read more about the class taught by the USCL Director of Native American Studies and Professor of English and Folklore. Photo from USC [webpage](#).

Congratulations to USC Lancaster Instructor of English, Catawba, and Native American Literature Claudia Heinemann-Priest, who was invited to join the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Woman and Relatives Task Force earlier this year by T. Lilly Little Water, CEO of the S.C. Indian Affairs Commission. For more information, [click here](#).

Upcoming Events

June 8, 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.

Author Talk

Dr. Evan Nooe, USCL Assistant Professor of History, presents a public talk on his new book, "Aggression and Sufferings: Settler Violence, Native Resistance, and the Coalescence of the Old South" at the York County Public Library in Rock Hill, S.C.

June 20

Exhibit Closing

Last day to see the exhibit, "Painted Voices."

June 28, Noon

Lunch and Learn: "Identifying South Island John Doe, and the Archaeology of a Gullah Geechee Fishing Village: An Osteobiography"

Lecture by Jodi A. Barnes, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources.

July 8, 7-8 p.m.

Author Talk

Dr. Evan Nooe, USCL Assistant Professor of History, presents a public talk on his new book, "Aggression and Sufferings: Settler Violence, Native Resistance, and the Coalescence of the Old South" at the Eastern Lincoln Historical Society in Denver, N.C.

July 16, 6-7 p.m.

Author Talk

Dr. Evan Nooe, USCL Assistant Professor of History, presents a public talk on his new book, "Aggression and Sufferings: Settler Violence, Native Resistance, and the Coalescence of the Old South" at the Clemson University Historic Properties (Barnes Center) in Clemson, S.C.

Aug. 5

Exhibit Closing

Last day to see the exhibit, "Native American Archaeology in the Wateree Valley."

Aug. 20

Exhibit Opening

First day to see the exhibit, "Indigenous Tales Through Time."

Aug. 23, Noon

Lunch and Learn: "Aggression and Sufferings: Settler Violence, Native Resistance, and the and the Coalescence of the Old South"

Lecture by Dr. Evan Nooe, USC Lancaster Assistant Professor of History and Native American Studies.

Sept. 1

Exhibit Closing

Last day to see the exhibit, "Backyard Vines: Artwork by Nancy Basket."

Sept. 5

Exhibit Opening

First day to see the exhibit, "Soul of the South."

Sept. 12, 6-7 p.m.

Author Talk

Dr. Evan Nooe, USCL Assistant Professor of History, presents a public talk on his new book, "Aggression and Sufferings: Settler Violence, Native Resistance, and the Coalescence of the Old South" at the Charleston Library Society in Charleston, S.C.

Sept. 28, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

PAIA Lower Eastern Cherokee Nation SC Powwow

Join the PAIA for the 17th Annual Powwow in Gray Court, S.C. Click [here](#) for more information.

Oct. 12, 9 a.m.

Wassamasaw Annual Powwow

Join the Wassamasaw Tribe of Varnertown Indians for their powwow at Old Santee Canal Park in Moncks Corner, S.C. Click [here](#) for more information.

Nov. 2-3, Time TBD

Waccamaw Indian People Pauwau

Join the Waccamaw Indian People for the annual pauwau in Aynor, S.C. Click [here](#) for more information.

Nov. 9, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sumter Tribe of Cheraw Indians Powwow

Join the Sumter Tribe of Cheraw Indians Powwow for the 11th Annual Powwow in Sumter, S.C. Click [here](#) for more information.

November TBD

19th Annual Native American Studies Celebration

This year's annual event celebrates Indigenous music and musicians. Dates to be announced.

Dec. 7, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Winter Native American Art & Craft Festival

Held in conjunction with Christmas in the City, shop for jewelry, Catawba pottery, baskets, quilts, and more one-of-a-kind artwork at the 11th annual Winter Native American Art and Craft Sale!

Visit [NASCA](#) to learn more about South Carolina's Native communities and access letters, images, videos, timeline, an interactive map, and more!



Stay up to date on all our upcoming events from our [website!](#)



Center Exhibitions

D. Lindsay Pettus Gallery: The Story of Catawba Pottery. This National Endowment for the Arts funded exhibit traces the art, culture and history of Catawba pottery, the oldest Native American pottery tradition in the United States. Permanent Exhibit.

Duke Energy Gallery: Native American Archaeology in the Wateree Valley. Artwork and artifacts tell the story of Indigenous mounds in the Wateree Valley region. Through Aug. 5, 2024.

Five Points Gallery: More than a Game: Indigenous Sports and Athleticism. Opening in conjunction with the 18th Annual Native American Studies Week, this exhibit highlights Indigenous athletes, some with Carolina connections, and their contributions to competitive sports such as hockey, football, wrestling, track and field, the Olympics, and more. Through Aug. 30, 2024.

North Gallery: Backyard Vines: Artwork by Nancy Basket. View the beautiful weavings and sculptures made of wisteria, kudzu, long leaf pine needles, and more from traditional artist Nancy Basket. Through Sept. 1, 2024.

Red Rose Gallery: Painted Voices. Discover the two-dimensional array of landscapes, abstracts, and portrait-style artwork from Catawba Nation artists DeAnn Beck and Nicole Foxx Braswell. Through June 20, 2024.

Back Gallery: This is Us: Native American Studies at the University of South Carolina Lancaster. This exhibit celebrates the history and 10th Anniversary of USCL's Native American Studies, including artifacts and artwork from Collections, and a history of the building our Native American Studies Center calls home. Semi-permanent Exhibit.

Upcoming Exhibitions

Duke Energy Gallery: Clay and Play! This educational children's exhibit includes traditional tales by Native storytellers, colorful displays and wall murals, hands-on pottery displays, and an interactive Three Sisters Garden where guests can "pick" corn, beans, and squash, and other props for immersive play. Opens Aug. 20, 2024. Through Aug. 5, 2026.

Five Points Gallery: Soul of the South. Curated by the Morris Center for Lowcountry Heritage, "Soul of the South" takes visitors on a musical journey highlighting the influences that Native Americans, enslaved Africans, and the European colonizers in the Lowcountry had on various genres of music: gospel, jazz, blues, musical theater and rock and roll. Largely sponsored by Gretsch, the renowned drum and musical instrument maker, the exhibit also showcases local musicians and groups whose notoriety reached beyond the Lowcountry. Opens Sept. 5, 2024. Through Aug. 30, 2025.

Red Rose Gallery: What the Fire May Gift. Artwork by USCL's 2023 Artist-in-Resident Bill Harris. This exhibit will highlight work by Bill Harris during and after his residency at the Center, and work by his proteges. Opens June 27, 2024. Through May 3, 2025.

North Gallery: "We always knew about being Native American and being a community": Celebrating Indigenous Identity and Culture in the Lowcountry. This exhibit, funded in part by the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation and the USC Racial Justice and Equity Research Fund, highlights the state-recognized tribes of the South Carolina Lowcountry, their history, cultural traditions, and celebrations. Opens Sept. 17, 2024. Through Feb. 15, 2025.

For gallery or exhibit information, contact [Brittany Taylor-Driggers](#).