

NAS^{NEWS}

Fall 2025 Edition
Vol. 15 Issue 3

*The Center for the study of South Carolina's Native American peoples,
their histories, and their cultures.*

**New Center Programs
Continue this Fall**

**Recent Acquisition
Adds Oldest
Piece in Special
Collections**

**Center Archaeology
Lab Named for First
Volunteer**



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DIRECTOR'S COLUMN



Greetings from the Director:

A short time ago, I had the difficult task of writing about the passing of our dear friend, Caroleen Sanders. Unfortunately, I am again faced with that task. Faye Greiner was an artist-a potter, a basket maker, a bead worker- but she was also a dear friend to the Native American Studies Center and to me.

Those of you who know me know that when we have our regular art sales at the Center, I like to wander in after our wonderful staff members have set everything up and the artists have all settled in. I have always tried to make the rounds, but I always left my last stop for Ms. Faye's table. When Faye and I had talked for a little while, she'd always asked me how my daughter was doing (but there's always been part of me that thought that that might have been rhetorical trick to give her the opportunity to brag on her children!). I loved hearing her stories. And I loved to see her creations. More often than she should have, Faye would hand me a basket and say, "This is for you." I would say how much do I owe you? And she always said, "No, it's a gift." She was so generous! The last time I went up to the Qualla Boundary and perused the items in the Nation's gift shop, I couldn't help but notice their baskets

sold for 10 times what Faye was asking for hers—and Faye’s were of equal or better quality. I reported this back to her, but she seemed to have no interest in raising her prices. She was more interested in sharing her artistry and her people’s traditions with others, and she did so often without monetary gain. And from what I know, she certainly did share her traditions with others. It appears that Faye single-handedly returned the basket-making tradition to the Catawba Nation. And I take some pride in the fact that it was during Faye’s artist residency at the Center that she and our friend and colleague Beckee Garriss began making baskets together in earnest. Faye was my go-to for wedding jugs whenever a friend or family member was getting married. And on more than one occasion, she was generous with her time and with her life story. She talked of her time at the Cherokee School and of learning basketry from a Cherokee artist. She talked of her life in Michigan and on the Reservation. And she always had praise for her children and her students.

Hazel Faye George Greiner lived a long life, full of art and the opportunity to become part of her people’s millennia-old traditions, and to follow the call to serve a new generation. We should all be so lucky! We will miss her dearly, but, perhaps more importantly, we celebrate her life at her artistry. I’m delighted to think that so several of us at the Center—and many, many other people--have Faye’s beautiful baskets and pottery on display in their homes and offices.

Come by the Center sometime, and we would love to share with you stories about Faye Greiner and show you some of the beautiful work of hers that we have in our collection.

We are also saddened to learn this summer of the passing of Waccamaw dancer, and tribal member, Carson Hatcher. I had the opportunity to briefly interview the young man at a recent Waccamaw powwow. He was an immensely talented young man taken from us too soon.

Despite the sad times, we continue to work hard here at the Center and invite you to come visit us. The following pages describe some of the work that my colleagues and I have been doing over the past few months and what we have planned for the future. This August marked my 20th year as a member of the faculty of the University of South Carolina Lancaster and my role as director of Native American Studies. I have suggested to my colleagues that we take time in November to reflect on 20 years of Native American Studies at USC Lancaster and to provide programs that celebrate this history.

We look forward to the events and programs in the coming months and will keep you informed about all that is going on at the Center, and all the activities of our faculty and staff. Stay tuned!

Stephen Crigwell



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ABOVE CAPTION:

The Catawba Summer Youth Pottery Program, led by Bill Harris with participation from Elizabeth Harris, toured the Center's galleries in June.

FRONT PAGE CAPTION:

Catawba artist Teresa Dunlap demonstrated pottery techniques during the August mini pop-up art market. The mini markets continue this fall on the third Saturday of each month, leading to our Winter Art and Craft Festival on Saturday, Dec. 6.

HOURS

Monday: Closed

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.

Sunday: Closed

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

Follow the Center on [social media!](#)

Native American
South Carolina Archive:
nativesouthcarolina.org



Did you know that the word
“nime?” in the Catawba language
means “bear?” Stop by our
language lab and see more
animals and their names in the
Catawba language!

NEW EXHIBITS FEATURE TRADITIONAL, CONTEMPORARY ARTFORMS

It's been about a century since the last known rivercane basket was created by a Catawba creator- until the tradition was revived in recent years by Catawba artist Aaron Baumgardner, that is.

Baumgardner's rivercane mats and baskets can be viewed as part of the exhibit, "By Way of Water: Reviving & Reimagining Catawba Art Forms," which opened this summer in the Center's Red Rose Gallery. In addition to Baumgardner's baskets and pottery, the exhibit highlights the work of Catawba artists Teresa Dunlap, DeLesslin George-Warren, and Alex Osborn, including both traditional and contemporary artforms such as Catawba pottery, rivercane and pine needle baskets, digital photography, woodblock printing, multimedia installations, and more.

As Director of Natural Resources for the Catawba Nation from late 2021 to early 2025, Baumgardner worked to implement initiatives to restore rivercane to the land. Ultimately, his involvement in bringing a workshop to the Catawba Cultural Preservation Project led to him working with the large grass as an artistic medium.

"We have rivercane populations throughout the reservation, they're just not really in a state where you can harvest it for basketry," said Baumgardner. "There was a lot of work that was happening within the department to remove invasives, open the canopy, and do these different management styles to promote the health of the rivercane; part of one of the grants that I had was to present a basketry workshop. I was just going to be at the workshop for the fact that I was a part of that program. Since then, it's something that I've really loved and have grown an appreciation for. One of the big motivations as to why I really participated in the first place was that I wanted to really have that cultural connection to the things that my staff and I were doing in the field. It was really an important moment for me to understand why the work I was doing in the field was important for the culture and the people."

Baumgardner began working with rivercane in 2023, learning from Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians teachers Gabe Crow and Michelle and Waylon Long, who he names as his inspiration in

his basketry work.

Near the end of 2024, he and other staff members from the Catawba Nation (including fellow exhibitor Teresa Dunlap) visited the National Museum of the American Indian's Cultural Resource Center and Archives and researched artwork and artifacts. The team was able to view weavings that were created in the early 1900s.



"It's pretty amazing; the last rivercane baskets that we have any sort of evidence of were made in the 1900s, which were ones that were in the Smithsonian," said Baumgardner. "It was really an opportunity for us to connect to those items. We had learned at that point how to do it ourselves through our teachers at the Eastern Band of Cherokee, but to see the Catawba baskets in particular, was really a great experience, because of being able to connect to the patterns and the style in which they did it."

In addition to working with white oak and rivercane baskets, Baumgardner has also been creating pottery since 2022, carrying on the legacy of his great-great-grandmother Sallie Rebecca Brown Beck and her mother, Rachael Wysie George Brown.

"When it comes to pottery, I would say that Bill Harris is a big inspiration of mine," said Baumgardner of the former Catawba chief.

"Bill has been someone who has really allowed me to think creatively and outside the box, to continue the legacy of our pottery tradition which is, in my opinion, the potter and the clay- not the shape, not the way that it gets fired- but really just who it is who's making it and where the clay comes from. That's what makes it Catawba pottery."

Baumgardner hopes that his work will inspire other Catawba artists to not only embrace basketry, but to also to reimagine the pottery tradition.

"I hope that I can, one, inspire people to want to take up basketry as a practice, and two, especially when it comes to pottery, think outside that box that we've been told by our elders that we have to stick to," he said. "A lot of times, when it comes to our pottery, we don't use it, and it just sits on a shelf and collects dust. I think of how our ancestors would have used it even just a few hundred years ago in their everyday lives, and it would have broken. There are pieces of pottery in the exhibit that are plates; I want to use them, I want to eat off them, and I want to accidentally break them, then I can just make another to replace that plate. It's thinking a little

bit outside the box, and just really having a more intimate relationship with our pottery, because it becomes something that you use daily instead of just something that you look at when you're sitting at your dinner table."

"By Way of Water: Reviving & Reimagining Catawba Art Forms" is on display through Saturday, Dec. 20, 2025.

A second new exhibit opened this summer in the Center's North Gallery is making a splash with the theme of water.

"As Long as the Waters Flow" displays the striking black and white images of photographer Carolyn DeMeritt in collaboration with writer Frye Gaillard for their book of the same title. In the exhibit, over 30 portraits document Native American tribal citizens from the Deep South, Mid-South, and Northeast.

From 1996 to 1998, DeMeritt and Gaillard traveled from Wisconsin to Maine in the North, Louisiana to Florida in the South, and several states in between, documenting the resilience of contemporary Native American communities.

Some of the portraits include citizens from tribes such as the Mohawk, Penobscot, Haliwa-Saponi, Lumbee, Miccosukee, Coushatta, and more. The exhibit illustrates the lived experiences of individuals and families who are elders, elected officials, dancers, musicians, artists and craftspeople, language bearers, and keepers of oral traditions.

Closer to home, the exhibit also includes portraits of Catawba Nation citizens.

"Catawba culture has long been shaped by water, specifically the river," said USCL Director of Native American Studies Dr. Stephen Criswell. "Their myths and legends, their foodways, and of course their earthenware pottery have all connected the Catawba of the past and present to water."

"As Long as the Waters Flow" is on display through Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2025.



Portrait of Anna Barber (Jena Choctaw, Jena, LA 1997) entitled "Winner of Miss Choctaw Indian Pageant 1997," featured in the exhibit "As Long as the Waters Flow." Photo by Carolyn DeMerit.

NEW MINI ART MARKETS, GUIDED TOURS CONTINUE THIS FALL

New mini pop-up art markets and in-depth guided tours added to the Center's roster of programming this summer continue this fall!

Art enthusiasts now have more opportunities to support local Native American talent and discover unique, handcrafted treasures at monthly mini pop-up art markets. Scheduled for the third Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the markets feature two artists with diverse creations at each event, offering a selection of jewelry, baskets, paintings, Catawba pottery, and more throughout the coming months.



The markets began in July with Sierra Cauthen (top right) and Robbins Family Pottery (bottom left), with Aaron Baumgardner and Teresa Dunlap participating in the August market. Upcoming participating artists include Ashley Garris and Beckee Garris (Sept. 20), Alex Osborn and Jeannie Sanders Smith (Oct. 18), and Lisa Lindler and Kathleen Shtunkinish (Nov. 15).

“Expanding our signature art festivals held in spring and winter, these mini markets create



a year-round opportunity for the community to engage with local Native American artists and have more access to their incredible art forms,” said Center Assistant Curator and Program Assistant Sharon Simmers-Norton, who coordinates the sales along with USCL Director of Campus Collections and Galleries Brittany Taylor-Driggers. “Whether you’re looking for a unique gift or are adding to your own personal collection, these events are a great way to connect with art and the community!”

The August tour, led by Visitor Coordinator Katelyn Shull-McManus (pictured below) took an in-depth look at current Center exhibits. The next tour, scheduled for noon-2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 27, will take visitors behind the scenes of three spaces not typically open to the general public- the Center's Special Collections, the W. Brent Burgin Archives, and the Fred "Henry" Shute Archaeology Lab.



“Our staff are ready to show you through our gallery spaces and give you background information on our facility and its exhibits,” said Katelyn Shull-McManus, who coordinates the tours. “This tour series is appropriate and informative for all age groups looking to learn more about Native American cultures, traditions and heritages. This is a perfect, casual experience for all ages, so be sure to bring your curiosity!”

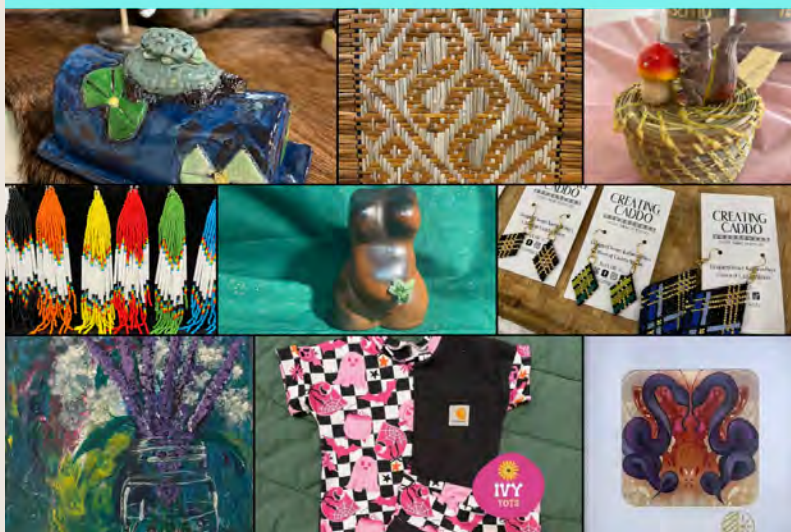
Admission to the mini pop-up markets and tours are free and open to the public, though tour reservations are required (limit of 15 people per tour; November tour is limited to 30 people).

Meet the artists and shop their creations from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. on the following Saturdays this year:

• Sept. 20 • Oct. 18 • Nov. 15 • Dec. 6*

Events continue in 2026 on the following
Saturdays (artists to be announced):
• Jan. 17 • Feb. 21 • March 21 • April 18

*Be sure to save the date for our 12th Annual Winter Art & Craft Festival on Saturday, Dec. 6!





SHUMAK RECEIVES ORDER OF THE PALMETTO

At 25 years old, South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs Native American Affairs Coordinator Joshua Shumak has accomplished much in his young career.

Shumak serves as Vice Chief of the Wassamasaw Tribe of Varnertown Indians, has spoken about Indigenous rights at the United Nations 17th Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Switzerland, and has presented a TEDxCharleston talk, [“Discovering Native Americans of the Lowcountry.”](#)

He is the recipient of many awards, including the 2025 National Emerging Professional Award from the Native American Fish & Wildlife Society, the 2024 John Lewis Youth Leadership Award presented by S.C. Secretary of State Mark Hammond, the Sally Carter Legacy Award presented by 7th Generation, and more. In July, Shumak added another prestigious honor to that list.

Governor Henry McMaster awarded Shumak the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina’s highest civilian honor, recognizing Shumak’s dedicated service and significant contributions to the state. Shumak is one of the youngest recipients of the award, which was established in 1971 under Governor John C. West.

Nominated with the support of Moncks Corner Mayor Thomas Hamilton Jr., U.S. Rep. Nancy Mace, and several others, Shumak views the award as an opportunity to inform others of matters affecting Native Americans in the state.

“I hope that by more people seeing this recognition, it will raise awareness and possibly lead to improvements in Native American affairs,” he said.

Shumak is a friend to the Center, demonstrating his bead working skills at the Center's 10th Anniversary celebration in the fall of 2022 and presenting the [January 2025 Lunch and Learn](#) as part of the W. Brent Burgin Lecture Series.



"For such a young man, Joshua Shumak has attained successes and accolades that would rival a lifetime of other's work," said Dr. Stephen Criswell, USCL Director of Native American Studies. "His devotion to his community, Indigenous South Carolina, and the state as a whole is quite admirable!"

Shumak says he is inspired by tribal leaders who have come before him, and those who are actively leading their communities today.

"I was only five years old when recognition first came to my community, and many who came before me had to constantly fight to maintain their identity," he said. "I hope to help ease that burden and help move us forward."

In his service to the state, Shumak finds the partnerships and connections he makes with South Carolina's tribes particularly meaningful.

"While I'm always happy to help tribes individually, I especially enjoy supporting intertribal collaboration; for example, helping the Council of Chiefs work together with the Governor's Office on the Tribal Alliance of S.C. Nations," said Shumak. "That and advocating for legislation that benefits all tribes in South Carolina."

No matter what his career holds in the future, Shumak remains steadfast in continuing to assist South Carolina's tribes and helping to foster opportunities for growth and success in tribal communities.

"I hope to continue positively impacting tribes, whether I remain with the South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs, work as a private consultant, or move to another agency or field entirely," said Shumak. "I am committed to dedicating my time and effort to serving Native people."

IN MEMORIAM, FAYE GRIENER

We were saddened by the passing of Catawba Nation basket maker Faye Greiner in early July.

Greiner was a friend of the Center, participated in many art festivals, and served as the Center's Artist-in-Residence in 2015.

Hear more from Greiner and learn about her artistic process and basketry techniques in the [Catawba Traditional Arts Online Series](#), an interview/demonstration held with Native American Studies Director Dr. Stephen Criswell in 2021.

"I love the fact that several of us at the Center- and a lot of other people- have Faye's beautiful baskets. It warms my heart to know her artistry is on display in countless homes," said Criswell.

View the obituary [here](#).

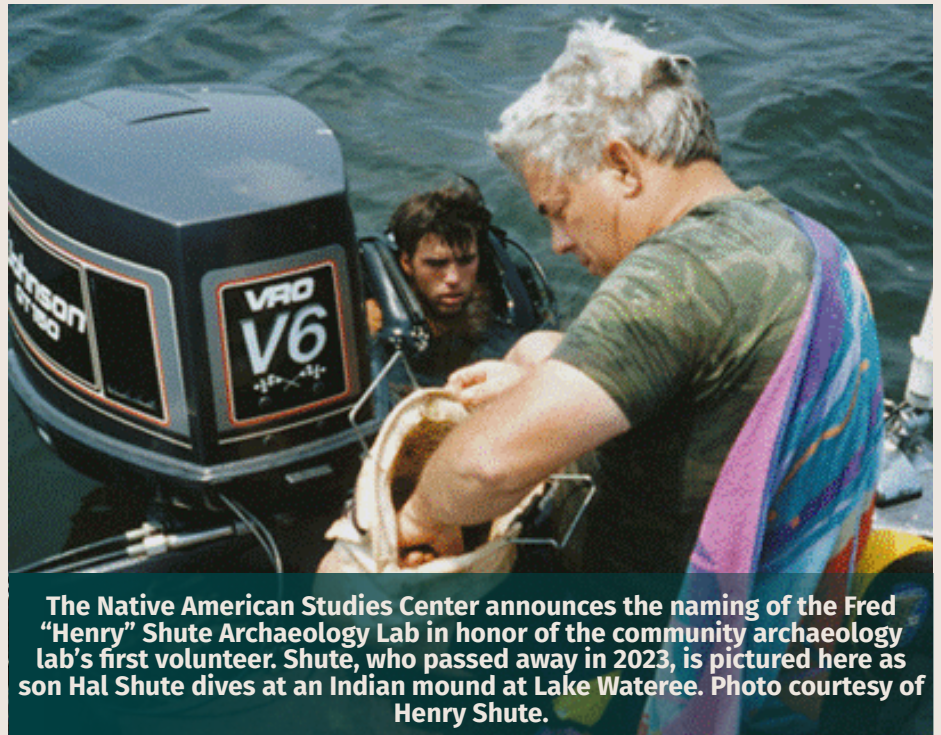


CENTER ARCHAEOLOGY LAB NAMED FOR FIRST VOLUNTEER

The Center's archaeology lab is now designated the Fred "Henry" Shute Archaeology Lab, thanks to generous donations given by Shute's wife Carol, family, and friends. Shute, who passed away in 2023, was the first regular volunteer in the community archaeology lab, with he and his wife Carol volunteering there for over a decade. In addition to volunteering, Shute was well-versed in local archaeology sites and Native American artifacts, frequently demonstrating flintknapping for USCL classes and other for public programs.

The University of South Carolina Board of Trustees officially approved the naming of the archaeology lab at their June meeting. A naming ceremony in Shute's honor will be held at the Center this fall.

"We are thrilled that the archaeology lab is being named in Henry's honor," said Carol. "He loved the time that he spent volunteering at the lab and with our community, and he would be so pleased to know the lab was named after him. We are excited to see what the future holds for USCL's Native American Studies Center."



The Native American Studies Center announces the naming of the Fred "Henry" Shute Archaeology Lab in honor of the community archaeology lab's first volunteer. Shute, who passed away in 2023, is pictured here as son Hal Shute dives at an Indian mound at Lake Wateree. Photo courtesy of Henry Shute.



Do you have an interesting object you'd like to know more about? Whether it's a stone tool, pottery sherd, or something mysterious, Center Archaeologist Chris Judge is available for appointments to help identify Native American artifacts!

Contact Judge at judge@sc.edu to set up an appointment to learn more.

CATAWBA TEEN CENTER TOUR



In late June, we had the pleasure of touring the Catawba Teen Center around the Center's galleries!

Beat the summer heat and book a guided tour for your school, church, civic, or special interest group! Contact us at [\(803\) 313-7172](tel:8033137172) or usclnasp@mailbox.sc.edu for more information.

CATAWBA YOUTH SUMMER PROGRAM

What a delight to have the Catawba Summer Youth Pottery Program with us at the Center in June! The group spent time discussing anthropology and archaeology with Center Archaeologist Chris Judge and received a tour of our exhibit galleries and Special Collections with Director of Campus Collections and Galleries Brittany Taylor-Driggers.

Supported by the Taproot Fellowship and the Georgia Harris Foundation, the pottery program allows for three young people from 16-24-years-old to meet three days a week over a 7-week period during summer to learn the art of making traditional Catawba pottery. The program is led by Bill Harris with participation from Elizabeth Harris. To learn more about the foundation, visit their website [here](#).





CENTER HOSTS NEW CHARTER SCHOOL FOR ARCHAEOLOGY LECTURE

It was a pleasure to host educators from new Lancaster County public charter school Cogito Academy in late July for a professional development session, where Center Archaeologist Chris Judge presented a talk on Native American societies from Pre-Contact to European contact. Learn how to schedule your field trip or educational talk at the Center by [emailing](#) us or calling us at [\(803\) 313-7172](tel:8033137172)!

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

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

OLDEST POTTERY IN SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RECENTLY ACQUIRED

A recent donation to the Center adds what we believe to be the oldest pot held in our Special Collections.

Collector John Burns (pictured below with Director of Campus Collections and Galleries Brittany Taylor-Driggers) donated the unique piece earlier this year, along with excellent records of the pot's origins and a timeline of how the pot has passed through his family lineage.



The pot is believed to have been made in the early 1840s by a Catawba potter and was acquired by Burns's great grandfather, Alexander Moultrie Brailsford, around 1849 when he was 10 years old.

Originally a pitcher, breakage along the top of the pot rim indicates that a handle was once attached; it is unknown how the handle broke. The documentation explains that instead of traditionally buying pottery for money, it was customary for those who wanted Native American pottery to fill that pot or bowl with a food item for the artist's family in exchange for that piece of pottery. Burns's records note that this pot was bartered in exchange for shelled corn.

THE ARCHAEOLOGIST, THE YANKEE, AND THE WORLD SERIES RING

BY CHRISTOPHER JUDGE

As a lifelong fan of the New York Yankees, I was excited to learn that Gene Locklear, a Lumbee Indian painter from North Carolina, was the artist in residence at the [Museum of the Southeast American Indian](#) in the spring of 2025. Locklear was a Yankee in 1977 when they won the World Series. In April, I attended the 20th Annual Southeast Native Studies Conference at the museum in Pembroke along with faculty and staff from the Center, where we appeared on a panel. When I arrived, I noticed there was a small exhibit of Gene's Yankee days in the lobby of the museum with a photo of him in his Yankee uniform; his stunning paintings were on exhibit, but he himself was nowhere to be found and I had a conference to attend.

As the day came to an end, I went by Museum Director Nancy Chavis's office to say hello since I had not yet seen her. There, in her outer office, was none other than Gene Locklear himself. I said, "Mr. Locklear I am a lifelong, dyed-in-the-wool New York Yankees fan and it's such a pleasure to meet you." He regaled me with stories of then-Coach Yogi Bera and some humorous escapades with coach and fellow player Lou Pinella. After a bit of small talk, he said, "You want to wear my World Series ring?" In my excitement I had not realized he was wearing his 1977 World Series ring. I said absolutely. I asked my friend and colleague Lumbee archaeologist Harlen Chavis, who had appeared in the office, to take a photo of me wearing the ring with Gene. As fate would have it, when I tried to remove the ring, it was rather tightly stuck on my finger. After a tense moment, crazy thoughts of emergency room doctors cutting either the ring or my finger off, it finally came loose and

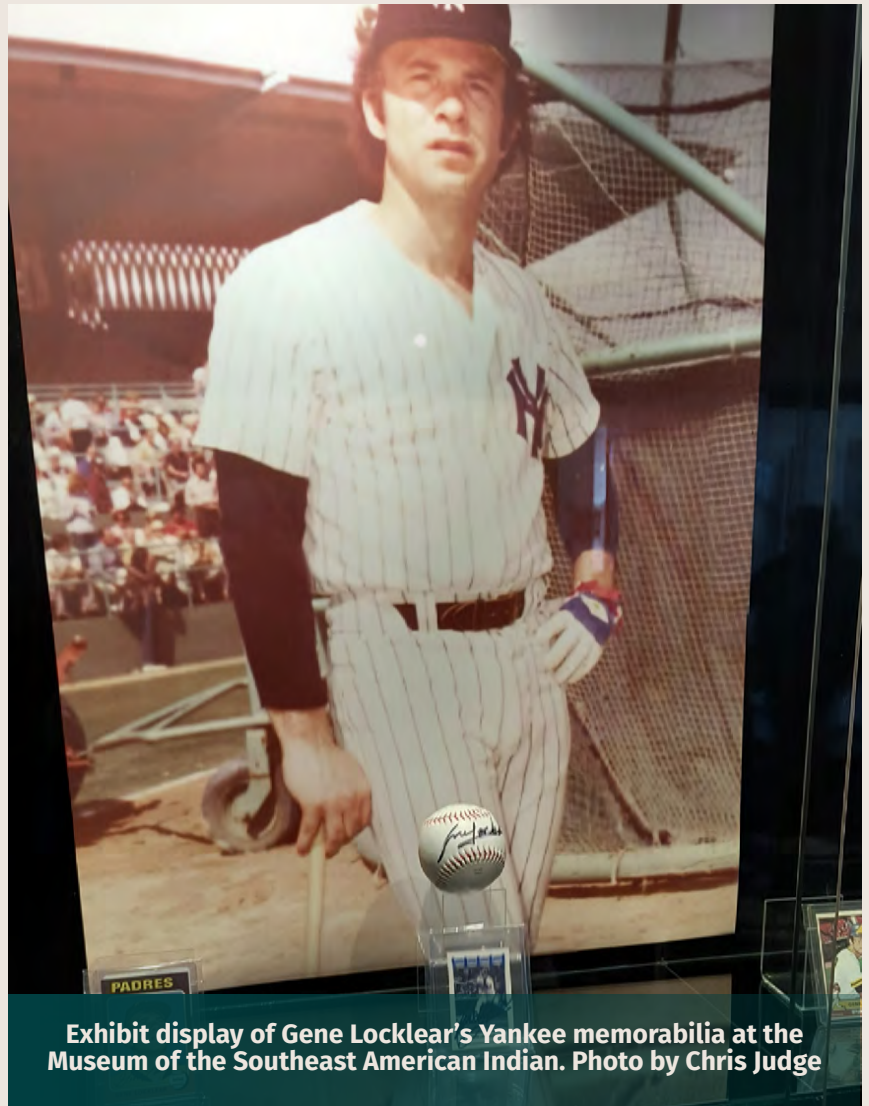


Exhibit display of Gene Locklear's Yankee memorabilia at the Museum of the Southeast American Indian. Photo by Chris Judge



was returned to its owner. Later, I was surprised to learn that Harlen had captured my comical predicament in photos. While I had to return the ring, I did get an autographed baseball, and a lasting memory.



Chris Judge models Gene Locklear's 1977 World Series ring, then realizes it's firmly stuck on his finger as Gene Locklear sits nearby. Photos courtesy of Harlen Chavis.

UNC PEMBROKE WELCOMES JUDGE

Center Assistant Director and Archaeologist Chris Judge was graciously welcomed to North Carolina at the end of June as he presented "Gathering Up the Fragments: Searching for the Elusive Cheraw" at UNC Pembroke.

Judge was graciously welcomed to tribal headquarters by the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina Tribal Chairman John Lowery, who was preparing to present his State of the Tribe address that same evening. Judge toured the Cultural Center with Nancy Strickland Chavis, Director of [The Museum of the Southeast American Indian](#) at UNCP, met with Harlen



Judge with Nancy Strickland Chavis. Photo courtesy of Nancy Strickland Chavis.



Judge at lectern at UNC Pembroke.
Photo courtesy of Harlen Chavis.



Judge with Alicia Thomas. Photo courtesy of Nancy Strickland Chavis.

Chavis, Lumbee Tribal Historic Preservation Officer at the Cultural Center, and toured the MSAI with Alicia Thomas, Curator of Education and Community Engagement. Additionally, Judge also met with a number of Lumbee scholars and citizens while at UNCP, including Provost Diane Prusank, College of Arts and Sciences Dean Shreerekha Pillai, and Lumbee scholars Dr. Linda Oxendine, Dr. Mary Ann Jacobs, Dr. Lawrence Locklear (Director of UNCP Southeast American Indian Studies), among other tribal citizens and lecture attendees.



"Rabbit Shares Fire" by DeLesslin George-Warren

In late August, the Center celebrated with a special reception for the exhibit "By Way of Water: Reviving & Reimagining Catawba Art Forms," featuring the work of Aaron Baumgardner, Teresa Dunlap, DeLesslin George-Warren, and Alex Osborn. Visitors had the opportunity to speak with artists, such as DeLesslin George-Warren, whose artwork is pictured here, one-on-one to discuss their artwork and their artistic techniques.

NEWLY-PROMOTED SENIOR INSTRUCTOR JUDGE JOINS S.C. CAROLINIANA SOCIETY, S.C. HUMANITIES SPEAKERS BUREAU

Congratulations to Center Assistant Director and Archaeologist Christopher Judge, who recently joined the Executive Council of the South Caroliniana Society and the South Carolina Humanities Speakers Bureau.

Judge joins the 14-person South Caroliniana Society Executive Council, which supports the South Caroliniana Library at the University of South Carolina and upholds the Library's mission of connecting people across South Carolina with historical and cultural resources.

As a member of the South Carolina Humanities Speakers Bureau, Judge joins the roster of scholars who travel South Carolina speaking to non-profit and public agencies, sharing their expertise and facilitating conversations about traditions and culture. "Gathering Up the Fragments: Searching for the Elusive Cheraw," the talk Judge presented at UNC Pembroke (as seen in this newsletter), is just one talk Judge offers through the Speakers Bureau.

In addition, Judge was promoted to Senior Instructor of Anthropology and Archaeology at USC Lancaster, acknowledging his teaching, scholarship, and service to the university and the community.

"Chris has long proven himself to be an asset to both the Native American Studies Center and the campus as a whole," said USCL Native American Studies Director Dr. Stephen Criswell. "As an instructor, he has shaped a generation or more of students and can take pride in their successes. And conversely, our students are lucky to have such a knowledgeable and experienced teacher."

Congratulations, Professor Judge!



Chris Judge introduces Dr. Kiley Molinari at the August Lunch and Learn.

CENTER FACULTY IN THE MEDIA

In case you missed it, our Center faculty's expertise has been featured on air and in print this summer!

USC Lancaster Director of Native American Studies Dr. Stephen Criswell was recently featured in this article by the [Maryland Star Democrat](#), examining how Indigenous communities view the Fourth of July.

Center Assistant Director and Archaeologist Chris Judge's interview in early July on WRHI Radio's [Straight Talk with Manning Kimmel](#), discussing USCL's Native American Studies, Center events and exhibits, and South Carolina's Native American tribes and history.

Coming soon! Center Historian and Assistant Professor of History and Native American Studies Dr. Evan Nooe recorded a podcast with [Florida Frontiers](#), discussing his book "Aggression & Sufferings: Settler Violence, Native Resistance, and the Coalescence of the Old South." The episode is planned for a September release, and we will update our social media when the podcast is available.



In late August, the Center had the privilege to be part of a special Q&A with the creative team behind Hulu's "Blood and Myth," a true crime documentary based on the best-selling Audible Original "Midnight Son," that premiered on the streaming service on Thursday, Sept. 4. USCL Director of Native American Studies Director/Folklorist Dr. Stephen Criswell and Criminal Justice Instructor/Native American Advisory Council Member Deborah Rowell (pictured right) spoke with "Blood and Myth" Executive Producer James Dommek Jr. (pictured on screen) and Director/ Executive Producer Kahlil Hudson, exploring storytelling, justice, and the Indigenous experience. The Q&A is available to watch now on our [YouTube](#) channel.

Be sure to tune in to "Blood and Myth," available now on Hulu!

EVENTS CALENDAR

Exhibit Opening

SEPT.
10

First day to see the exhibit, "Blooming into Light: Artwork by Sierra Cauthen."

Santee Indian Organization Powwow

SEPT.
13
9 a.m.

Join the Santee Indian Organization for the 12th Annual Powwow in Holly Hill, S.C. [Click here](#) for more information.

Mini Pop-Up Art Market

SEPT.
20
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Support local Native American talent and discover unique, handcrafted treasures! Held on the third Saturday of each month, these monthly mini pop-up art markets feature two Native American artists working in different mediums. This market highlights work by Ashley Garris, Beckee Garris, and Hanna Williams.

Lunch and Learn: "Buttons, Bone Handles, and Brick: Contextualizing USC's Histories Within the 19th Century Atlantic World"

SEPT.
26
Noon

Lecture by Dr. Kelly Goldberg, Clinical Associate Professor, Director of the USC Public Heritage Lab.

PAIA Lower Eastern Cherokee Nation SC Powwow

SEPT.
27
9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Join the PAIA for the 18th Annual Powwow in Gray Court, S.C. [Click here](#) for more information.

Gallery Gatherings

SEPT.
27
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Look behind the scenes of the Center's Special Collections, the W. Brent Burgin Archives, and the Fred "Henry" Shute Archaeology Lab with Assistant Curator Sharon Simmers-Norton, Director of Archives Logan Cocklin, and Archaeologist Chris Judge. Tours are free but reservations are required; limit 15 people per tour.

Touch and See in the Gallery

OCT.
1-31

Held in conjunction with National Blindness Awareness Month, enjoy interactive touchpoints within our galleries.

Wassamasaw Annual Powwow

OCT.
11
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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.

Mini Pop-Up Art Market

OCT.
18
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Support local Native American talent and discover unique, handcrafted treasures! Held on the third Saturday of each month, these monthly mini pop-up art markets feature two Native American artists working in different mediums. This market highlights work by Alex Osborn and Jeannie Smith-Sanders.

Lecture and Longleaf Pine Needle Basketry Workshop

OCT.
18
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Catawba artist Beckee Garris leads this special event held as part of the 2025 Humanities Festival, hosted by the Lancaster County Council of the Arts.

Fifth Annual W. Brent Burgin Lunch and Learn

OCT.
24
Noon

Lunch and Learn: "Building from Consultation to Collaboration in SC Archaeology"

Lecture by Dr. Nina Schreiner, Associate Director and NAGPRA Coordinator, South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology.

20th Annual Native American Studies Celebration

November

Dates to be announced.

NOV.
1

Exhibit Opening

First day to see the exhibit, "Guided Paths: Contemporary Catawba Potters and Their Mentors."

NOV.
1-2
Time TBD

Waccamaw Indian People Pauwau

Join the Waccamaw Indian People for the 33rd annual pauwau in Aynor, S.C. [Click here](#) for more information.

NOV.
8
1 - 3 p.m.

Gallery Gatherings

In conjunction with USCL's 20th Annual Native American Studies Celebration, NAS Director Dr. Stephen Criswell leads a special anniversary-themed walk-through of the Center's galleries, discussing the academic program's history, growth, and scholarship. Tours are free but reservations are required; limit 30 people per tour.

NOV.
15
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sumter Tribe of Cheraw Indians

Powwow

Join the Sumter Tribe of Cheraw Indians for the 12th annual powwow in Sumter, S.C. [Click here](#) for more information.

NOV.
15
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Mini Pop-Up Art Market

Support local Native American talent and discover unique, handcrafted treasures! Held on the third Saturday of each month, these monthly mini pop-up art markets feature two Native American artists working in different mediums. This market highlights work by Lisa Lindler and Kathleen Shtunkin.

NOV.
22
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Yap Ye Iswa Festival

Join the Catawba Nation for the Yap Ye Iswa Festival in Rock Hill, S.C. [Click here](#) for more information.

DEC.
6
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 12th Annual Winter Native American Art and Craft Sale!

DEC.
19
Noon

Lunch and Learn: "The Invented Indigenous Histories of Appalachian Show Caves"

Lecture by Dr. Chelsea Fisher, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of South Carolina.

DEC.
20

Exhibit Closing

Last day to see the exhibit, "By Way of Water: Reviving & Reimagining Catawba Art."



Don't miss the Gallery Gatherings tour, happening Saturday, Nov. 8 as Dr. Stephen Criswell leads a tour in celebration of the 20th Anniversary of USCL's Native American Studies.

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.

North Gallery: *As Long as the Waters Flow: Native Americans in the South and East*. Featuring the striking images of photographer Carolyn DeMeritt in collaboration with writer Frye Gaillard for their book of the same title, this exhibit of over 30 portraits documents Native American tribal citizens from the Deep South, Mid-South, and Northeast. Through Oct. 15, 2025.

Red Rose Gallery: *By Way of Water: Reviving & Reimagining Catawba Art Forms*. Featuring the work of four Catawba artists— Aaron Baumgardner, Teresa Dunlap, DeLesslin George-Warren, and Alex Osborn— this exhibit shows traditional art forms through a contemporary lens. Through Dec. 20, 2025.

Duke Energy Gallery: *Clay and Play!* This educational children's exhibit includes traditional Native American folktales, colorful displays and wall murals, pottery displays, an interactive Three Sisters Garden where guests can “pick” corn, beans, and squash, and other props for immersive play. Through Aug. 5, 2026.

Back Gallery: *Growing Through Donations*. This exhibit highlights donations from our Special Collections. Semi-permanent Exhibit.

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

Five Points Gallery: *Blooming into Light: Artwork by Sierra Cauthen*. From surreal landscapes to abstract compositions, this colorful exhibit showcases the paintings and digital photos of Catawba artist Sierra Cauthen. Opens Sept. 10, 2025. Through Aug. 5, 2026.

North Gallery: *Guided Paths: Contemporary Catawba Potters and Their Mentors*. Looking at family ties, mentorship, and cultural heritage, this exhibit highlights the connections between established Catawba potters and the contemporary artists they've guided in the traditional art form. The exhibit is held in conjunction with “Handwork: Celebrating American Craft 2026,” a national Semiquincentennial collaboration showcasing the importance of the handmade and celebrating the diversity of craft that defines America. Opens Nov. 1, 2025. Through Aug. 30, 2026.