

NAS NEWS

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Winter 2023 Edition Volume 13 Issue 4



Former Catawba Nation Chief William "Bill" Harris wrapped his fall residence at the Native American Studies Center in November. Work during Harris' residency will culminate in an exhibit that will open at the Center in 2024 (more details will be announced soon).

Harris' residency was made possible through a 2024 South Carolina Arts Commission Folklife and Traditional Arts Grant. More information about the residency will be announced later this month.

Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.



Native American Studies Center
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA LANCASTER

Greetings from the Director!

As you can see from the pages that follow, the past couple of months at the NAS Center have been busy, and our faculty and staff have been working hard promoting our exhibits, programs, and scholarship.

November saw our 18th Annual Native American Studies Week, which now coincides with Native American Heritage Month. This year's theme of sports brought us programs featuring an expert on women's Cherokee stickball, a panel from the Catawba Nation featuring an Olympic Torch bearer, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, and the return of our friend and journalist Vincent Schilling. These programs are available on our Youtube page [here](#).

Thanks to everyone who logged on live or came to the Center for these programs. As always, we appreciate your support!

We are also grateful for the support of the visitors and artists at our annual Winter Native American Art & Craft Festival. We were delighted to be joined by Jess Moore of Columbia College who demonstrated powwow dances and had children and adults dancing through the gallery! We always enjoy having a mix of vendors from the Catawba Nation and several of our state-recognized tribes sharing their creations with local folks.

This past semester we welcomed Catawba Nation former chief, Bill Harris, as our Artist-in-Residence. Not only did Bill offer demonstrations of his pottery-making talents, he enthralled visitors with stories and information about Catawba history and culture. Bill was also our first Artist-in-Residence to visit a local school. In early December, Bill spent the day with third, fourth, and fifth grade art students at Great Falls Elementary. The kids had a blast! (And I think the former chief did as well). We hope to send more Artists-in-Residence to local schools in the coming years.

We're looking forward to the coming year with powwows in the spring and summer, our Red Rose Festival arts and craft sale in May, new exhibits, Lunch and Learn lectures, and additional programs. As always, we invite you to visit the Center and to check out our online offerings.

On behalf of the faculty and staff of the Native American Studies Center, let me wish everyone a Happy New Year and a prosperous and joyful 2024!

Stephen Criswell



Center Artist-in-Residence Bill Harris spent a day at Great Falls Elementary School this December to demonstrate and discuss pottery techniques with third through fifth grade students. Photo by Brittany Taylor-Driggers.

**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.

119 South Main Street
Lancaster, SC 29720

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

Contact Information:

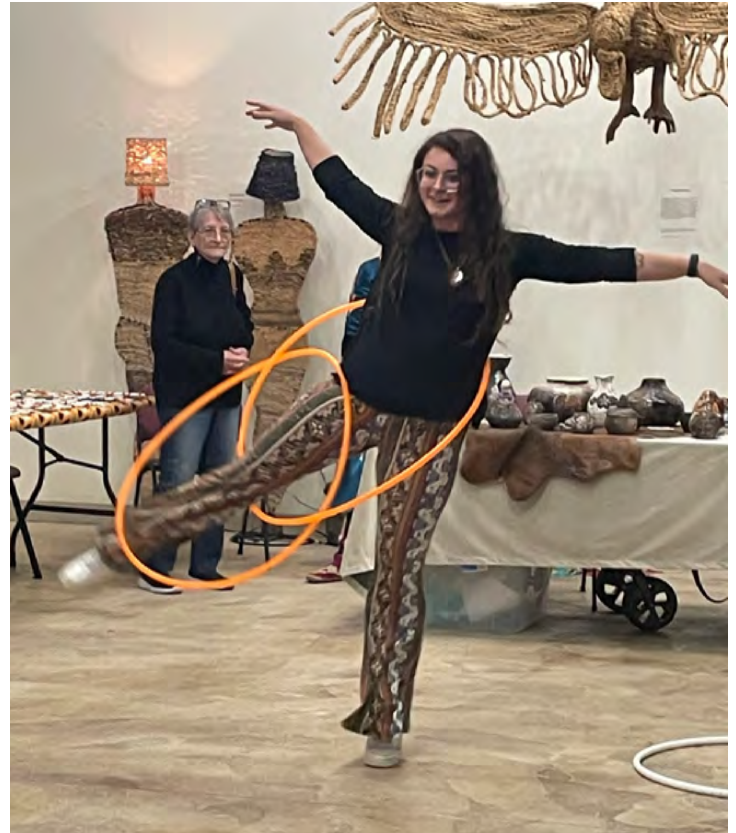
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Learn more about
Native American Studies
Faculty and Staff [here!](#)

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Catawba artist Rhyna Simmers performs a hoop dance at the 10th Annual Native American Winter Art & Craft Festival. Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.

Follow the Center on social media!



05 Native American Studies
Week 2023

08 Lunch and Learn 2023
Preview

10 10th Annual Winter Art &
Craft Festival

11 Archaeology Exhibit Now
Open

12 Recent Events

18 Upcoming Events

19 Center Exhibitions

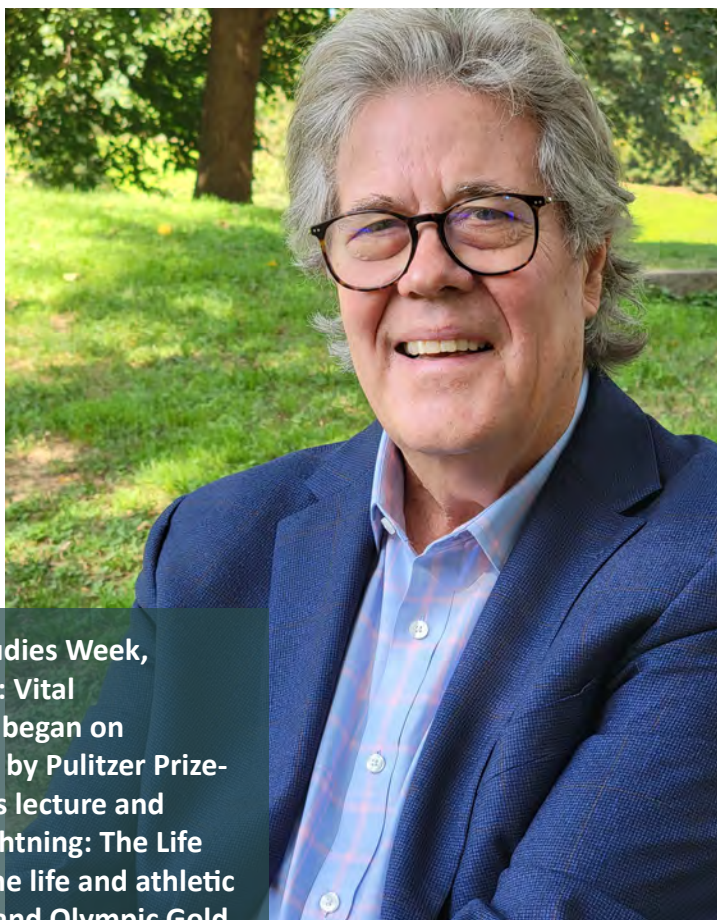


Work by Catawba potter Eric Canty
from December's 10th Annual Native
American Winter Art & Craft Festival.
Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.

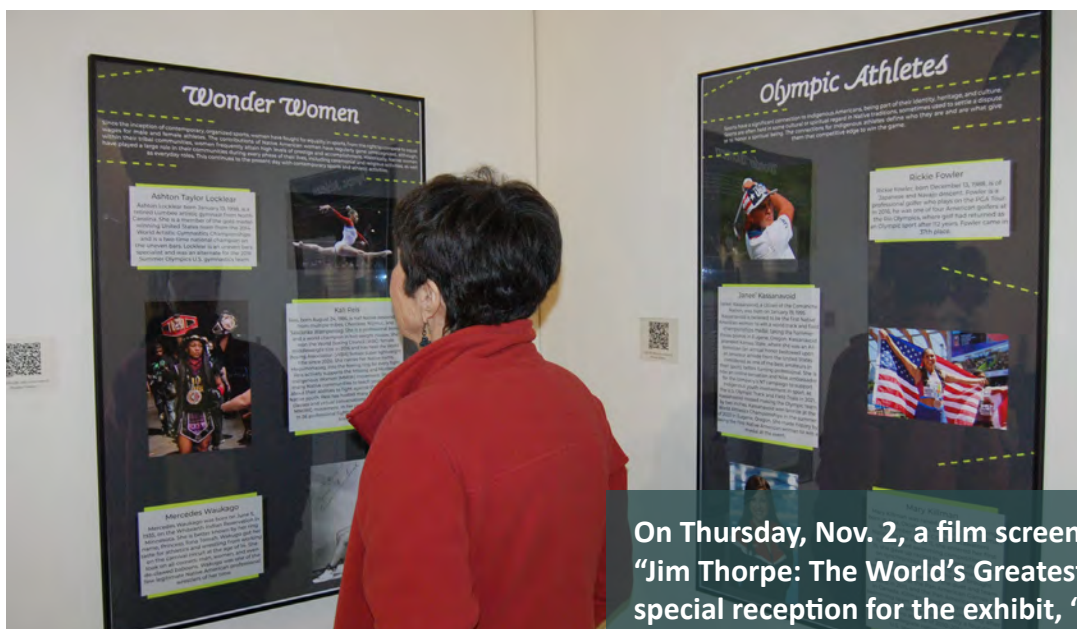


Native American Studies Center ornaments
by Sharon Simmers-Norton. Photo by
Ashley Lowrimore.

NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES WEEK 2023



The 18th Annual Native American Studies Week, “Indigenous Athletes and Athleticism: Vital Contributions to a National Passion,” began on Wednesday, Nov. 1 with a virtual talk by Pulitzer Prize-winning author David Maraniss. In his lecture and biography, both titled “Path Lit by Lightning: The Life of Jim Thorpe,” Maraniss discussed the life and athletic career of Sac and Fox Nation athlete and Olympic Gold medalist Jim Thorpe. Photo by Linda Maraniss.



On Thursday, Nov. 2, a film screening for the film “Jim Thorpe: The World’s Greatest Athlete,” and special reception for the exhibit, “More than a Game: Indigenous Sports and Athletics,” were held in person at the Center. “More than a Game” will be on display through August 2024. Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.



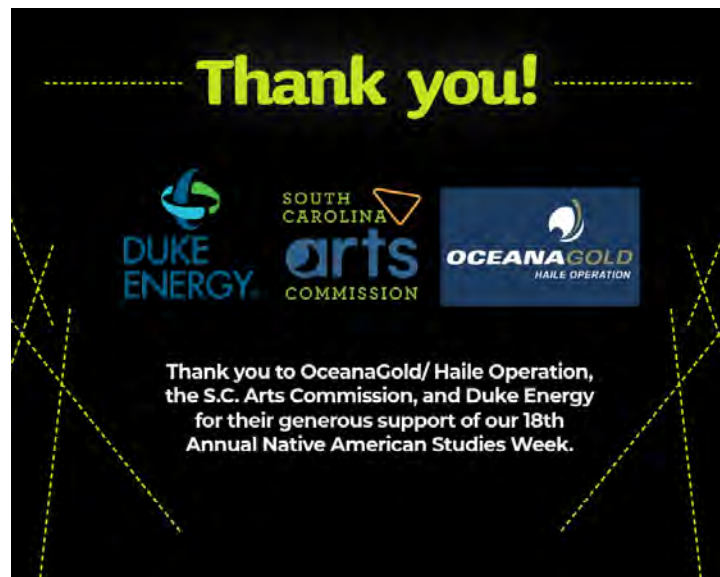
On Tuesday, Nov. 7, Native American Studies Director Dr. Stephen Criswell (left) moderated the Athletes of the Catawba Nation Roundtable panel discussion with (from left to right) Catawba Cultural Preservation Center Director Dr. Wenonah Haire (Catawba), former college track star and 2004 Olympic Torchbearer Crystal Frank (Catawba), and Catawba Nation Archivist Ensley Guffey. The panel discussed notable and up-and-coming Catawba athletes, beginning with information about Haire's father and Frank's grandfather, Evans "Buck" George, the first non-white football player for Clemson University. Photo by Ashley Lowrimore.



On Thursday, Nov. 9, the short film "She Carries On" was streamed, following a virtual discussion with filmmaker and Assistant Professor at Seattle University Dr. Natalie Welch (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians). Photo courtesy of Natalie Welch.



Events as part of Native American Studies Week concluded on Friday, Nov. 10 with the 3rd Annual W. Brent Burgin Lunch and Learn Lecture, presented virtually by Vincent Schilling, Founder/ Editor of Native Viewpoint, CEO/President of Schilling Media, Inc., and author of the book "Native Athletes in Action." In his lecture "From Traditional Lacrosse to Olympians: How Native American Athletes Have Made Their Historical Mark," Schilling discussed Indigenous athletes that he was written about or interviewed, including Olympic athlete Jim Thorpe, track and field athlete Billy Mills, and first Native athlete in the WNBA, Ryneldi Becenti. Photo by Daniel Boyko.



Thank you to ALL who attended our 18th Annual Native American Studies Week, with an extra special thank you to OceanaGold/ Haile Operation, the S.C. Arts Commission, and Duke Energy for their generous support of this annual signature event!

LUNCH AND LEARN 2023 PREVIEW

As the end of 2023 approaches, we're looking forward to a great new season of speakers and subjects as part of the 2024 W. Brent Burgin Lunch and Learn Lecture Series!

Beginning Friday, Jan. 26, First Lady of the University of South Carolina Dr. Ero Aggelopoulou-Amiridis presents, "Breaking

Barriers: Navigating College and a Future Career as a First- Generation Student," discussing the challenges that first-generation college students face while attending college and preparing for their careers.

"We're thrilled to start off our 2024 W. Brent Burgin Lunch and Learn Series with a talk from Dr. Aggelopoulou-Amiridis," said Lunch and Learn coordinator Chris Judge. "This will be the first time that a First Lady will present a lecture as part of the series and we're especially pleased for her to take time out from her busy schedule to share her talk at the Center."

On Friday, Feb. 23, Dr. John M. Coggeshall, Professor of Anthropology at Clemson University, will present "Something in These Hills: The Culture of Family Land in Southern Appalachia," taking a look at how family land metaphorically becomes another member of kin groups in the southern Appalachians.

On Friday, March 22, USCL Instructor of Criminal Justice Deborah Rowell will present, "How DNA Technology Can Reveal Identity, Ancestry, and Appearance in Forensic Science," discussing forensic anthropology, the challenges of identifying DNA due to lack of submissions to the DNA database, and identification of Native American remains versus Black or white remains.

Following in April, USC's Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology's Dr. Chris Moore will share his research analyzing Late Ice Age spearpoints for blood residues of animals hunted by Native Americans.



USC First Lady
Dr. Ero Aggelopoulou-Amiridis.
Photo courtesy of Pamela Bowman.


In August, Center Historian Dr. Evan Nooe, the recipient of the 2022 Anne B. & James B. McMillan Prize in Southern History for his book “Aggression and Sufferings: Settler Violence, Native Resistance, and the Coalescence of the Old South,” will give an author talk and will sign copies of the book. Published by the University of Alabama Press in December 2023, “Aggression and Sufferings,” also will be available for purchase at the talk.

In September, Judge and Dr. James D. Scurry, NASC Research Affiliate, will discuss geographic modeling of Mississippian period sites circa A.D. 1100-1670 in the Wateree and Congaree River drainages.

Celebrating October as South Carolina Archaeology Month, Emily Sykora of the Indiana University of Pennsylvania will present a talk based on her ongoing Master’s thesis of studying animal bones that were recovered by archaeological excavation in Wateree Valley mounds.

Wrapping up the end of the year, November’s lecture will be held in conjunction with the 19th Annual Native American Studies Week, next year’s theme exploring the topic of Native American music, followed by a December talk on Krampus/Knecht Ruprecht by Center Linguist and USCL Instructor of English, Catawba, and Native American Literature Claudia Heinemann-Priest.

More great Lunch and Learn programming is being planned for the year, so keep up with the latest events by checking our [website](#)!



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

10TH ANNUAL WINTER ART & CRAFT FESTIVAL



In early December, the Center hosted its 10th Annual Native American Winter Art & Craft Festival, featuring artwork and demonstrations from a variety of local artisans. Pictured, Columbia College Dance Education Specialist Jess Moore (Waccamaw Siouan Indian Tribe) leads a friendship dance during a special powwow dance demonstration. Amanda McGraw (Catawba) demonstrates beading earrings while sitting at the Catawba Senior Center table, representing a variety of crafts from senior artists. Flintknapper Michael Hartje (Lenape) speaks with guests at his table during the festival. Photo of dancing by Katie Shull. Photo of McGraw and Hartje by Ashley Lowrimore.

ARCHAEOLOGY EXHIBIT NOW OPEN

Opened in October during South Carolina Archaeology Month, “Native American Archaeology in the Wateree Valley” tells the story of Indigenous mound sites in the Wateree Valley region through artwork and artifacts, like the pottery sherds from the Wateree River (shown below). This exhibit was curated by USCL Instructor of Anthropology and Archaeology and Center Archaeologist Christopher Judge (right), who has worked at the sites on-and-off since the 1980s, beginning his time there as a USC undergraduate student. USC has been involved in archaeology work at the mounds since 1972, helping to solve an erosion issue.

The exhibit is on display in the Duke Energy Gallery through August 2024.



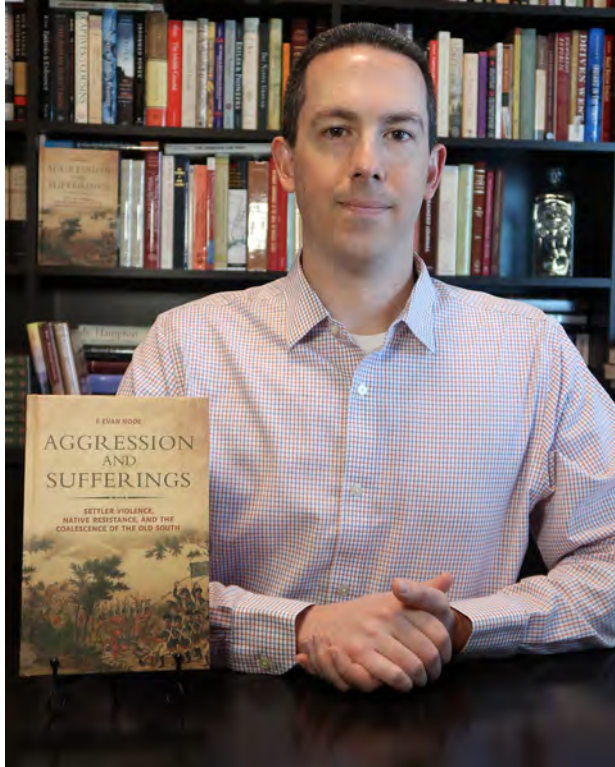
Photo by Sharon Simmers-Norton.



Photo by Ashey Lowrimore.

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

RECENT EVENTS



Nooe Wins Award for New Book

Congratulations to Center Historian and USCL Assistant Professor of History and Native American Studies Dr. Evan Nooe, who was awarded the 2022 Anne B. and James B. McMillan Prize in Southern History for his new and upcoming book, "Aggression and Sufferings: Settler Violence, Native Resistance, and the Coalescence of the Old South." Published by the University of Alabama Press, the book is out now and is available for purchase through their [website](#). Photo by Meena Nooe.

Criswell Speaks During Coffee with a Curator

In September, Director of Native American Studies Dr. Stephen Criswell spoke at the Earl Scruggs Center's Coffee with a Curator program, held in conjunction with the exhibit, "Language of Clay: Catawba Indian Pottery and Oral Tradition," an exhibit based on the Center's Special Collections. Image courtesy of Dr. Todd Lekan.



Lifelong Learning at Center



In October, the Center was pleased to host Rock Hill's Lifelong Learning for a tour of the Center by Native American Studies Director Dr. Stephen Criswell (pictured left) and a Catawba pottery demonstration and discussion with Artist-in-Residence Bill Harris (pictured right).

Photos by Ashley Lowrimore.



Folk Fabulous at the Fair

In October, the S.C. State Fair and USC's McKissick Museum hosted Folk Fabulous, featuring music and drumming from Keepers of the Word and a panel discussion with state tribal leaders Chief Lisa Collins (Wassamasaw Tribe of Varnertown Indians), Chief Harold "Buster" Hatcher (Waccamaw Indian People), Chief Dr. John Creel (Edisto Natchez-Kusso Tribe), and Vice Chief Eric Pratt (Santee Indian Tribe). Photo by Elisabeth Avelar.

Leadership Lancaster

In early November, the Center was pleased to host the Lancaster County Chamber of Commerce and Leadership Lancaster participants as part of the program's annual History Day! Photo by Katie Shull.



Secretary of the Interior Haaland Visits Catawba Nation

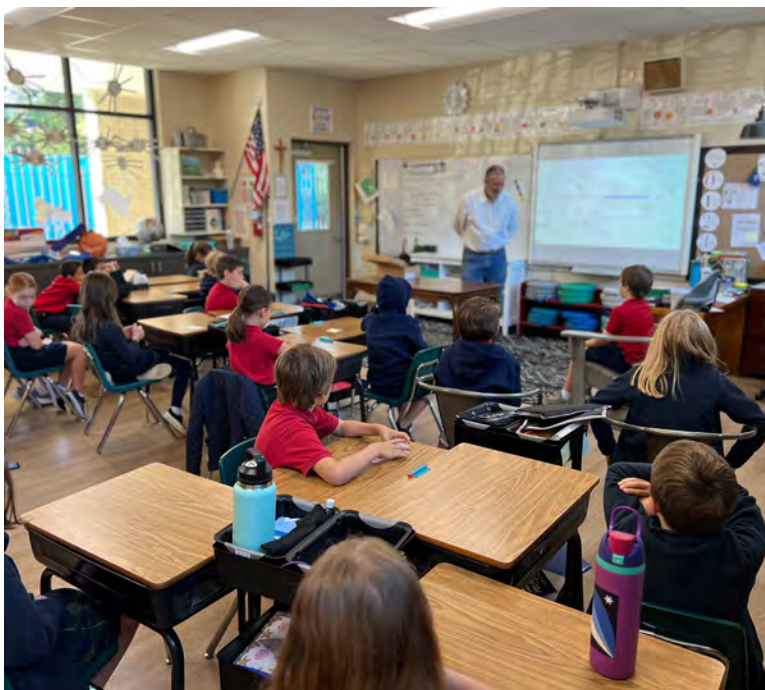
In November, the Catawba Nation announced that it would receive \$4.8 million from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation as part of a federal program to support conservation efforts along the Catawba River. Here, Center Program Assistant Beckee Garriss speaks with U.S. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, who joined Catawba leaders for the announcement. [Click here](#) to learn more information about the funding. Photo by Teresa Dunlap.





Yap Ye Iswa

Thank you to the Catawba Nation for allowing the Center to staff a table at the annual Yap Ye Iswa festival! Left, Center Visitor and Project Coordinator Assistant Crystal Angel-Melton speaks with a guest at the table. Below right, young dancers perform in the arena. Photos by Dr. Evan Nooe.



Judge Speaks at Columbia School

Designated as Native American Heritage Month, November is a busy month for faculty speaking engagements at schools, churches, civic groups, and more. Here, Center Archaeologist Chris Judge speaks to third graders in Jennifer Branham's class at St. Joseph's Catholic School in Columbia, S.C. in early November. Photo by Jennifer Branham.

USCL NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER AT THE SOUTHERN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

BY EVAN NOOE

From Nov. 9-12, the University of South Carolina Lancaster community brought the Native American Studies Center to Uptown Charlotte. At the Westin in Charlotte's Second Ward, the Center hosted an exhibitor's booth at the 2023 Southern Historical Association annual meeting. Center faculty, staff, and members of the USCL Native American Studies advisory committee collaborated to share information on our galleries, public programming, and research opportunities in downtown Lancaster.

The Southern Historical Association was founded in 1934 with the mission to investigate all aspects of southern history. As part of their nearly 90 years of work, the organization hosts an annual meeting featuring academics, independent scholars, and students from across the globe. Attendance at the annual meeting typically runs between 1,000 and 1,200 attendees from diverse disciplines including historians, editors, museum and public history professionals, K-12 educators, National Park Service personnel, and non-professionals who love learning more about the history of the American South. The 2023 program featured multiple scholars presenting research on the intersection of southern and Native American history.

Throughout the Southern Historical Association annual meeting, members of the Native American Studies Center had the opportunity to share our mission with conference attendees and reinforce the critical role of Indigenous history to understanding the American South. Alongside exhibitors from university presses and local historical associations, staff at the NASC booth shared information about the wide range of activities going on at the Center. Patrons visiting the NASC booth learned about our archeology lab with hands on examples of pottery sherds from South Carolina sites. Conference attendees also learned about the public programming offered by the Center such as our monthly Lunch and Learn series. Many attendees were excited about our virtual programming options and growing catalogue of speakers hosted on the Center's YouTube page. Patrons who stopped by our booth also learned about research opportunities through the Center's W. Brent Burgin Archive & Special Collections.



Center Historian Dr. Evan Nooe signs a book for a conference attendee. Photo by Debbie Rowell.

Institutional support for exhibitor space at the Southern Historical Association annual meeting was provided by the University of South Carolina Lancaster and the Native American Studies Center. A huge thanks goes to everyone who made operating the exhibitor's booth possible. Center staff, affiliate USCL faculty, and the NAS advisory committee all joined in on this undertaking. NAS advisory committee members assisted with guiding planning over the last year. Ashley Lowrimore and Elisabeth Avelar prepared materials and social media to help distribute information about the Center to conference attendees. Crystal Angel-Melton, Pat Lawrence, Debbie Rowell, and Stephen Criswell all made the trip to Uptown Charlotte to staff our booth.

Conference organizers with the Southern Historical Association expressed their gratitude for the Native American Studies Center participating in the event and Charlotte locals were excited to learn more about such a valuable cultural resource in the area.



Upcoming Events

Jan 26, Noon

Lunch and Learn: “Breaking Barriers: Navigating College and a Future Career as a First-Generation Student”

Lecture by Dr. Ero Aggelopoulou-Amiridis, First Lady of the University of South Carolina.

Feb. 23, Noon

Lunch and Learn: “Something in These Hills: The Culture of Family Land in Southern Appalachia”

Lecture by Dr. John M. Coggeshall, Clemson University Professor of Anthropology.

March 22, Noon


Lunch and Learn: “How DNA Technology Can Reveal Identity, Ancestry, and Appearance in Forensic Science”

Lecture by Deborah Rowell, USCL Instructor of Criminal Justice.

March 31

Exhibit Closing

Last day to see the exhibit, “Sounds of Religion,” organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service in cooperation with the American Religious Sounds Project of The Ohio State University and Michigan State University and made possible through the generous support of The Henry Luce Foundation.



**The Center will be closed for
winter break beginning
Monday, Dec. 18 through Monday, Jan. 1.**

**Visit us as we reopen
Tuesday, Jan. 2 at 10am!**

Happy Holidays!

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: Sounds of Religion. Choirs singing. Monks chanting. The reading of religious texts. These are religious sounds. But so too are the creaking of church pews and the clanking of pots during the preparation of a communal meal. “Sounds of Religion” is a poster exhibition that explores how rituals and gatherings of religious communities create a complex soundtrack of religions in the United States that teaches us how people behave, how they’re different, and how they’re alike. Through QR codes, viewers are invited to listen to eight contemporary recordings that serve as an audio portrait of the rich and dynamic differences that make religious life in the U.S. unique. “Sounds of Religion” is organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service in cooperation with the American Religious Sounds Project of The Ohio State University and Michigan State University and made possible through the generous support of The Henry Luce Foundation. Through March 31, 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.