

Volume 3_2025 Issue #2 (November 2025)

[View this Newsletter in your Browser](#)

AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY Library & Museum

APS Center for Native American and Indigenous Research Newsletter

We had a busy summer at the [Center for Native American and Indigenous Research](#). Read about some of the highlights from the past few months, and learn about upcoming opportunities and programs!

What's in this Newsletter:

- CNAIR Spotlight
- Upcoming Events & Opportunities
- Comings and Goings
- Collection Updates
- News from our Network

To receive these CNAIR newsletters please [join our mailing list](#).

We also invite you to join our new [CNAIR Facebook Group](#) to get all the latest updates!

Spotlight

2025 Digital Knowledge Sharing Keynote

In July we welcomed [Hali Dardar](#) as our [Digital Knowledge Sharing](#) Keynote speaker. You can now watch Hali's wonderful presentation, [Using Time: An Invitation for Creative Connections Between Communities and Archival Materials](#) on YouTube!



Las traducciones del blog al español ya están disponibles

tinsagunu hanaya cyimisacyini sumiti
úyanu yusyigutuya cyimuni sumiri

るんさぐぬ 人なやち、みさち、ヒすみり
'つやぬ ゆし、くらやち、あヒすみり

tinnu buribusyiya yumiba yumarisyiga
úyanu yusyigutuya yumiyananan

るんぬ ↑リ↑し、や ゆみは ゆまりし、が
'つやぬ ゆし、くらや ゆみやみらん

yuru harasu funiya ninufabusyi miáti
wan nacyeru úyaya wandu miáti

ゆる 人らす フヒヤフ人、↑し、みまろ
あん なえ、ろ 'つやや あんら' みまろ

takaradama yatin migakaniba sabisu
ásayu cyimu migacyi úcyiyu watara

トカラ下まやろん みがカヒは さいす
'まさゆち、あ みがち、'つち、ゆ わ下ら

makutu suru hituya átuya icyimadin
úmukutun kanati cyiyunu sakaí

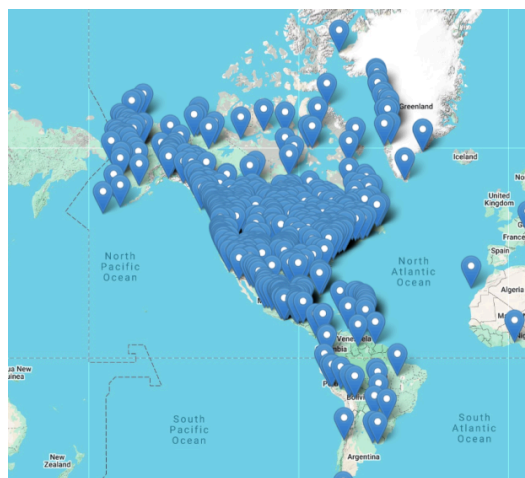
まくら するヒらや 'まらや 'おち、まろん
'つあくらん カみろち、ゆぬ さか'お

nasyiba nangutun nayurugutu yasyiga
nasanu yuikaradu naranu sadami

なし、は 'みんくらん 'みゆるくら やし、が
'みさぬ ゆ'おカラさ' 'みらぬ さ下み

El 25 de septiembre publicamos nuestro primer blog traducido al español [“Presentando la Nueva Guía de Materiales Indígenas”](#), escrito y publicado originalmente en inglés el 15 de marzo del 2018 por nuestro curador de materiales Brian Carpenter. A este se sumó la publicación del blog [“hablando con nuestros ancestros: reformulando el okinawense escrito”](#) escrito por Avery Yara London, 2025 Mellon Foundation Native American Scholars Initiative Undergraduate Intern, el 27 de octubre.

Ambas publicaciones, junto con la traducción de convocatorias y formularios de aplicación para las distintas actividades y becas del CNAIR, son parte de nuestro compromiso de ampliar el alcance del centro y sobre todo hacerlo más accesible para la comunidad hispanohablante. Fatima Valdivia Ramirez, académica mexicana, becaria postdoctoral de la iniciativa trayectorias profesionales de la Fundación Mellon, ha estado a cargo de estas traducciones.



Upcoming Events & Opportunities


Indigenous Learning Forum Presentations

American Philosophical Society
1743

Indigenous Learning Forum:

Sociolinguistic constraints in Mayan bilingual communities

MARIELA ABIGAIL CHI BAACK
November 20, 2025
3:00-4:00 PM ET



Background features the seal of the American Philosophical Society with the motto "NULLO DISCRIMINE".

Our next [Indigenous Learning Forum](#) event on Thursday, **November 20** will feature Friends of the APS Predoctoral Fellow Mariela Abigail Chi Baack (Yucatec Maya). Abi will share elements of her dissertation work in her presentation on “Sociolinguistic constraints in Mayan bilingual communities”. Learn more and register for this virtual event [here](#).

On **December 4th** we will hear from Lindsey Willow Smith (Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians) who will share her work in “Grounding vs. Supplemental: The Use of Indigenous Feminist Oral Histories in Guiding Archival Research rather than Supplementing the Archive”. Read about this presentation and register [here](#).

Como siempre, se ofrecerá interpretación en español/inglés para todas las presentaciones

You can watch many past Indigenous Learning Forum presentations, as well as other CNAIR programming, on the [CNAIR YouTube playlist](#).

Applications are open!

[NASI Archives Training Fellowship](#) (contingent on funding)

Two-year residential fellowship to provide an MLIS or PhD graduate with direct experience working with archival collections in a professional context and developing skills in collections care and best practices surrounding Native American and Indigenous collections in archives, libraries, and museums.

- \$50,000 annual salary, plus travel support
- Applications due: January 16, 2026

[NASI Predoctoral Fellowship](#) (contingent on funding)

Nine-month residential fellowship for an advanced doctoral degree student working toward the completion of the dissertation.

- \$40,000 total funding
- Applications due: January 16, 2026

[Digital Knowledge Sharing Fellowship](#)

These short-term fellowships support university- and community-based scholars and others working on digital projects that connect archives and Indigenous communities.

- \$3,000 stipend
- Travel expenses to attend workshop in Philadelphia
- Applications due: March 2, 2026

[Summer Undergraduate Internship](#)

Eight-week residential paid summer internships for conducting research, exploring career possibilities in archives and special collections, and learning about advanced training in NAIS and related fields.

- \$3,000 stipend
- Travel & lodging expenses
- Applications due: March 2, 2026

[Indigenous Community Research Fund \(ICRF\)](#)

Supports travel for an individual or a group of people seeking to examine materials at the APS to further Indigenous community-based priorities. This program is for Indigenous community research by community members regardless of academic background.

- Award amount: variable
- No deadline! Applications accepted until funds are exhausted for the year

Comings and Goings

We had a wonderfully busy summer at CNAIR, with research visits from Indigenous communities from Guatemala, Mexico, and throughout the US. We also said farewell to our

first NASI Career Pathways Fellow. Below we share some highlights from the past few months.

Indigenous Community Research Fund visits

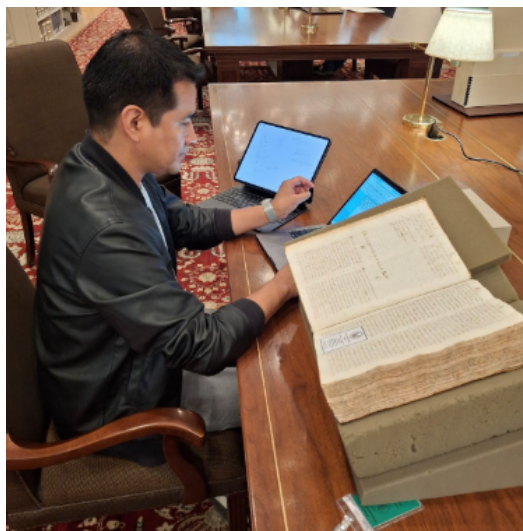
Several of our recent [ICRF awards](#) have supported travel to the APS by members of Indigenous communities from Latin America.



Ñuu Savi (Mixtec) scholars Izaira López Sánchez (ARANET) and Dr. Omar Aguilar Sánchez (Universidad Autónoma Comunal de Oaxaca) received an ICRF award to conduct research at the APS. They arrived in May and spent nearly a month in Philadelphia, examining materials from the APS manuscripts and library collections. During their visits they shared their work with us in an APS Brown Bag presentation, and with their communities in Mexico through a number of social media livestreams.

Also in May, we were honored to welcome José Guarcax (Kaqchikel Maya) of the Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala who conducted research for his project on the uses of colonial documents for supporting bilingual intercultural education.

His research, also supported by the ICRF, included extensive use of one of the oldest Indigenous language manuscripts at the APS, Thomás de Coto's nearly 900-page Vocabulario de la lengua Cakchiquel y Guatimalteca from circa 1700!



Farewell Emily!



After two years at CNAIR as our inaugural Mellon NASI Career Pathways Fellow, Emily Jean Leischner concluded her time with us in August.

In addition to her work setting up a shared stewardship agreement between the APS and the Nuxalk Nation, she spent the past year conducting a survey of Indigenous materials at the Kislak Center at the University of Pennsylvania, and developing a finding aid to help researchers identify and access those materials.

Collection Updates

Ely Samuel Parker Papers

[The papers of Seneca leader Ely S. Parker](#) (1828-1895), who was the first Native American Commissioner of Indian Affairs following his time as adjutant to Ulysses S. Grant during the Civil War, are now digitized and accessible online through our Digital Library.

Dell H. Hymes Papers

[The papers of linguistic anthropologist Dell H. Hymes](#) (1927-2009) have tripled in size with the addition of Subcollection 2, a wide-ranging set of manuscripts from his professional network across the social sciences. The papers include original fieldnotes from his work with Kiksht (Wasco-Wishram dialect of Chinook) speakers Hiram Smith and Philip Kahclamet.

Sally McLendon Papers

Sally McLendon (1933-2024) was an anthropologist and linguist specialising in Native Californian histories, oral literatures and material cultures. CNAIR received her papers last year and has begun surveying them to help make them available, and is happy to answer any questions about them. They include an especially rich documentation of the famous Pomo basketmaking tradition, about which McLendon organized museum exhibits. Earlier in her career, under Mary Haas's direction she worked with Pomoan speakers in California. Original language notes and 90 audiotapes from this time are now at the California Language Archive, where Haas was the founding director. UC Berkeley has just released an article about this part of McLendon's papers, [which you can read here](#).

Small collections

In addition to these large collections, CNAIR acquires small collections on Indigenous issues. A few recently-described collections include Quatsino Hereditary Chief Sonny Wallas's [Gut'sa glossary](#), records of a [coal mine on Ahtna territory](#) from the early twentieth century, and more recent [pamphlets](#) promoting health awareness at Poplar Hill First Nation (Anishinaabe).

News from our Network



On September 30, we welcomed the Mexican Consulate, represented by Consul Carlos Obrador and Consul for Protection and Legal Affairs Sebastian Duque. The CNAIR team and Library & Museum Director Michelle McDonald presented different materials that are part of the CNAIR collections and are related to Mexican history, and Indigenous languages and cultures, among other topics. Mexican APS Fellows Fatima Valdivia Ramirez and Abigail Chi Baack also joined the visit. The consuls were very interested and grateful for the way in which the materials are protected in the APS. They also expressed interest in continuing to cultivate a collaborative relationship to the extent possible for both institutions.

Submit your news!

Would you like to share news with the CNAIR network? You can submit items for future newsletters through [this form](#).



Copyright © 2025, American Philosophical Society, All rights reserved.

American Philosophical Society

104 South Fifth Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

215-440-3400

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

Not subscribed? [Go here to join our mailings](#).

Please refrain from unsubscribing if this email was forwarded to you