

Labriola National American Indian Data Center Newsletter

Vol. XVII No. 2

Edited By Joyce Martin, Curator

Spring 2010



**A New Column by
Labriola Center
student worker
Jessica Antonio,
a Junior at ASU**

Please see Jessica's
column on page 2 of
the newsletter

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The Labriola Center is Honored by a Visit from Two Navajo Code Talkers

On Thursday November 5th the Labriola Center hosted a reception featuring Navajo Code Talkers Bahe Ketchum and George James, Sr. Both distinguished speakers talked about their experiences in World War II and more, speaking both in English and in Navajo.

The event was held in conjunction with the traveling exhibit "Our Fathers, Our Grandfathers, Our Heroes...The Navajo Code Talkers of World War II" traveling exhibit at the Labriola Center. The exhibit traces the story of the famed United States Marine Corps Navajo Code Talkers. It begins with the original pilot



Bahe Ketchum
Photo taken by Ann Leonard



George James, Sr.
Photo taken by Ann Leonard

group of the first twenty-nine volunteers, who in 1942, developed and tested the original Navajo code. The traveling exhibit is produced and circulated by the Circle

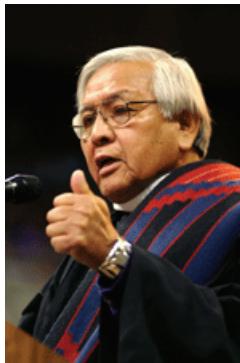
of Light Navajo Educational Project, Gallup, New Mexico. For further information about future dates and locations of the traveling exhibit contact travelexhibits@yahoo.com.

Many Veterans and members of the public visited the Labriola Center during the exhibit's time at the Arizona State University Libraries. It was a tremendous honor for the Labriola Center to host both the exhibit and the Code Talkers.



Platoon 382

Peterson Zah to Give the Simon Ortiz and Labriola Center Lecture on Indigenous Land, Culture, and Community



Dr. Peterson Zah receiving an honorary degree from ASU in 2005

Former President of the Navajo Nation and current Special Advisor to the President on American Indian Affairs at Arizona State University, Dr. Peterson Zah will deliver the upcoming Simon Ortiz and Labriola

Center Lecture on Indigenous Land, Culture, and Community on March 25th, 2010. For more information please see the lecture se-

ries web page at <http://english.clas.asu.edu/indigenous/>.

Dr. Zah has been one of the nation's main voices raised on behalf of Native people's human rights especially with the establishment of DNA People's Legal Services, founded in 1967 by the Navajo Nation. He continues to inspire Native people to insist upon tribal self-determination, nationhood, and sustainability.

"In 1995, Dr. Zah was recruited by ASU to help address the education concerns of the growing Native American student population and their respective communities.

The mission of the office of the Special Advisor to the President is to:

- Foster open communication between Arizona State University and American Indian Tribes.
- Ensure that all those who attend ASU receive appropriate student support services. Work to recruit, retain, and increase the graduation rates of Native American students.
- Promote and support Native American programming throughout the university."

<http://www.asu.edu/president/zah/about/index.html>

"An Evening With Leslie Marmon Silko" Lecture Available on the ASU Library Channel Webpage

Internationally acclaimed author Leslie Marmon Silko delivered the Simon Ortiz and Labriola Center Lecture on Indigenous Land, Culture, and Community on October 8th at the Heard Museum.

Silko was the youngest writer to be included in The Norton Anthology of Women's Literature for her short story "Lullaby." In 1981 she won a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Grant. Leslie Marmon Silko has continued to be a force in American Indian literature in both the fiction and non-fiction genres.

In her lecture "An Evening with Leslie Marmon Silko", Silko spoke about and read from her forthcoming memoir *Turquoise Ledge*. Penguin Press will be publishing *Turquoise Ledge* in the Fall of

2010.

For anyone who missed this event an MP3 audio podcast and streaming video of the lecture are both available on the ASU Libraries Channel <http://lib.asu.edu/librarychannel/>.

The video is also available to download from the Internet Archive <http://www.archive.org/>.

The file on Internet Archive is available in QuickTime, Ogg Video or MPEG4 file.

The video is part of the Open Source Movies collection and has already been downloaded 78 times since being placed on the Internet Archive in January.

The previous Simon Ortiz and Labriola Center lectures delivered



Leslie Marmon Silko in the Labriola Center

by Gerald Taiaiake Alfred, Wilma Mankiller and Ned Blackhawk can also be found on the ASU Library Channel and the Internet Archive.

Search either by speakers name or "Simon Ortiz and Labriola Center Lecture on Indigenous Land, Culture, and Community."

Living the College Life at ASU! By Jessica Antonio

I am a member of the Navajo Nation from New Mexico and a student at ASU.

My higher education is very important to me and I don't go home much. During my winter break I was at home with family and friends.

Life is so different in both places.

A regular day on the rez for me is to wake while it's freezing, but the family jokes and teases everyone. Before I build a fire, I have to take the ash out of the iron stove.

I have to put my snow boots, leather gloves, jacket, and hat on to bring in wood for the fire. I grab the shovel to clear the walk paths and find the vehicles under the snow.

I feed the sheep, horses, dogs and chickens. All the animals need water to drink but the pipes get

frozen, so we haul water from the tank. The water must be heated over a fire for dishes and hands.

Then I start cooking for my family by making dough everyday with Bluebird flour, peeling potatoes, cooking spam (which is stocked for a life time) and using government cheese or as my mom calls it "the block of gold."

When the sun is out, I go outside with a chainsaw, ax, wedge, and slug to chop wood and try to keep the logs dry. If we go anywhere the first thing we have to do is get gas because it takes hours of travel between places.

Life in Tempe is different, even though all my things are here. I wake up and turn a knob to heat my place and get hot water.

Make a quick breakfast and grab my lunch, trying to be healthy. I walk to school - it beats parking

and I get some exercise. My mornings I go to work and throughout the day I go to about three classes. I am mainly on the computer throughout the day.

I hit the gym for a couple of hours before going back to my place to sleep after a long day at ASU.



Labriola Center DVD Featured in AzLA Conference Presentation



Have you ever heard customers say, "I did not even know your facility existed until recently?" Or "I wish I knew you were here sooner?"

The Labriola National American Indian Data Center participates

in many activities to raise its profile including expanding its community involvement and partnerships through such activities as the Simon Ortiz and Labriola Center Lecture on Indigenous Land, Culture and Community and the newly established Labriola Center American Indian National Book Award.

But the Labriola Center still has new students, faculty and community members who are unfamiliar with the Center and the many resources the Center can offer them.

To reach out to our community we created a video and promotional mailing to better market the collections and services of the Labriola Center. Filmmaker Matthew Harp and the Marketing and Outreach Officer Jennifer Duvernay spoke at the Arizona Library Association Conference in December 2009 about the challenging and rewarding process of creating a promotional video.

To view the video among other content go to the ASU Library Channel web page at <http://lib.asu.edu/librarychannel/tagamerican-indians/>.

ASU LIBRARIES

Labriola National American Indian Data Center
PO Box 871006
Tempe, AZ 85287-1006
<http://lib.asu.edu/labriola>

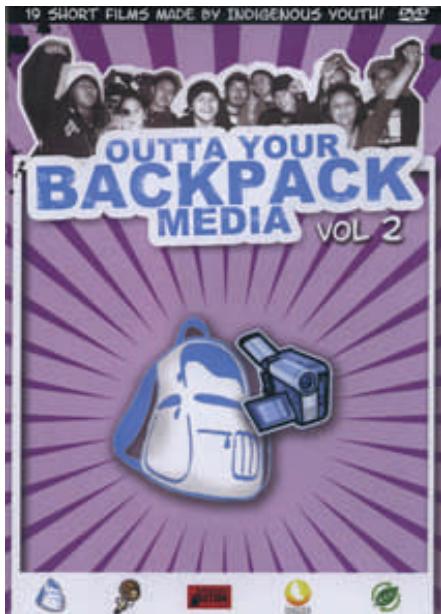
Phone: 480-965-6490
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The Labriola National American Indian Data Center was officially dedicated on April 1, 1993. The Center was made possible by the vision of Frank and Mary Labriola, whose generous endowment gift supports its work. It is their wish that "the Labriola Center be a source of education and pride for all Native Americans."

The Labriola National American Indian Data Center, part of the ASU Libraries, is a research collection international in scope that brings together in one location current and historic information on government, culture, religion and world view, social life and customs, tribal history, and information on individuals from the United States, Canada, Sonora, and Chihuahua, Mexico.

Recent Addition to the Labriola Center—Outta Your Backpack Media



The Labriola Center has the DVD *Outta Your Backpack Media Volume 2* available for viewing in the Labriola Center. "Since 2004

Outta Your Backpack Media (OYBMedia) has empowered Indigenous youth through free movie making workshops and resource distribution. OYBMedia is an Indigenous youth response to the need for media justice in our communities." "Outta Your Backpack Media started as a project of Indigenous Action Media in partnership with Native Movement. OYBMedia is organized as a collective that acts to efficiently provide young people with access to independent media skills and resources." <http://oybm.org/about-2/>

The organization distributes mobile media backpack kits and holds workshops on how to make a short video or documentary. The majority of the 19 videos on the DVD were made during workshops held from 2007 to 2008.

"Outta Your Backpack Media has established itself in a Youth Media Arts Center in partnership with Taala Hooghan Infoshop (www.myspace.com/taala_hooghan) in Flagstaff, AZ. Since 2008, the Youth Media Arts Center has been providing resources, technical training and support for Indigenous youth and emerging youth organizations focused on environmental and social justice issues in the Southwest." <http://oybm.org/media-center/>

More information, workshop applications, and current videos can be found on OYBMedia's main web page <http://oybm.org/>.

Outta Your Backpack Media videos can also be viewed on YouTube.