

## FISCAL YEAR 2011 ANNUAL REPORT October 1, 2010 - September 30, 2011

# CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF SHARING NATIVE STORIES WITH THE WORLD



















































## **PUBLIC TELEVISION PROGRAMMING**

Fiscal Year 2011



Apache 8

Released: March 26, 2011

Produced by: Sande Zeig & Heather Rae (Cherokee)

Production Company: Apache 8, LLC

Apache 8 tells the story of an all-women wildland firefighter crew from the White Mountain Apache Tribe, who have been fighting fires in Arizona and throughout the U.S., for over 30 years. The film delves into the challenging lives of these Native firefighters. Four extraordinary women from different generations of the Apache 8 crew share their personal narratives with humor and tenderness. They speak of hardship and loss, family and community, and pride in being a firefighter from Fort Apache. Apache 8 weaves together a compelling tale of these remarkable firefighters, revealed for the first time.

Image of Erica Hinton (White Mountain Apache) courtesy of David Hocs.

#### **Choctaw Code Talkers**

Released: October 23, 2010

Produced by: Valerie Red-Horse (Cherokee), Gale Anne Hurd,

Mark Abbott & Dawn Jackson (Ojibwe)

Production Company: Red-Horse Native Productions

In 1918, not yet citizens of the United States, Choctaw members of the American Expeditionary Forces were asked to use their Native language as a powerful tool against the German Forces in World War I, setting a precedent for code talking as an effective military weapon and establishing them as America's original Code Talkers.



#### **Columbus Day Legacy**

Released: March 26, 2011

Produced by: Bennie Klain (Navajo) & Leighton C. Peterson

Production Company: TricksterFilms, LLC

Explore the quintessential American issues of free speech and ethnic pride against the backdrop of the ongoing Columbus Day parade controversy in Denver, Colorado, as Navajo filmmaker Bennie Klain takes viewers into this very personal yet public conflict asking tough questions about identity and history in America.

Stacy Mahoney.

Image of Code Talkers courtesy of

Image of transform Columbus Day supporter courtesy of Paul Abdoo.

#### **Games of the North: Playing for Survival**

Released: April 18, 2011

Produced by: Jonathon Stanton & Steven Wounded Deer Alvarez

(Mescalero Apache/Yaqui/Upper Tanana Athabascan)

Production Company: Starseed Media, Inc. in association with the

Alaska Native Heritage Center

For thousands of years, traditional Inuit sports have been vital for survival within the unforgiving Arctic. Acrobatic and explosive, these ancestral games evolved to strengthen mind, body and spirit within the community. Following four modern Inuit athletes reveals their unique relationship to the games as they compete across the North. As unprecedented change sweeps across their traditional lands, their stories illuminate the importance of the games today.

Image of Elizabeth Rexford (Inupiaq) courtesy of Starseed Media, Inc.





Image of Beau and friends courtesy of Sam Hurst.

#### Good Meat

Released: March 26, 2011

Produced by: Sam Hurst & Larry Pourier (Oglala Lakota)

**Production Company: Sam Hurst** 

Once a star athlete in his community, Beau LeBeau (Oglala Lakota) now weighs 333 pounds—an unhealthy weight which has triggered the onset of Type II Diabetes. His mother's untimely death from complications due to Diabetes motivates him to drop the excessive pounds. Enlisting the help of a physician and nutritionist, Beau starts exercising and takes up a traditional Lakota diet of buffalo meat and

other Native foods.

#### The Silence, part of the PBS series FRONTLINE

Released: April 19, 2011

Produced by: Tom Curran & Mark Trahant (Shoshone-Bannock)

Production Company: Lower 48 Films, LLC



Saint Michael is a village of 370 residents on the southwest coast of Alaska, two hundred miles south of the Arctic Circle. Catholic missionaries came to the Alaskan wilderness to bring education, medicine and teach the word of God. Priests became trusted elders in the community, but weird things would start to happen upon their arrival in 1968. For the first time, a small group of survivors will confront the very institution that devastated their village.

> Image of Ben Andrews (Yup'ik) courtesy of FRONTLINE.

Image of Damon Roughface (Southern Ponca) courtesy of Christine Lesiak.

#### **Standing Bear's Footsteps**

Released: July 22, 2011 (Nebraska) National Release: October 2012 Produced by: Christine Lesiak,

Princella Parker (Omaha) & Judi gaiashkibos (Ponca)

Production Company: NET Television

In 1877, the Ponca people were exiled from their Nebraska homeland to Indian Territory in present-day Oklahoma. To honor his dying son's last wish to be buried in his homeland, Chief Standing Bear set off on a grueling, six-hundred-mile journey home. Captured en-route, Standing Bear sued a famous United States army general for his freedom. This high-definition documentary weaves interviews, re-creations and present-day scenes to tell a story about human rights—one that resonates powerfully in the present.

#### Walking into the Unknown

Released: October 23, 2010

Produced by: Ivy Vainio (Grand Portage Band of Ojibwe) & Nate Maydole

Production Company: Ivy Vainio & Visumm Media

Walking into the Unknown traces the intimate journey of a middle-aged American Indian male through the health care system as he gains a deeper understanding of himself and the health risks he faces. Dr. Arne Vainio is an Ojibwe physician who works on the Fond du Lac Reservation in northern Minnesota. Frustrated by middle-aged Native men not coming in for health screenings, he came to the realization that he was also avoiding the necessary screenings.



Image of Arne Vainio, M.D. (Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe), courtesy of Ivy Vainio and Visumm Media.

A State of

NAPT multimedia intern Blue Tarpalechee (Muskogee Creek). Image courtesy of Blue Tarpalechee.



Multimedia intern Lisa Casarez (Mandan/Hidatsa/Arikara). Image courtesy of United Tribes Technical College.





Image taken from a media maker & educator workshop in Santa Fe. Image courtesy of NAPT.

## NAPT-funded interns gain valuable hands-on experience in pursuing careers in the media

This year, NAPT welcomed multimedia intern Blue Tarpalechee (Muskogee Creek) for a summer multimedia internship. The twenty-five-year-old, 4.0 student at the Institute for American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico, is a double major in creative writing and new media.

In partnership with Longhouse Media, six multimedia interns were placed on the set of *Winter in the Blood*, a film based off the well-known novel of the same name by James Welch. The film is centered around Virgil First Raise (Chaske Spencer of *The Twilight Saga*) as a man who is not only haunted by the death of his brother, but is also on a search to find his wife, Agnes, who stole his rifle and left town. The search leads Virgil off the Reservation and into an ill-conceived scheme that ultimately leads him risking his own life to save another. The multimedia interns who worked on set were Jake Hoyungowa (Hopi/Navajo), Rose Stiffarm (Blackfoot/Tsartlip/Cowichan/Cree/Gros Ventre/Assiniboine Sioux), Deidra Lynn Peaches (Navajo), Lauren Monroe, Jr. (Blackfeet), Shanoa Pinkham (Yakama/Southern Cheyenne) and Travis Coleman (Ponca).

NAPT also partnered with Prairie Public Broadcasting in Fargo, North Dakota, to offer a multimedia summer internship to a Mandan/Hidatsa/Arikara student Lisa Casarez.

Providing experiences for Native students in the media is important to ensure that we continue a strong tradition of digital storytellers—and these eight internships were able to teach exactly those skills.

Select NAPT films from the VisionMaker Home Catalog are available on Amazon.com—enjoy anytime on the go with your mobile or tablet device

Choose from over twelve Native documentary titles for download rental, download-to-own or DVD purchase.

VisionMaker's Amazon.com storefront: http://amzn.to/visionmaker

# NAPT welcomed educators and media makers to Santa Fe for a Media for Change Workshop

With support from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, in partnership with the Institute of American Indian Arts, Working Films and the National Museum of the American Indian, NAPT presented a day-long workshop for media makers and educators on August 19, 2011, in Santa Fe, New Mexico, at the Institute for American Indian Arts. The workshop featured *Media for Change* with Molly Murphy of Working Films, and an introduction to PBS and KNME-TV online tools for educators by Rose M. Poston (Sandia Pueblo), KNME-TV's outreach coordinator. Together, educators and media makers were able to brainstorm mutually beneficial ways in which Native documentary film can strategically address important issues that need to be shown in classrooms nationwide.

## **PROGRAM FUND AWARDS**

Fiscal Year 2011

Each year, NAPT awards up to \$500,000 in production contracts to independent producers and Public Television stations to produce programming by and about Native Americans for use by PBS stations. Funding can be for film production, film completion, or research & development.

### Chasing Voices: John Peabody Harrington and the Language Revitalization Movement

Daniel Golding (Quechan)

When linguistic and anthropologist John Peabody
Harrington died in 1961 at the age of 77, few understood
the significance of his work. Harrington was an eccentric,
paranoid and obsessively driven anthropologist whose
life's work became dedicated to preserving Native
America's dying languages. (Research & Development)

#### **Crying Earth Rise Up**

Suree Towfighnia, Beth Sternheimer & Debra White Plume (Oglala Lakota)

A documentary about protecting one of the earth's most precious elements—water. Through characters who oppose and support the expansion of uranium mining over the High Plains/Ogallala—the largest fresh water underground source in North America—and the Arikara aquifiers in western South Dakota and Nebraska, audiences learn about the important and timely issue of preserving and protecting the land and water before it becomes too late.

#### **Indian Relay**

Charles Dye, Darren Kipp (Blackfeet) & KUSM-TV/Montana PBS

An inspiring year-long portrait of three Native American horse-racing families, culminating at the 2011 Indian Relay National Championships in Blackfoot, Idaho. Footage from each season's big relay races is intercut with stories and views from the long off-season.

#### **Indians: An Unexpected Story**

Roberta Grossman, Brian Wescott (Athabascan/Yup'ik), Deann Borshay Liem & Lisa Thomas

This four-hour series tells the vivid tale of Native Americans in the 20th century and beyond. Comprised of interviews, family histories, archival footage and music, the series provides a greater appreciation of the histories and achievements of contemporary Native American individuals and Indigenous communities.

For additional information on these programs, please visit: www.nativetelecom.org/coming\_attractions.

Pictured right: Kahlil Hudson films Walter Littlemoon (Oglala Lakota) and Jane Ridgway on location for *The Thick Dark Fog.* Image courtesy of Kahlil Hudson.

#### The Thick Dark Fog

Randy Vasquez, Jonathon Skurnik & Brian Wescott (Athabascan/Yup'ik)

Walter Littlemoon (Oglala Lakota) was forced to attend a Federal Government Boarding School on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota in the 1950s, where his culture, language and spirituality were brutally suppressed. The film documents Walter's journey to heal himself and his community while reclaiming his heritage.

#### **Urban Indians**

Rocky Mountain PBS

Explore the history of the 1952 Bureau of Indian Affairs Termination & Relocation Act, as well as the modern-day consequences for today's Native Americans, specifically those relocated to Denver, Colorado. Powerful stories of identity, self-determination and healing are shared by Native American scholars and multi-generational families. (Research & Development)

#### Without a Tribe

Cynthia Jeannette Gomez (Genizaro)

This documentary film unlocks the clandestine social, economic and political conditions of the late 1600s when Native youth and women were stolen from homelands and imprisoned, then ransomed into domestic servitude, hard labor and military training only to be labeled with the lowest class identity as Genizaro Indians. Today's Genizaro descendants continue to struggle to maintain their homelands and recognize this Genizaro heritage. (Research & Development)



## **CURRENTLY IN PRODUCTION**

Fiscal Year 2011

#### **Bridge the Gap to Pine Ridge**

Bridge the Gap TV, Inc.

In an internationally recognized documentary-web series about sustainable development and cultural immersion, twenty-three-year-old host Chris Bashinelli highlights the captivating facet and challenging issues of everyday life as he follows "a day in the life of" the Oglala Lakota on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.

#### **GRAB**

Billy Luther (Navajo/Hopi/Laguna Pueblo) | World of Wonder



GRAB is about three families from the Laguna Pueblo Tribe who prepare for Grab Day—where they throw groceries from a rooftop to the community waiting below them. Grab Day is an annual community-wide prayer of abundance, thanks and renewal.

#### **Injunuity**

Adrian Baker (Hopi)



Covering such topics as Creation, First Contact and the Soul of America, *Injunuity* is a visually stunning, thought-provoking mosaic of reflections on our shared past, our turbulent present and our undiscovered future through animation and music.

#### LaDonna Harris: Indian 101

Julianna Brannum (Comanche)

Comanche activist LaDonna Harris, who has led an extensive life of Indian political and social activism, is now passing her traditional cultural and leadership values to a new generation of emerging Indigenous leaders.

#### **Losing Ground**

Jenni Monet (Laguna Pueblo) | 'nish Media

The North Arctic landscape is changing rapidly—so too are the lives of Inupiat Natives living on the tiny, vanishing island of Kivalina, Alaska. Many believe global warming is to blame, but filmmakers show how one humble village fights to save their homeland under a cloud of doubt.

#### The Medicine Game

Lukas Korver

The journey of two brothers from the Onondaga Nation is documented as they pursue their dreams of playing lacrosse for Syracuse University. With the dream nearly in reach, the boys are caught in a constant struggle to define their Native identity, live up to their families expectations and handle challenges both on and off the Reservation.

#### **Racing the Rez**

**Brian Truglio** 



Moving beyond stereotypes of the past and present, Racing the Rez tells the complex story of contemporary life on the Navajo Nation—America's largest Indian Reservation—from the perspective of two high school boys' cross country teams.

#### **Sacred Stick**

Michelle Danforth (Oneida of Wisconsin) & Patty Loew (Bad River Ojibwe)

The history of lacrosse in North America is a rich and multi-layered one. Lacrosse is a cultural window into Native American communities and their historical relationship with each other and the dominant culture. This documentary looks at the culture, history and resurfacing of lacrosse as it relates to Natives and non-Natives.

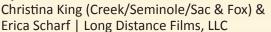
#### Smokin' Fish

Luke Griswold-Tergis & Cory Mann (Tlingit)



Cory Mann (Tlingit) is a quirky businessman hustling to make a dollar in Juneau, Alaska. He gets hungry for smoked salmon and decides to spend a summer smoking fish at a family's traditional fish camp. The unusual story of his life and the untold history of his people interweave with the process of preparing traditional food as he struggles to pay his bills and keep his business afloat.

#### **Up Heartbreak Hill**





Thomas, Tamara and Gabby—three Native American teenagers in Navajo, New Mexico—traverse their senior year at a Reservation high school. As graduation approaches, they must decide whether to stay in their community—a place inextricably linked to their identity—or leave in pursuit of opportunities elsewhere.

#### **Warrior Women**

Elizabeth Castle & Christina King (Creek/Seminole/Sac & Fox)

Warrior Women is the untold history of women's activism in the Red Power Movement shared from the perspective of Native American activist Madonna Thunder Hawk (Two Kettle Lakota). Filmmakers follow Madonna as she moves through her life and encounters the major players of those events that changed the landscape of Indian Country forever.

During the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, NAPT awarded production contracts to producers totaling \$871,526 and spent an additional \$30,213 on producer development, workshops and national programming costs.

The following is a summary of financial information for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2011, based on the audited financial statements.\*

#### **REVENUE & SUPPORT**

CPB Grant Revenue	\$1,509,545
Contributions & Other Grants	
Earned Income	\$221,466
TOTAL REVENUE & SUPPORT	\$1,804,857

#### **EXPENSES**

Programming	\$1,589,810
Management & General	\$325.803
Fundraising	\$32,615
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1 948 228
	91,540,220
Net Assets at Beginning of Fiscal Year.	\$1,650,714
Change in Net Assets	\$143,371
NET ASSETS AT END OF FISCAL YEAR	

#### **BREAKDOWN OF NET ASSETS**

Unrestricted-Undesignated	\$868,294
Temporarily Restricted	
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$1,507,343

<sup>\*</sup>Taken from the audited financial statement dated December 22, 2011, by Grafton & Associates P.C.

## MEET THE TEAM

Fiscal Year 2011

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Brian Bull (Nez Perce) | Chair

Laura Waterman Wittstock (Seneca) | Vice Chair

Rod Bates | Secretary

Sydney Beane (Flandreau Santee Sioux) | Treasurer

Julie Andersen

Polly Anderson

JoAnn Chase (Mandan/Hidatsa/Arikara)

Lyn Dennis (Lummi)

Chris Eyre (Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribe of Oklahoma)

Dustin Owl Johnson (Saginaw Chippewa)

#### **STAFF**

Shirley K. Sneve (Rosebud Sioux) **Executive Director** 

Georgiana Lee (Navajo) **Assistant Director** 

Jessica Kinser Marketing Director

Eric Martin

Interactive Media Specialist

Mary Ann Koehler

Business & Projects Manager

Rebecca Fauver Contract/Accounting Assistant

Brendan McCauley Educational Project Coordinator

Ann McKeighan Office Assistant

#### STUDENT WORKERS

Sina Bear Eagle (Oglala Lakota/ Turtle Mountain Ojibwe)

Tanika Cooper

Alex Epperson

Danny Fast

Tobias Grant (Omaha/Navajo/

Sioux/Cherokee)

Ben Kreimer

Justin Lockamy (Coharie)

Aden Marshall (Rosebud Sioux)

Saibal Roy

Benito Sanchez

#### **MULTIMEDIA INTERN**

Blue Tarpalechee (Muskogee Creek)

#### **AMERICORPS VISTA VOLUNTEER**

Mica Valdez

Dr. Octaviana Valenzuela Trujillo (Yaqui)

Pictured on the front cover are images from the following NAPT projects: FRONTLINE's The Silence, Choctaw Code Talkers, Apache 8, Columbus Day Legacy, Walking into the Unknown, Standing Bear's Footsteps, Games of the North: Playing for Survival and Good Meat.

