

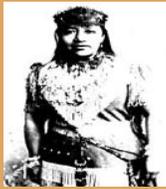
November is National American Indian Heritage Month

2008 Theme: Celebrating Tribal Nations: America's Great Partners

National American Indian Heritage Month honors and recognizes the original peoples of this land.



A few Notable American Indians - past and present



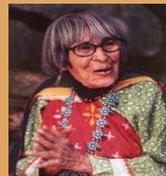
Sarah Winnemucca (1841-1891), Paiute, was the first Native American woman known to secure a copyright and to publish in the English language.



Gertrude Simmons Bonnin (1876-1938), Yankton Nakota (Eastern Sioux), was a short story writer, cultural preserver, essayist, orator, editor, musician, composer and political activist.



Wilma Mankiller, Cherokee, was the first female Chief of the Cherokee Nation from 1985 to 1995.



Maria Martinez (1887-1980), San Ildefonso Pueblo, created internationally known pottery.



Maria Tallchief, Osage, American ballerina. She danced with the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo from 1942-1947 and New York City ballet from 1947-1965.



Susan LaFlesche Picotte (1865-1915), Omaha, was the first Native American woman doctor in the United States.



Louise Erdrich, Anishinaabe, is an author of novels, poetry and children's books. She is famous for her tetralogy, which began with *Love Medicine*.



Dr. Lori Arviso-Alvord, is the first Navajo woman surgeon and author of *The Scalpel and the Silver Bear*. She bridges two worlds of medicine—traditional native healing and conventional western medicine—to treat the whole patient.



Chief Joseph (1840-1904), Nez Perce Chief, became renowned as a humanitarian and peace-maker, for his resistance to the U.S. Government's attempts to force his tribe onto reservations.



Jim Thorpe (1888-1953), Sac and Fox, is considered one of the most versatile athletes in modern sports. He won Olympic gold medals in the pentathlon and decathlon, played American football, collegiately and professionally, and professional baseball and basketball.



Sherman Alexie, Spokane/Coeur d'Alene Indian, is an award winning author. Books include *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*, *Smoke Signals* and *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian* published in 2007.



John Trudell, Santee Sioux, is an American author, poet, musician and former political activist. He was a spokesperson for the Indian of All Tribes occupation of Alcatraz Island from 1969 to 1971. A film, *Trudell*, is about his life.



Vine Deloria, Jr. (1933-2005), Standing Rock Sioux, was an American Indian author, theologian, historian and activist. He is the author of the book, *Custer Died For Your Sins—An Indian Manifesto*.



John Herrington, Chickasaw, is an American astronaut and a veteran of one space shuttle mission. He is the first enrolled member of a Native American tribe to fly in space.



Billy Mills, Oglala Lakota Sioux, is the only American to win the Gold Medal in the 10,000 meters. He did this at the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games. He is from Pine Ridge, SD.



The Navajo Code Talkers served in all Marine divisions during World War II, and used a special code based on the unwritten Navajo language to transmit messages via phone and radio, a code that the Japanese could never break.