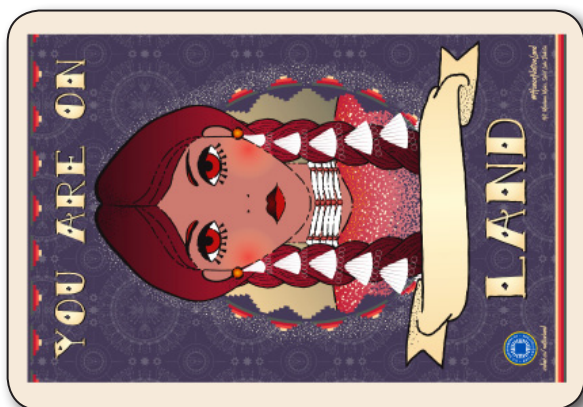


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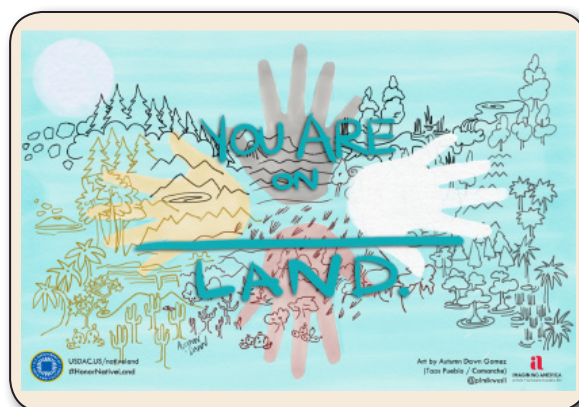
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WHY INTRODUCE THE PRACTICE OF LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT?

- Offer recognition and respect.
- Counter the "doctrine of discovery" with the true story of the people who were already here.
- Create a broader public awareness of the history that has led to this moment.
- Begin to repair relationships with Native communities and with the land.
- Support larger truth-telling and reconciliation efforts.
- Remind people that colonization is an ongoing process, with Native lands still occupied due to deceptive and broken treaties.
- Take a cue from Indigenous protocol, opening up space with reverence and respect.
- Inspire ongoing action and relationship.

The words on this card have been compiled from the U.S. Department of Arts and Culture: <https://indoc.us/nativeland>

FRONT



BACK

Before starting work on your land acknowledgment statement, reflect on the process:

- Why am I doing this land acknowledgment? (If you're hoping to inspire others to take action to support Indigenous communities, you're on the right track. If you're delivering a land acknowledgment out of guilt or because everyone else is doing it, more self-reflection is in order.)
- What is my end goal? (What do you hope listeners will do after hearing the acknowledgment?)
- When will I have the largest impact? (Think about your timing and audience, specifically.)

The words on this card have been compiled from the Native Governance Center: <https://nativegov.org/a-guide-to-indigenous-land-acknowledgment/>

A New Tool: Land Acknowledgment Resource Cards (LARC)

by Grace Crowley-Thomas

Throughout Canada, New Zealand, and parts of the United States, educators and leaders are engaging in a practice called "land acknowledgment." Generally, this is a practice that is meant to recognize and pay respects to the Indigenous people first who inhabited and stewarded the currently occupied land. As we know, Indigenous people have lived, and continue to live, in just about every part of the world. The goal of these cards is to help educators introduce and grow an understanding around land acknowledgments. It is vital that educators recognize this as a *starting point* and that to pay true respect, action needs to accompany acknowledgement. These "each-one-teach-one" style cards can be used in a variety of ways and this article provides a few suggestions around how an educator might engage with them with learners. These cards are not necessarily intended to be used all together, rather as a resource for the educator to pick and choose what cards are most appropriate for their group. Some of the cards are more appropriate for certain maturity levels than others. While these cards are a resource, it is the responsibility of the educator to learn about the issues of the local tribe and build

relationships. Acknowledgement alone is not enough, there must also be action. Without action, we are just being performative and tokenizing of Indigenous peoples and cultures. In what ways are we simultaneously decolonizing our practice? Our minds? Educators should use these cards as a jumping off point to dive further into Indigenous ways of knowing and being and issues that local nations are dealing with.

- Learn more about Indigenous sovereignty
- Learn more about Indigenous treaty rights
- Use images to introduce Vi Hilbert, political cartoons, youth activism, Indigenous art
- Write the name of the original inhabitants of the land you are currently on
- Open discussion

Opportunities for Use

Pass them out to students and have each person share something from their card. Prompts may include:

- Why are land acknowledgments important?
- What is something new you learned?
- Can you create your own land acknowledgment?
- If we were to create our own land acknowledgment, what would be important for us to consider?

Choose specific cards that center the information you want to teach and present them to the group

- Could be used in conjunction with a Suquamish basket lesson

- Discussion of Lushootseed language and dictionary. How does language live and die?
- Political cartoons
- Discuss what the artist is conveying

Ask learners to make their own political cartoon

- Environmental issues
- Justice Issues
- Youth Issues
- Treaties and sovereignty

Land acknowledgment examples

- What is a land acknowledgement?
- What are common components?
- What are some differences?
- Why is it important?

Use the cards as each-one-teach-one cards

Create your own land acknowledgement with students

Have students look at the artwork and form a discussion around them

- What patterns do you see?
- What shapes do you see?
- What do you think the artist is trying to tell us?

Use the artwork and native land maps to have your students investigate and write the name of the ancestral lands you are on. Refer to this daily.

- Write the name of the tribes whose land you are on on the provided artwork
- Why would the artists make this work?
- Youth made this artwork
- Ask about artwork that has a purpose
- Ask learners if they have ever made art with a message
- What was that message?
- Did they show anyone?
- How was it received?

Sources

#HonorNativeLand. U.S. Department of Arts and Culture. (2018). <https://usdac.us/nativeland>.

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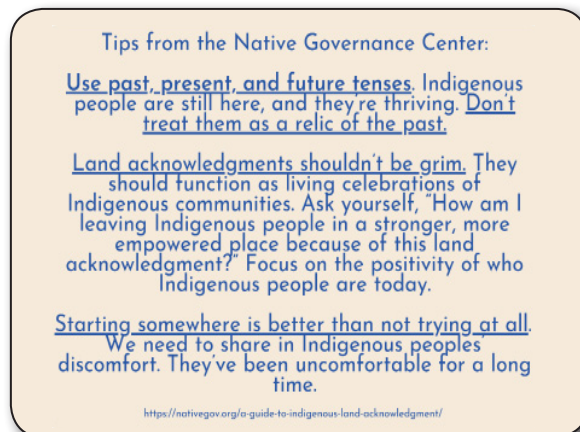
Grace is a current Master of Education candidate at University of Washington's partnership with IslandWood's Education for Environment and Community Certification Program on Bainbridge Island, Washington.

To see the full set of Land Acknowledgement Resource Cards (LARC), visit <https://clearingmagazine.org/archives/16880>

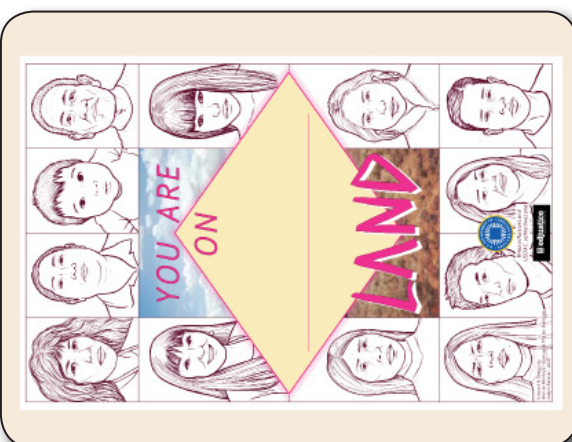
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