

November 2021
Native American Heritage Month
Recognizing
University of California, Berkeley's Indigenous Community Learning Garden

WHEREAS, November is Native American Heritage Month, a time to recognize the many sacrifices, contributions and achievements of Native American people, as well as celebrate their rich and vibrant cultures; and

WHEREAS, for almost one hundred years, Americans, both Indian and non-Indian, have urged that there be a permanently designated special place on the calendar to honor the contributions, achievements, sacrifices, and cultural and historical legacy of the original inhabitants of what is now the United States and their descendants: the American Indian and Alaska Native people; and

WHEREAS, one of the proponents of an American Indian Day was Dr. Arthur C. Parker, a Seneca Indian, who was the Director of the Museum of Arts and Science in Rochester, New York. He persuaded the Boy Scouts of America to set aside a day for the "First Americans" and for three years they adopted such a day. In 1915, the annual Congress of the American Indian Association meeting in Lawrence, Kansas formally approved a plan concerning American Indian Day. It directed its president, Rev. Sherman Coolidge, an Arapahoe, to call upon the country to observe such a day. Rev. Coolidge issued a proclamation on Sept. 28, 1915, which declared the second Saturday of each May as an American Indian Day and contained the first formal appeal for recognition of Indians as citizens; and

WHEREAS, the first American Indian Day in a state was declared on the second Saturday in May 1916 by the governor of New York. Several states celebrate the fourth Friday in September. In Illinois, for example, legislators enacted such a day in 1919. Presently, several states have designated Columbus Day as Native American Day, but it continues to be a day we observe without any recognition as a national legal holiday. In 1990, President George H. W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 as National American Indian Heritage Month. Similar proclamations, under different names including "Native American Heritage Month" and "National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month" have been issued each year since 1994; and

WHEREAS, in celebration of Native American Heritage Month, this Board of Supervisors recognizes the **University of California, Berkeley's Indigenous Community Learning Garden** that was created in June 2021, on a small patch of land at the northwest corner of campus, by campus students who saw the need to bring attention to Native Indigenous culture through gardening; and

WHEREAS, the University of California Berkeley's Indigenous Community Learning Garden provides a space to celebrate and learn about Native American food that is sustainable and connects to cultural identities. The garden has since been growing Dakota Ivory corn, Cherokee Purple tomatoes, Chiletpepin peppers, California buckwheat, tree mallow, white sage, native California grapes, California brittlebush and many other Indigenous and California native plants; and

WHEREAS, the campus students have been planting, tending and harvesting the crops, documenting their work, and learning and sharing stories about gardening done by their ancestors.

THEREFORE, this Board of Supervisors, County of Alameda, State of California hereby proclaim **November 2021** as **Native American Heritage Month** and recognizes the **University of California, Berkeley's Indigenous Community Learning Garden** for their commitment to bring cultural awareness and a safe space that empowers students and our community to learn about the Native American heritage.

Keith Carson, President
Supervisor, Fifth District

Nate Miley, Vice-President
Supervisor, Fourth District

David Haubert
Supervisor, First District

Richard Valle
Supervisor, Second District

November 2021
Native American Heritage Month
Recognizing
Crystal Wahpepah and Wahpepah's Kitchen

WHEREAS, November is Native American Heritage Month, a time to recognize the many sacrifices, contributions and achievements of Native American people, as well as celebrate their rich and vibrant cultures; and

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WHEREAS, in celebration of Native American Heritage Month, this Board of Supervisors recognizes **Crystal Wahpepah and Wahpepah's Kitchen** that is soon to open on November 13, 2021 at the Fruitvale Village in Oakland, California. Crystal is a registered member of the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma and Wahpepah is part of what she describes as a small but vibrant Kickapoo community in Oakland; and

WHEREAS, Crystal Wahpepah's objectives for Wahpepah's Kitchen are to acknowledge that we live on stolen land; how that acknowledgement connects to the reclamation of Native food ways; and to educate communities and organizations on the health benefits of Native food ways using the knowledge passed onto her. **Crystal's** extensive training came from prominent organizations in Oakland and San Francisco on how to run her business. She received several recognitions including the Indigenous Artist Activist Award and has been inducted into the Native American Almanac for being one of the first Native American women to own a catering business. In 2016, Crystal was the first Native American Chef to compete in the Food Network's show, Chopped and has also been featured in The Oaklandside.

THEREFORE, this Board of Supervisors, County of Alameda, State of California hereby proclaim **November 2021 as Native American Heritage Month** and recognizes **Crystal Wahpepah and Wahpepah's Kitchen** for her commitment to bring cultural awareness and a safe space that empowers our community to learn about the Native American and Indigenous heritage.

Keith Carson, President
Supervisor, Fifth District

Nate Miley, Vice-President
Supervisor, Fourth District

David Haubert
Supervisor, First District

Richard Valle
Supervisor, Second District

ORAL PRESENTATION