Native Voices:
Indigenous Language and Poetry Symposium
2007

Program and Schedule of Events

Sherwin Bitsui
Briceida Cuevas Cob
Nora Marks Dauenhauer
Joy Harjo
Rex Lee Jim
Danny Lopez
Simon Ortiz
Luci Tapahonso
Laura Tohe
Frances Washburn
Ofelia Zepeda
And keynote speaker
Leslie Marmon Silko
Welcome to Native Voices

On behalf of the UA Poetry Center and the College of Humanities, I enthusiastically welcome you to our symposium on Indigenous Language and Poetry. The Native Voices Symposium marks the threshold of a new era for the Poetry Center. This summer we will move into an amazing new building and, for the first time in 30 years, all of the books that make up our contemporary poetry archive will be fully accessible to the public. Since its founding, the intent of our archive is to represent the multi-ancestral literature of America. It is right, then, that a celebration and study of Indigenous language in poetry, what is certainly the fundament of American literature, be the event to mark this auspicious occasion.

With appreciation,
Frances Sjoberg
Literary Director, Poetry Center

Greetings!

On behalf of the Tohono O’odham Nation, the Indigenous people of this desert region, and the American Indian Language Development Institute (AILDI) I want to extend a warm welcome to all of the poets, writers, and the participants to the University of Arizona and the Native Voices Symposium. I acknowledge the various directions you all have come from and the goodness you have brought with you to this gathering.

This event, the Native Voices Symposium is an exciting collaboration between the University of Arizona’s Poetry Center and the American Indian Language Development Institute (AILDI). These two entities began planning two years ago for this wonderful event. The event is two-fold. One, to initiate the celebration of the opening of the beautiful building that will be the new Poetry Center and second, to present the voices of the many invited Native poets who have agreed to come together on behalf of the Indigenous languages of the Americas. I invite you all to celebrate the University’s Poetry Center and all the wonderful things it has to offer. And I invite everyone to join us in celebration of Indigenous languages that are presented in the many poetic forms that will be heard here over the next couple of days.

While we enjoy these languages we must remain aware of the present situation of increased language loss of nearly all of the Indigenous languages of this country, and places beyond. It is a global phenomenon. I implore everyone to consider what is lost every time a language loses speakers. Imagine the loss of the unique rhythm of oratory, the melodic repetition of oral ritual, and the sacred power held in the combined songs, prayers, and stories of a people. Imagine the loss of the ability to recite, write a contemporary poem or a story in the language. I ask you to remember the strength and simultaneous vulnerability of the many languages still spoken today. And most importantly I ask you to support all those who have made it their mission to enable an Indigenous language to be able to be spoken today as we all stand together on the edge of summer for another year and eagerly await the beauty of rains.

Welcome,
Ofelia Zepeda
Director, AILDI
Regents Professor, Linguistics
The University of Arizona Poetry Center is a living archive, founded in 1960 to maintain and cherish the spirit of poetry. The Center aims to promote poetic literacy and sustain, enrich, and advance a diverse literary culture. We provide a prestigious public-access poetry library, free readings and lectures, community classes, poets-in-the-schools, and poets-in-the-prisons. We also offer contests, exhibitions, and online resources, including standards-based poetry curricula. In partnership with the Humanities Seminars Program, we are constructing a permanent Poetry Center Building, which will house the entire archive and provide meeting rooms and quiet reading spaces in a beautiful new facility. For more information about the Poetry Center, an area of special emphasis within the College of Humanities, visit www.poetrycenter.arizona.edu or call (520)626-3765.

The American Indian Language Development Institute (AILDI) provides effective training of Native American language educators, practitioners and researchers from across the United States, Canada, South America, and various parts of the world. Since the establishment of AILDI in 1978, its primary mission has been to advocate Indigenous language rights and to ensure linguistic and cultural diversity.
The Registration/Check-in and Information Tables are located in the hallway outside the Modern Languages Auditorium.

Ticketed lunches will be distributed in the courtyard west of the Education and North of Modern Languages Buildings.

The Symposium is being videotaped for broadcast and non-broadcast distribution. As part of the audience you are granting the UA Poetry Center, AILDI and their licensees the permission to videotape, photograph and use your image/audio in educational publications and other media.

www.poetrycenter.arizona.edu
Thursday, June 14th

5:00pm

CHECK-IN BEGINS
MODERN LANGUAGES BUILDING
3rd Floor (Hallway)

5:30pm-6:30pm

YOUTH SYMPOSIUM ORIENTATION
Marge Pellegrino
MODERN LANGUAGES BUILDING
ENGLISH CONFERENCE ROOM 451

7:00pm

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Leslie Marmon Silko
“500 Years from Now Everyone in Tucson Speaks Nahuatl Not Chinese”

OPENING SONGS
MODERN LANGUAGES AUDITORIUM
Friday, June 15th

9:00am-10:15am

Re-weaving Indigenous Voices: Using Linguistics as a Tool for Translating Indigenous Texts
Panelists: Dr. Akira Yamamoto, Dr. Mary Ann Willie, Dr. Susan Penfield
EDUCATION BLDG., RM 308
This panel will consider the intricacies of some of the subtle decisions that speakers must make in moving their language to another language. How does understanding the organization of language help in making decisions about translation? The panel will provide suggestions on how successful translations can be an invaluable resource to Native communities and their efforts to document their language with an eye towards revitalization.

Contemporary Indigenous Mexican Women Poets
Javier Duran and Briceida Cuevas Cob
EDUCATION BLDG., RM 211, Kiva Auditorium
This course will look at themes, forms, and images used by contemporary Indigenous women writing poetry in Mexico. Participants will analyze thematic and formal aspects of this emergent poetry and will engage in a discussion of salient and representative poetic aspects in the works of Briceida Cuevas Cob, Flor Herrera, and Natalia Toledo.

Storytelling for Children
Danny Lopez
EDUCATION BLDG., RM 333
In this workshop, participants will learn techniques to write or tell stories to children or to help children write or tell their own stories. Through demonstration of his own work, Lopez will guide participants through the storytelling process which may result in oral or written forms.

The Sestina and Saad: Fixed Forms and Diné Literary Traditions
Luci Tapahonso
EDUCATION BLDG., RM 349
This presentation will provide an overview of selected Western fixed poetic forms and show parallels in Diné oral texts. The texts include social songs, wedding and public oratory, and non-ceremonial prayers which refer to the concept of language or wisdom known as “Saad.” Examples by contemporary writers (Diné and non-Diné) who work in these forms will be discussed. Materials will be made available.
Friday, June 15th
10:30am-11:30am

Using Indigenous Models for Language Arts in Schools
Nora Marks Dauenhauer
Richard Dauenhauer
EDUCATION BLDG., RM 308
In this joint presentation the Dauenhauers’ describe their work in using Indigenous models for creative writing and student performances in school. Richard Dauenhauer will discuss using Koyukon Athabaskan riddles as models for teaching creative writing of poetry. Nora Marks Dauenhauer will describe the writing and performance of contemporary plays based on traditional Tlingit stories (three are included in *Life Woven with Song*, published by University of Arizona Press.) We will discuss the aesthetics of traditional oral narrative performance of a story, moving to a fixed literary text, and then back to oral dramatic performance, but as scripted, theatrical storytelling. We will also touch on two recent projects of Perseverance Theatre in Juneau, Alaska: a Tlingit language version of *Macbeth*, and *Raven Odyssey*, a newly-written play based on Raven stories from 9 Indigenous cultures of Alaska, and performed by an Alaskan Native cast.

Picking Up Words, Creating Poems, Writing Stories
Laura Tohe
EDUCATION BLDG., RM 349
This is a creative writing course for participants who want to write poems and stories relative to memory, place and culture. It will focus on writing about ourselves as Indigenous people, our communities, and our land through autobiography and memoir. Writing from the center of one’s self, using Indigenous and non-Indigenous languages, this course strives toward the Indigenous philosophy that an individual who knows stories makes a valuable contribution to their community. Creative self-expression is a way to empower ourselves and to leave a footprint for future generations.

Beauty of Sound and Meaning: American Indian Oral Tradition
Frances Washburn
EDUCATION BLDG., RM 211, Kiva Auditorium
American Indian cultures have always preserved and transmitted information through spoken stories, often valued as much for the poetics of the stories as for their content. Now, we also use literary formats for preserving and transmitting information, but oral tradition should still be valued and practiced as the heart of American Indian knowledge, beauty and meaning. Continuing the practice of oral tradition may also be viewed as a subversive act, a way to assert possession of language and the means of producing knowledge and scholarship.

Noon
Lunchtime Talk
A Language Journey
Ofelia Zepeda
EDUCATION BLDG., RM 211, Kiva Auditorium
Friday, June 15th
1:30pm-2:30pm

Image Speak
Sherwin Bitsui
EDUCATION BLDG, RM. 308
In this workshop participants will enter the creative space by removing themselves from the written work and letting the poetic image speak for itself as if it were to be viewed cinematically. In this way we can get outside our drive for individual gain and into areas of articulation that reflect what is inherent in Diné thought as nihí the collective “we,” the belonging to us. In this space participants may discover something besides the economic that binds them together.

A Filmic Language Documentation of the Nez Perce and Sahaptin Languages
Phil Cash Cash
EDUCATION BLDG., RM 211, Kiva Auditorium
This will be a presentation of a project on the documentation of the use of spoken language in cultural contexts for two endangered languages of the Pacific Northwest. Recommendations and suggestions for doing successful documentation of community oral language use for the purpose of language revitalization will be proposed.

Approaches to Indigenous Literature
Simon Ortiz
EDUCATION BLDG., RM 349
“This early language from birth to six years of age in the Acoma family and community was the basis and source of all I would do later in poetry, short fiction, essay, and other work...”- So says Simon Ortiz in Woven Stone. In this class Ortiz will explore his connection to Indigenous literature and help participants to navigate the Indigenous literary canon.

O’odham Doesn’t Rhyme, But It Has Meter:
Writing Poetry in an American Indian Language*
Ofelia Zepeda
EDUCATION BLDG., RM 333
This workshop will consider approaches towards writing poetry in American Indian languages. Participants will be asked to consider the poetic forms that already exist in their oral literature as a possible basis for generating contemporary poetry in their respective Native language. Participants will be required to produce writing using their Native language entirely or in appropriate spaces within their poem. Issues of moving between two or more languages when writing poetry will be considered. *Participants must be speakers of an American Indian language.

3:30-5:30pm
Panel Discussion
Indigenous Language and Poetry
Moderator: Leslie Marmon Silko.
Panelists: Briceida Cuevas Cob, Javier Duran, Nora Dauenhauer, Rex Lee Jim, Luci Tapahonso, & Ofélia Zepeda.
MODERN LANGUAGES
AUDITORIUM

7:00pm
Reading
Introductions by Delphine Red Shirt
Sherwin Bitsui
Joy Harjo
Danny Lopez
Simon Ortiz
Laura Tohe
MODERN LANGUAGES
AUDITORIUM
Saturday, June 16th
9:00am-10:15am

Tohono & Akimel O’odham Songs as Poetry
Panelists: Daniel Lopez, Regina Siquieros, Ronald Geronimo, Mary Pablo, Mary Makil, Gwen Paul
EDUCATION BLDG., RM 211, Kiva Auditorium
This panel will present a range of O’odham songs from both the Tohono O’odham and Akimel O’odham communities. They will consider topics of types of songs, song style, purpose of songs, and the role of songs in traditional and contemporary O’odham society. They will also consider how songs can be used in language teaching and revitalization of language and culture. The panelists are all singers and will provide a sampling of different songs as part of their presentation.

Transcribing, Translating, and Publishing Tlingit Oral Tradition
Nora Marks Dauenhauer and Richard Dauenhauer
EDUCATION BLDG, RM. 349
In this joint presentation the Dauenhauers’ describe their collaborative work of more than 35 years in applied folklore and linguistics. Our books are designed to meet Indigenous community standards, meet academic standards, and be accessible to the average, intelligent reader. Each book features a different genre: clan narrative, ceremonial oratory, life story, history, and trickster stories.

Oral Tradition and Reader Response
Rex Lee Jim
EDUCATION BLDG, RM. 308
Jim will address the issues of oral tradition in Diné poetry and how readers respond to the oral performance of his work. In particular, he will discuss how oral performance of poetry adds another layer of meaning to his work and affects issues of audience response. Jim will also address how translation affects or augments this performance and reader response.

Telling Our Stories: American Indian Fiction
Frances Washburn
EDUCATION BLDG, RM. 333
Storytelling has always been the heart of American Indian intellectual, creative, and spiritual experience. Traditionally, information was preserved and conveyed through the stories of oral tradition. While oral storytelling is still valuable, now we have the option of telling stories in written form, which gives us the ability to reach wider audiences. Fiction (novels and short stories) are not only entertaining, but also convey messages of value to both American Indian audiences and to non-Native audiences. In this workshop we will briefly discuss the works of some of the great American Indian writers and the ways they used to tell their stories. Handouts will include information on finding story ideas, constructing characters, writing dialogue, and more.
Saturday, June 16th

10:30am to 11:30am

Publishing Panel

Patti Hartmann, Acquisitions Editor, UA Press; Ofelia Zepeda, Sun Tracks Series Editor, UA Press; Lisa Bowden, Artistic Director, Kore Press; Eddie Welch, Editor, Red Ink Magazine.

EDUCATION BLDG., RM 211, Kiva Auditorium

Editors who publish contemporary Native American literature discuss various modes of publication and the editorial process.

Getting the Word Out: Creating Literature in Native Classrooms

Kit McIlroy

EDUCATION BLDG, RM. 308

ArtsReach founder Kit McIlroy will present a review of the creative writing program he developed for Native American, Latino, and other learning communities. The program has been in existence since 1987. He will share proven techniques honed during twenty years of teaching which have been successful in helping students whose writing abilities and experience vary widely. This interactive presentation will engage participants in a writing activity and in developing creative writing lesson plans. Participants will learn to present creative writing lessons and how to carry student pieces through to publication.

Yoeme History and Literature

Felipe Molina and Herminia Valenzuela

EDUCATION BLDG RM. 349

Felipe Molina will discuss Yoeme songs: their history, themes, and who sings them. Herminia Valenzuela will follow up with a discussion of poetry and lead a writing exercise in which participants will craft their own poems on nature, plants, animals, and the elements.

Noon

Lunchtime Talk

Sherwin Bitsui

New N8ive Poets: A Dialogue with Language

EDUCATION BLDG., RM 211, Kiva Auditorium

1:30 to 3:00

Youth Reading and Open Mic

Co-sponsored by UA Libraries. Refreshments will be served.

Main Library Special Collections Conference Room

Participants in the Native Voices Youth Symposium present their work. Following the Youth Reading, there will be an open mic. Sign-up begins at the Check-in table on Saturday morning. Any Native Voices participant is eligible and welcome to read. Time is limited, so sign up early.

3:30pm-5:00pm

Panel Discussion

Indigenous Language and Poetry

Moderator: Frances Washburn.

Panelists: Sherwin Bitsui, Joy Harjo, Danny Lopez, Simon Ortiz, and Laura Tohe

MODERN LANGUAGES AUDITORIUM

7:00pm

Reading

Introductions by Delphine Red Shirt

Briceida Cuevas Cob

Nora Marks Dauenhauer

Rex Lee Jim

Luci Tapahonso

Ofelia Zepeda

MODERN LANGUAGES
Sherwin Bitsui (Diné) is originally from White Cone, Arizona, on the Navajo Reservation. He is the recipient of the 1999 Truman Capote Creative Writing Fellowship, the 2000-01 Individual Poet Grant from the Witter Bynner Foundation for Poetry, a Lannan Foundation Literary Residency Fellowship, and more recently, a 2006 Whiting Writers’ Award. *Shapeshift* is his first book.

Lisa Bowden, a printer, book designer & editor, co-founded Kore Press in 1993 and has been co-directing the Press since 2004. Bowden was Production Manager at Chax Press in Tucson, Arizona and Senior Designer at the University of Arizona Press. She is also the editor of the audio anthology *Autumnal: A Collection of Elegies*, and writes essays and letters.

Phillip Cash Cash (Cayuse/Nez Perce) is a Ph.D. student in the Joint Program in Anthropology and Linguistics at the University of Arizona. Cash Cash is a speaker/learner of the Nez Perce language and is currently documenting the endangered languages of his homeland in the southern Columbia Plateau of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. He is a fellowship recipient of a DEL (Documenting Endangered Languages) project. He is working on “A Filmic Language Documentation of Nez Perce and Sahaptin.

Briceida Cuevas Cob is the author of the collection *U yok’ol auat pek’ ti’ u kuxtul pek* (*The Lament of the Dog in Its Existence*) and a book on the daily life of the Maya woman. Her poems have been anthologized in *Flor y canto* (*Flower and Song*) and *Tumbén Ik’ t’anil ich Maya’ T’an* (*Modern Poetry in the Maya Language*). Cuevas Cob is a founding member of the Asociación de Escritores en Lenguas Indígenas (Association of Writers in Indigenous Languages) in Mexico, where she is currently secretary for professional education.

Nora Marks Dauenhauer was born in Juneau, Alaska and earned a B.A. in Anthropology (Alaska Methodist University, 1976) and is internationally recognized for her fieldwork, transcription, translation, and explication of Tlingit oral literature. Her creative writing has been widely published and anthologized. She is married to Richard Dauenhauer, writer and former poet laureate of Alaska, with whom she has co-authored and co-edited several editions of Tlingit language and folklore material.

Richard Dauenhauer’s translations of poetry from German, Russian, Classical Greek, Swedish, Finnish, and other languages have appeared in a range of journals and little magazines since 1963. From 1981 to 1988 he served as the 7th Poet Laureate of Alaska. He is married to Nora Marks Dauenhauer, with whom he has edited the Sealaska Heritage Foundation’s *Classics of Tlingit Oral Literature*.

Dr. Javier Duran has held teaching and research positions at Michigan State University, the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and at the Colegio de Sonora. Duran is the author of *José Revueltas: Una poética de la disidencia* (Xalapa: Universidad Veracruzana, 2001). He has also co-edited three books on cultural studies and has published a number of articles in journals such as *Chasqui, Texto Crítico, Feminaria, Arizona Journal of Cultural Studies* and *Studies in Twentieth Century Literature*. He is currently working on a book manuscript *Crossing the Line: Negotiating Literary Auto-Representation in the U.S.-Mexico Border.*
Patti Hartmann is the Senior Editor at the University of Arizona Press. Since 1997, Hartmann has acquired hundreds of books in the humanities. While her subject areas include western history, Latin American studies, Native American and Latino studies, Hartmann has garnered the most attention with her acquisitions in the field of literature. Many of her books have earned national recognition. Hartmann also oversees Camino del Sol: A Latina/Latino Literary Series and Sun Tracks: An American Indian Literary Series in addition to a remarkable list of creative nonfiction.

Ronald Geronimo (Tohono O’odham, Gu Oidak Village) learned to sing through participation in his community activities and from his mentor Danny Lopez.

Joy Harjo is a member of the Mvskoke/Creek Nation in Oklahoma, an internationally known poet, performer, writer and musician. She has published seven books of poetry; most recently, How We Became Human: New and Selected Poems from W.W. Norton. She has won numerous awards for her poetry and writing including the Williams Carlos Williams Award from the Poetry Society of America, the Eagle Spirit Achievement Award from the American Indian Film Festival, and a Lila Wallace-Reader’s Digest Award.

Rex Lee Jim is among the new generation of poets writing in Diné. Jim is a Diné Educational Philosophy instructor at the Navajo Community College. Jim is the author of a collection of essays, Dancing Voices: Wisdom of the American Indian, and Dúchas Táá Kóó Diné, a trilingual poetry collection in Navajo, Irish and English. Jim has compiled a book of the collected quotations of Native people, and has read and lectured extensively throughout the United States and Ireland.

Daniel Lopez was born and still lives in Ge Oidag (Big Fields), one of the most traditional villages on the Tohono O’odham Nation. A certified primary school teacher, Mr. Lopez taught O’odham language and culture to hundreds of children and is one of his community’s most gifted and respected traditional storytellers and singers. Lopez hosts the Desert Voices bilingual radio program on KUAT in Tucson, and serves as Tohono O’odham Language Instructor at Tohono O’odham Community College (TOCC).

Mary Makil (Aikmel O’odham) learned to sing through her late father, Great-Grandmother and her Grandfathers.

Mary Pablo (Tohono O’odham) sings songs taught to her by her late grandparents, and learns from others in her community both Aikmel and Tohono O’odham.

Gwendolyn Paul, (Aikmel, O’odham) has always been interested in the traditional dances her daughter danced. Now three of her granddaughters (one of whom is three) dance traditionally. She has been teaching O’odham dancing for about thirty years.

Christopher (Kit) McIlroy is a founder of ArtsReach, a non-profit organization that since 1987 has presented writing programs for Native American communities. His fiction has received the Flannery O’Connor Award and appeared in Best American Short Stories. He lives in Tucson with his wife, the early childhood specialist Karen McIlroy, and two dogs who seem more like four or five.
Felipe Molina (Yoeme) taught in Yaqui community schools and colleges from 1974-91. Since 1984 he has been a member of the Yaqui Language Commission of the Pascua Pueblo. Molina was Governor of the Yoem Pueblo, Marana, AZ, and Representative of the Yoem Pueblo on the Pascua Yaqui Tribal Council. He has co-authored/edited several articles on the Yoeme language, including Yaqui Deer Songs/Maso Bwikam (University of Arizona Press, 1987; with Larry Evers) and Comprehensive Yoeme and English Dictionary (Tucson Unified School District; with D. L. Shaul).

Marge Pellegrino’s books include I Don’t Have an Uncle Phil Anymore, My Grandma’s the Mayor, and most recently, Too Nice. She is also working on two new young adult novels. In 2002 she won the Southwest Writers Storyteller award.

Simon J. Ortiz, Acoma Pueblo writer and poet, is author of more than twenty books, including Woven Stone, After and Before the Lightning, The Good Rainbow Road, and Beyond the Reach of Time and Change. Currently a visiting professor of creative writing at Kenyon College in Ohio, he is a Professor at ASU in the English Department and American Indian Studies.

Susan Penfield is a senior lecturer in the English Department at the University of Arizona where she serves as a teaching advisor. She is affiliate faculty for the Second Language Acquisition and Teaching Ph.D. Program and linguistic consultant to the Colorado River Indian Tribes. She also serves on the board for ArtsReach, a writing program serving Native American children in the Tucson area public schools.

Delphine Red Shirt is a member of the Oglala Sioux Nation from Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Her first language is Lakota and she has written two books: Bead on an Anthill: A Lakota Childhood (1997) and Turtle Lung Woman’s Granddaughter (2002). Her work is included in The Western Women’s Reader: The Remarkable Writings of Women Who Shaped the American West, Spanning 300 years (2000). Currently, Red Shirt is completing coursework toward a doctorate in American Indian Studies at the University of Arizona.

Leslie Marmon Silko grew up on the Laguna Pueblo Reservation. She is a former professor of English and fiction writing and is the author of many distinguished novels, short stories, essays, poetry, articles, and filmscripts. She has won prizes, fellowships, and grants from such sources as the National Endowment for the Arts, The Boston Globe, and the MacArthur Foundation.

Regina L. Siquieros is a member of the Tohono O’odham Nation. She is a storyteller, singer of traditional O’odham songs and long time educator. She coordinated the Storytelling Project under CPSA and Compass Health Care, Inc. for nine years before joining AILDI in November 2003.

Luci Tapahanso is a Professor of American Indian Studies and English at the University of Arizona. She is the author of five books of poetry including Blue Horses Rush In, which was awarded the Mountain and Plains Booksellers Association’s 1998 Award for Poetry. Professor Tapahanso received the 2006 “Lifetime Achievement” award from the Native Writers Circle of the Americas. Her forthcoming book, A Radiant Curve is due in mid-2007 (University of Arizona Press.)
Laura Tohe (Diné) and was raised on the Navajo reservation. She has written and co-authored four books. The most recent, *Tseyi: Deep in the Rock* (with Stephen Strom) was a Southwest Book of the Year 2005 by Tucson Pima Library. She is the 2006 Dan Schilling Public Scholar for the Arizona Humanities Council and an Associate Professor in the English Department at Arizona State University. She is currently working on a commissioned oratorio for the Phoenix Symphony Orchestra.

Eddie Welch is a PhD student in American Indian Studies at the University of Arizona. He earned a B.A. at UA in 2002 and a J.D. and M.A. at the University of South Dakota in 2006. Eddie calls Pierre, South Dakota, home.

Akira Y. Yamamoto is a professor of anthropology and linguistics at the University of Kansas. He has worked with the Hualapai Indian community for the past three decades. He has been active in bringing together the language communities and professional communities for long-lasting language and culture revitalization programs. He chaired the Linguistic Society of America’s Committee on Endangered Languages and Their Preservation, and co-chaired UNESCO Ad Hoc Expert Group on Endangered Languages.

Frances Washburn is of mixed blood ancestry from Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, home of the Oglala Lakota. She earned her B.A. and M.A. in English, Creative Writing, and her Ph.D. in American Studies, all from the University of New Mexico. She is a professor at the University of Arizona where she holds a dual appointment in English and the American Indian Studies Program. She is the author of *Elsie’s Business*, and of *Bead Me A River*, which will be released in Spring 2008.

Mary Willie (Diné) has a Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of Arizona. She has made major contributions in the area of the fourth person pronoun in the Navajo language. She expanded her research into areas such as mood and modality, “ pysch” verbs, and verbs of speaking in Navajo. As an associate professor, Willie maintains an active role in the Masters of Arts degree in Native American Linguistics as primary instructor and thesis advisor, and has developed the Navajo language classes.

Ofelia Zepeda is a member of the Tohono O’odham Nation and the author of two books of poetry *Ocean Power: Poems from the Desert*, and *Jewed ‘I-hoi/ Earth Movements*, a bilingual audio cd from Kore Press. She is one of the co-founders, and director of American Indian Language Development Institute (AILDI). Zepeda is a Professor of Linguistics and the author of the first book on the grammar of the Tohono O’odham language. Dr. Zepeda received the MacArthur Fellowship for her life’s work on American Indian language issues.

Herminia Valenzuela is a Yoeme poet, storyteller and traditional educator who has worked on the Yoeme Dictionary (with Felipe Molina and David Shaul). She is well known for her book *Yoeme: Lore of the Arizona Yaqui People*, now out of print. Valenzuela works with traditional elders to collect knowledge on plants, animals, the elements, and sea life. She is currently working on a forthcoming Yoeme ethnobiology with Molina and Dr. Richard Felger.
The Southwest’s only year-round writer’s residency center. We offer classes, readings, salons, and other literary events in downtown Tucson. **Don’t miss our annual Suite Sponsor Soiree—THE art event of the summer—on Saturday, June 23rd.** Tickets on sale now at Casa Libre. For more information:

228 N. 4th Ave.  (520) 325-9145  casakeepers@casalibre.org  www.casalibre.org

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**The Town of Marana is proud to partner with the UA Poetry Center to support the talented participants in this year’s Native Voices Youth Symposium.**

www.marana.com
In the past, the borderlands between the U.S. and Mexico was an area rich in biodiversity and in cultural exchange opportunities. Today, the borderland is quickly becoming a forgotten wasteland due to overuse and a zone of contention due to immigration problems. How can we turn this unfortunate situation around? Cuenca Los Ojos thinks the solution is strategically placed green corridors.

www.cuencalosojos.com
Please join us next year for the
29th Annual
American Indian Language Development Institute

June 2 - 27, 2008

“Language is Power, Culture is Power.”
– Simon Ortiz

For more information please contact the AILDI office at:
American Indian Language Development Institute
The University of Arizona
College of Education, Room 517
PO Box 210069
Tucson, AZ 85721-0069
Tel: (520) 621-1068
Fax: (520) 621-8174
Web: http://www.u.arizona.edu/~AILDI/
E-mail: aildi@email.arizona.edu

The University of Arizona.
Native Voices Symposium is made possible by the ideas, enthusiasm, and support of a great many people and organizations.

The Poetry Center would like to thank American Indian Language Development Institute (AILDI) for inspiring Native Voices and partnering with us to make this symposium a reality. Their contributions to the Native Voices symposium are unquantifiable and span the spectrum from material to creative support.

Casa Libre en la Solana has generously contributed accommodations for visiting featured writers. Tucson Poetry Festival has decorated the auditorium. Writer and artist L. Frank Manriquez contributed her artwork for the Native Voices website, brochure, and program. KUAT and ArizonaNativeNet provided complimentary video and technological services for select events. The Poetry Center benefits from the Arizona Commission on the Arts, which is supported in part by the Arizona State Legislature.

We are grateful to all of our Native Voices grantors, funders, and sponsors:

$5,000-$10,000
National Endowment for the Arts

$1000-$5000
University of Arizona College of Humanities
Friends of the Poetry Center
Arizona Humanities Council
Luci Tapahonso
University of Arizona Department of English

$500-$1000
ArtsReach Writing Program
University of Arizona Press
Town of Marana
Bahti Indian Arts

$300
University of Arizona American Indian Studies Program
Kore Press
American Indian Institute
Randall Holdridge
Drum Hadley

Native Voices Youth Symposium is sponsored by ArtsReach, the Poetry Center, and AILDI, with a grant from the University of Arizona Distinguished Lecturer Series. Support from the Town of Marana and the Will Inman Scholarship Fund enabled us to offer youth registrations at an affordable rate. Trader Joe’s and Rick Johnson of Merrill Lynch provided refreshments. The Youth Reading is co-sponsored by University of Arizona Library.

We are grateful to our advisors: Janice Dewey, Javier Durán, Marlon Evans, Larry Evers, Janice Gould, Tsonianá Lomawaima, Susan Penfield, Delphine Red Shirt, Frances Washburn, Mary Willie, and Ofelia Zepeda.
SITE VISITS

June 15, 2007 at 5:30 p.m.
June 16, 2007 at 7:45 a.m.

For more information or to sign up for a visit, please visit the check-in table in Modern Languages.

Please wear close-toed shoes (no high heels)