

The DEI Newsletter

Celebrating Indigenous Peoples

Book Clubs

K-2 Book:

"Fry Bread" by Kevin Noble Maillard

3rd-4th Grade

"Autumn Peltier, Water Warrior" by Carole Lindstrom

5th-6th Grade

"Borders" by Thomas King

7th-8th Grade

"Gilded" by Elizabeth Acevedo

Upper School

Selected poems by Leslie Marmon Silko

Our K-6 stories are selected by our lower and middle school librarian, Kristyn Dorfman. 5th-12th graders will have an opportunity to join our monthly book clubs.

Discourse

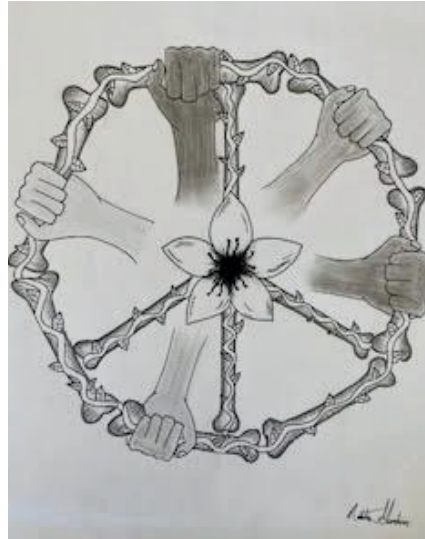
This month's academic inquiry is, how can educators incorporate an indigenous perspective?

In "Children, Myth, and Storytelling: An Indigenous Perspective," Gregory A. Cajete explores how storytelling served as a vehicle for preserving tradition and storing information in Indigenous communities. These communities believed it was vital to tell stories to children, ensuring meaningful learning and social development. Children were important recipients of stories because they were considered special and sacred gifts—"bringers of light and good fortune to the community." As we celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day and look ahead to Indigenous Peoples' Month in November, it seems appropriate to uplift their cultural and traditional values. Indigenous education focuses on four basic disciplines: attention, creative imagination, flexibility, and fluency of thinking. This month's activities will center on these disciplines in our book clubs, which will explore Indigenous perspectives on "ways of being in the world."

Student Art

Natalia Gambino '26

Media: *pencil on paper*



Author's Note: "The bones represent all of the innocent people who have died as a result of war and the hands and vines represent people coming together to hold them in the light. Overall, this piece is about the importance of acknowledging lost people and a hopeful plea towards peace in the future."

Land Acknowledgement

Friends Academy is located on the ancestral lands of the Matinecock Peoples. We gratefully acknowledge the contributions and heritage of these Indigenous caretakers as we follow their example to be better stewards of the land we inhabit.

