

THE BUTLER CENTER

NEWSLETTER



ATTENDING THE HACU CONFERENCE IN CHICAGO

By Galy Berthon

I had the opportunity to be nominated by the Butler Center and sponsored by the President's Office at CC to attend the Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities - Adelante! Conference 2023 in Chicago, Illinois. This was an incredible opportunity to learn about different graduate programs around the US, learn from Latino Leaders in different industries, and connect with different employers.

I enjoyed being surrounded by people who had a similar background to mine, and who also spoke my language. Different skills included handing out business cards, and resumes, and creating an elevator pitch to reach out and connect with the different companies, non-profits, and corporations at the conference. I am immensely grateful to The Butler Center and The President's Office at CC for this opportunity.



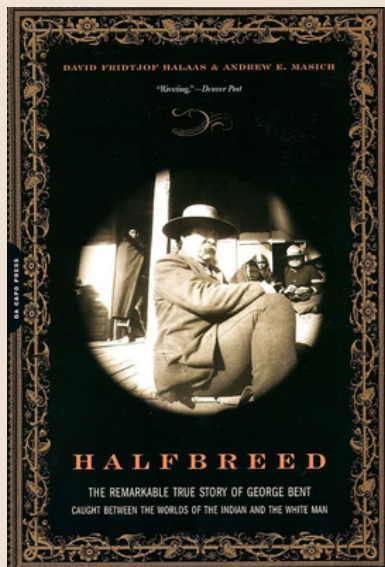
PARTICIPATING IN DÍA DE MUERTOS AS A CULTURAL OUTSIDER

By Jordan Bates

Last year, I had the privilege of celebrating Día De Muertos while abroad in Mérida, Yucatán, México. One of the parts I remember most vividly is the Paseo de las Almas parade, where people painted their faces as skulls and walked through the city center holding candles. Like many of us, I had the experience of the high school Spanish class where we did celebrate Día De Muertos, but without much of the cultural authenticity that made it meaningful. Learning how to respectfully participate in this holiday required intention on my part, but it has added so much meaning to my life. I was raised vaguely Christian, but I never really had a belief system or practices surrounding death. As I've developed my own spirituality, I've incorporated the lessons I've learned from Día De Muertos about honoring and celebrating those who have passed on. My practice is not perfect, but it is respectful and it is appreciative. This year, I have pictures of my passed family member on the ofrenda for the first time, offering them passage to visit me. I have remembered them for another year, and so their spirit lives on.

WEEKLY PAIRINGS - BOOK RECOMENDATIONS

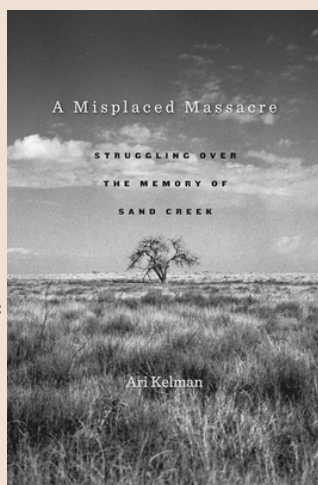
Celebrate Indigenous Heritage Month (Nonfiction)



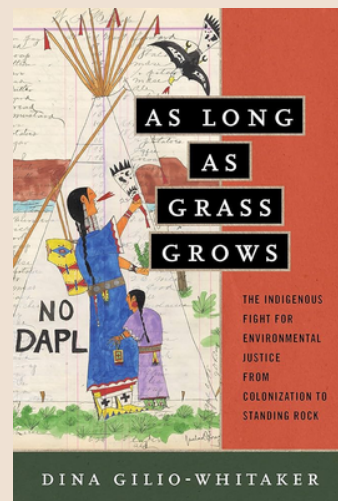
Celebrate Indigenous Heritage Month with a local history. *Halfbreed* by David Halaas follows the life of George Bent - the son of an indigenous woman and a famous white trade merchant. Bent constantly walked the line between white and indigenous - fighting

both in the Civil War and with the Cheyenne Dog Soldiers. Bent likewise acted as an interpreter, negotiator, and liaison between the white and indigenous worlds. Halaas also details Bent's experience surviving the horrific local Sand Creek Massacre. This book explores what it means to be indigenous and what life was like for those who walked in two worlds.

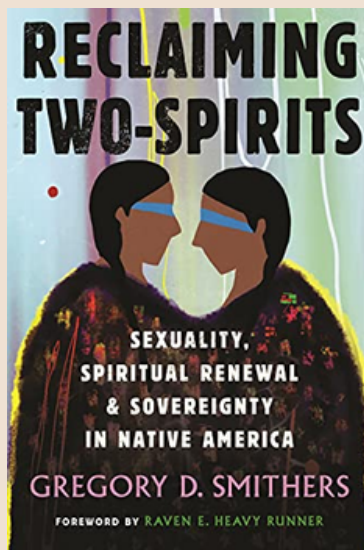
Likewise, *A Misplaced Massacre* shares the horrific story of the Sand Creek Massacre and the complicated legacy of the memorial site. The Sand Creek Massacre site became a battleground of legacy and memory for Indigenous people, Colorado ranchers, the National Park Service, and other locals. These groups fought over whether this atrocity should be remembered as a battle or a massacre. Ari Kelman carefully uncovers the forgotten first-hand accounts of the massacre as well as the individuals who grappled with the legacy of this event.



Dina Gilio-Whitaker begins her book with the 2016 Standing Rock protests which brought a national spotlight to Indigenous environmental activism. In *As Long as Grass Grows*, Gilio-Whitaker explores the history of Indigenous environmental activism



and justice from colonialism through the modern day. She explores Indigenous resistance against government and corporate influence and ultimately argues that all modern environmentalists must turn to Indigenous wisdom and history to contextualize and inspire their work.



Reclaiming Two-Spirits by Gregory Smithers is a sweeping history of Indigenous gender and sexuality. This work specifically focuses on the concept of Two-Spirits, or those who identify as neither male or female but as some combination of the two. This story centers

art, storytelling, and archaeological evidence and details colonial efforts to erase the Two-Spirit identity. Furthermore, Smithers shows that Indigenous resistance has been key to preserving this identity, and the ways in which Indigenous people have protected their beliefs and reconnected with them in the 21st century .

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Student pose at the GOTH PROM photo booth. From left to right: Brailey Harris (Peer Educator), Rachel Phillips (QTC Peer Mentor), Violet Datcu (Student Success Scholar Program Mentor)
Photo Credit to Mlla Naumovska

Looking for **YOUR** GOTH PROM photos? Visit our Instagram (@butlercentercc) and follow the link in our linktree.

Correction: in our Nov. 6th newsletter we mistakenly misnamed the photographer. Photo credit from last week's photo of the week goes to Gray Warrior (@gray_unfiltered).

November 13th, 2023

@butlercentercc

HAPPY FALL BREAK MORE EVENTS AFTER WE RETURN!



Photo credit: Lonnie Timmons III