Welcome to the fifth newsletter for the Stanford Powwow!

Given this year’s monumental event as the 50th Annual celebration of the Stanford Powwow, we wanted to produce a monthly newsletter to provide a unique look into the history of the Stanford Powwow, the planning that goes into creating this Powwow, and highlight our amazing members of the Planning Committee, along with our wonderful sponsors.

Happy reading!
Although restrictions are loosening around us, our event will remain as a virtual celebration in order to continue to keep our communities safe. Though celebrating our 50th Annual celebration virtually was not our first choice, we are extremely excited to share what we have been working on for many months with everyone! We are also very grateful for all of our amazing dance contestants, Head Staff, sponsors, collaborators, committee members and volunteers, and soon, virtual spectators!

Links to view the YouTube Premiere of the 50th Annual Stanford Powwow each day will be posted on Thursday, May 6, 2021. Stay up to date with our social media accounts and subscribe to our email list to get email updates!
Head Woman
Powtawche Valerino (BS Mechanical Engine ‘97) is a member of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and was born in New Orleans, LA. She spent her formative years on the Choctaw reservation (Tucker Community) in Philadelphia, MS, where she gained an appreciation for her culture through watching traditional Choctaw dances. This was further amplified in Montana through her exposure to powwows before returning back to New Orleans to complete her secondary education. As a result, Powtawche sees powwows as a great opportunity to celebrate her own ethnic and cultural background as well as recognize and elevate our pan-indigenous communities.

Powtawche received an undergraduate degree in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford University, and a master’s and doctoral degree in Mechanical Engineering with a specialty in Aero-Astronautics from Rice University. Currently, she works at the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, AL where she has a multifaceted role in the Artemis Program that will send the first woman and next man to the moon. This includes supporting the areas of mission design, navigation, and guidance for the Space Launch System Program. Prior to joining NASA at Marshall, Powtawche was a flight path control analyst at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, CA where she worked on the Cassini-Huygens, Europa Clipper, and Parker Solar Probe missions.

Powtawche is very honored to serve as the Stanford 50th Annual Powwow Head Woman Dancer. Although this year’s powwow is virtual, she understands the magnitude of this position as the Stanford American Indian Organization celebrates 50 years. She hopes that her role during this year’s powwow will inspire all attendees, specifically the younger generation, to remember their ancestral ties while blazing their own paths.
### Head Man

**Layton Lamsam** (Tse-Doe-Skah) is Osage and a Southern Straight dancer from Pawhuska, Oklahoma and from Grayhorse District. He is a Stanford alumnus (BS ’14, MD ’19) and was co-chair of the Stanford Powwow in 2013. He now lives in Connecticut with his family and is a resident physician in neurological surgery at Yale School of Medicine. He continues to pursue his interests in epilepsy surgery and Native American health, and he was recently named to the “Native American 40 Under 40” by the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development.

He is passionate about encouraging Native students to pursue medicine and is interested in promoting tribal sovereignty, identity, and the creation of culture.

### Host Northern Drum

**Sharpshooter** started together in 2016 traveling throughout the nation and into Canada. The group is comprised of singers who come from across the United States and Canada. Given the many places the singers come from, they acknowledge themselves as being from Turtle Island, North America. The name Sharpshooter originates from the Twin Cities of Minnesota from the lead singer’s, Jeremy Dearly, father’s Indian name, Sutapi.

Sharpshooter has placed at many celebrations in their 5 years of being together and have four CD’s out with a fifth on the way. They are very excited to be asked to be the Host Northern Drum for the 50th Annual Stanford Powwow and hope you enjoy the celebration and songs!
Southern Boys was established in 1997 at the Comanche Nation Fair! Since then, they have grown into an intertribal drum group from tribes represented from all over the USA. Their founder, Darrell Cable Sr., wanted to give the younger boys an opportunity to share our music, travel, meet new people along the way, and make memories! They have recorded 9 CDs and have traveled extensively throughout the USA and Canada representing the southern way of singing. They are honored to be selected by the Stanford Powwow Planning Committee to be the Host Southern Drum for the 50th Annual Stanford Powwow!

Master of Ceremony

Donald Speidel (Tatanka Hoksila) is active on the powwow circuit as a dancer, singer, and a renowned public speaker as a Master of Ceremonies at cultural and corporate events across North America. As a facilitator of cross-cultural awareness, Don has mastered the celebration of First Nations people through the performing arts.

Donald has a vital role with the Saskatoon Public School Division, where he ensures programming is inclusive of First Nation and Metis culture. Through his experiences as an Indigenous person that lives a traditional lifestyle while working in the corporate environment, Don’s current role was created to support the respectful inclusion of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis by incorporating their histories, languages, cultures, traditions, and protocols into Saskatoon Public Schools to help maintain and improve cultural responsiveness and respect.

Don has expertise in First Nations bilingual-bicultural education programing and culturally responsive education; and has experience in providing professional development training and mentorship. He is passionate about First Nations revitalization and advancing good relations among all of Saskatchewan’s treaty people by providing information, ideas, and tools to support the development of culturally responsive schools, workplaces, and service delivery.

Don has worked in the education for over 21 years as a resource person supporting cultural responsive education. Being a lifelong learner, he has taken the step in obtaining a formal education through the University of Saskatchewan in the Indian Teacher Education Program.
**Arena Director/Advisor**

**Darrell Goodwill** is Dakota/Lakota Sioux from Standing Buffalo, Saskatchewan, Canada. He currently lives in St. Michaels, AZ. Following his family’s traditions, Darrell has competed as a dancer and singer in powwows for over 57 years, and he has traveled professionally as a dancer throughout Europe, Australia, Canada, and the U.S.

Darrell is very proud of his children and grandchildren, and all their accomplishments in the powwow circle, the arts, and academics. Darrell’s youngest daughter, Jade Okute Win Goodwill, will graduate from Stanford University in June 2021 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Science, Technology, & Society.

Darrell is honored to be the Arena Director and Advisor for the 50th Annual Stanford Powwow. He first traveled to Stanford Powwow in 1988 when he was selected as the Head Man Dancer, and he has returned as a competitor, or as the Arena Director, for many years since that time. Darrell congratulates Stanford students, past and present, for putting on such a good student-run powwow for so many years.

This past year has been extremely challenging for so many throughout the world, with the COVID-19 pandemic taking a heavy toll in Indian Country. We have lost many people, and many more still suffer from the effects of the virus. Darrell believes it was a good decision to have a virtual powwow again this year. This allows us to come together remotely to celebrate our traditions, and share beautiful songs and dances in a safe way. Darrell encourages everyone to stay safe, get vaccinated, and follow all health and safety guidelines, so we can gather safely together soon.

Darrell would like to wish everybody good luck, and his prayers will be with all of the students, staff, and competitors for success, and good health. Hope to see you all happy and well at the next powwow!
Stanford University’s Offices of Undergraduate Admission & Financial Aid

(Pictured: Graduates at 2019 Stanford Native Graduation)

*Congratulates the Powwow Committee on the 50th Annual Powwow!*

Stanford University is home to over 350 American Indian, Alaska Native, First Nations and Native Hawaiian students, representing more than 60 tribes and communities.

To learn more about freshman or transfer admission, please visit admission.stanford.edu

or contact

Constance Owl (*18, Eastern Band Cherokee)  
Admission Counselor  
American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian Liaison  
cowl17@stanford.edu
The Office for Religious and Spiritual Life congratulates the Stanford American Indian Organization on the 50th Annual Stanford Powwow!

Congratulations!

Academic Advising wishes a sincere congratulations to the Stanford Native community for their

50th Annual Powwow

Academic Advising is dedicated to introducing you to the full richness of undergraduate study, supporting you in your academic and intellectual pursuits, and connecting you to all the resources Stanford has to offer.

https://advising.stanford.edu
(650) 723-2426

Stanford | Academic Advising
VICE PROVOST FOR UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

Thank you to our valued campus partners for your support!
Congratulations on the 50th Annual Stanford Powwow!

The Sexual Harassment/Assault Response & Education (SHARE) Title IX Office is Stanford University’s central resource for preventing and responding to sexual and relationship violence, stalking, harassment, and gender-based discrimination.

We invite all campus community members to increase their awareness of how violence uniquely impacts Indigenous communities, to prevent violence where they can, and to foster a culture of safety and respect for all.

share.stanford.edu

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The Equity and Inclusion Initiatives (EII) team proudly supports the Stanford Native American community and the 50th annual Powwow.

Fueled by our shared passion for equity and social justice, we are committed to creating a culture where all students, faculty and staff are supported, respected, included and empowered to do their best work.

Learn more at engineering.stanford.edu.

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¡Felicidades!

From everyone at El Centro Chicano y Latino congratulations on the 50th annual Stanford Powwow

EL CENTRO

CHICANO Y LATINO

Building 590, Old Union
Stanford, CA 94305-3044
elcentro.stanford.edu

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MUSIC AT STANFORD

The Department of Music sends congratulations and our best wishes for the 50TH ANNUAL STANFORD POWWOW!
The American Studies Program is proud to support the 50th Anniversary Stanford Powwow, and celebrates the resilience of Stanford’s Native students during these challenging times.

An interdisciplinary major and minor, American Studies provides students with a multifaceted understanding of American culture and society in all their complexity and diversity. Rooted in courses in history and social sciences, literature and the arts, and race and ethnicity, it invites students to develop fresh, insightful interpretations of America's past and present, while also preparing them for the future as deft critical thinkers and creative problem-solvers.

Come check us out at amstudies.stanford.edu!

The Stanford Women's Community Center proudly supports the Stanford Native American Community

Congratulations and best wishes on another successful Powwow!

wcc.stanford.edu
Queer Student Resources Celebrates Stanford’s Native, Indigenous, and Two-Spirit Communities.

queer.stanford.edu

Well-Being at Stanford supports the development of community and individual well-being. We celebrate with love the Native and Indigenous communities of Stanford.

wellbeing.stanford.edu

Congratulations on the 50th Annual Stanford Powwow!

Cardinal Service connects Stanford students with opportunities to serve communities locally, nationally, and around the world. Visit cardinalservice.stanford.edu to learn more.

Stanford Cardinal Service
Cardinal Quarter • Cardinal Courses • Cardinal Commitment • Cardinal Careers
Celebrating the 50th Annual Stanford Powwow

Stanford alumni Dr. Powtawche Valerino (left; 2008 Stanford Powwow) and Dr. Layton Lamsam (right; 2012 Stanford Powwow) are serving as this year’s Head Dancers. Digital art credit: Sean Mckibbon-Ray. Photo Credit: Dean Eyre
Keeping Up With the Committee

Publicity and Facilities Committees

Brentley Sandlin
(Cherokee Nation)
Brentley is a junior from Memphis, TN majoring in Comparative Studies in Race & Ethnicity and Film & Media Studies. She is currently one of the Committee Heads for the Publicity Committee for the 50th Annual Stanford Powwow. When Brentley was younger, she wanted to be a spy!

“Powwow has always been a highlight of my academic year, being able to celebrate diverse facets of Indigenous culture. I am so excited to be a part of Powwow committee and seeing the inner workings of this magnificent event.”

Emily Elliott
(Chinook Nation)
Emily is a junior from San Diego, CA majoring in Earth Systems and minoring in Comparative Studies in Race & Ethnicity. She is currently one of the Committee Heads for the Publicity Committee for the 50th Annual Stanford Powwow. When Emily was younger, she wanted to be an astronaut!

“I’m excited for powwow so that I’m able to share my amazing campus native community with my friends and family and so that I can support and engage with native artists!”

Ramiro Maxeechoga Hampson-Medina
(Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska/White Earth Chippewah)
Ramiro is a junior from San Diego, CA studying Psychology and Native American Studies. He is currently one of the Committee Heads for the Facilities Committee for the 50th Annual Stanford Powwow. When he was younger, he wanted to be a professional soccer player!

“I’m excited to be able to connect people across the country through the online powwow and there will definitely be some good energy spread throughout the event.”

Ty Running Fisher
(Blackfeet/Quinault)
Ty is a senior from Browning, MT majoring in Bioengineering. He is currently one of the Committee Heads for the Facilities Committee for the 50th Annual Stanford Powwow. When Ty was younger, he wanted to be a paleontologist!

“I love participating in the fun run and I am excited to celebrate my birthday during virtual powwow week.”
Keeping Up With the Committee
Facilities (cont.) and Fun Run Committees

Bridget is a freshman from Menlo Park, CA majoring in Electrical Engineering and minoring in Mechanical Design. She is currently a member of the Fun Run Committee for the 50th Annual Stanford Powwow. When Bridget was younger, she wanted to be a farmer!

“I love being a part of the vibrant Native community at Stanford! I’m looking forward to experiencing Powwow after seeing all the preparation put into it this year.”

Anna is a sophomore from Menlo Park, CA majoring in Computer Science. She is currently one of the Committee Heads for the Fun Run Committee for the 50th Annual Stanford Powwow. When Anna was younger, she wanted to be a family physician!

“I’m excited to participate in the fitness challenge and see how many others do as well!”

Michael is a junior from San Diego, CA studying Psychology and Native American Studies. He is currently one of the Committee Heads for the Facilities Committee for the 50th Annual Stanford Powwow. When Michael was younger, he wanted to be a pilot!

“Excited to be socializing again and continuing my undergrad career.”

Elsie is a junior from Blackfoot, SD majoring in Human Biology and Native American Studies. She is currently one of the Committee Heads for the Fun Run Committee for the 50th Annual Stanford Powwow. When Elsie was younger, she wanted to be a waitress and a chef!

“I’m so excited to expand Fun Run to multiple events and to think more about holistic Indigenous wellness. I’m also excited for everyone to see the hard work and awesome ideas that have come out of planning for this year’s virtual 50th.”
FOLLOW US:

The Stanford Powwow

@thestanfordpowwow

www.stanfordpowwow.com

Sponsored by the Stanford Powwow Planning Committee
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