THE INVISIBILITY of contemporary native peoples, voices, contributions, and issues creates a void that is filled with toxic stereotypes and misperceptions.

72% of Americans never encounter or seek out information about native americans.

87% of state history standards don’t mention native american history after 1900.

27 states make no mention of a single native american in K-12 curriculum.
Native American characters only make up between 0.01% of primetime TV & films.

78% of Americans know little to nothing about Native peoples.

“Invisibility is the modern manifestation of systemic racism and one of the greatest threats to Native lands and livelihoods.”

-Crystal Echo Hawk

Less than 0.4% of philanthropic resources go to Native Americans.
AMERICANS HOLD NEGATIVE & ROMANTICIZED STEREOTYPES SIMULTANEOUSLY

"TO BE SEEN AS DIVERSE NATIONS NOT A MONOLITHIC WHOLE."

QUOTE FROM INDIGENOUS FUTURES SURVEY

SEPARATE & PART OF U.S. CULTURE

CARING FOR THE LAND & LIVING IN TRASH-FILLED OR POLLUTED RESERVATIONS

SAVAGE WARRIORS & NOBLE SAVAGES

SPIRITUALLY FOCUSED & STRUGGLING WITH ALCOHOL & DRUGS

POOR & Flush with casino money

RESILIENT & DEPENDENT ON GOVERNMENT BENEFITS

PHOTO BY RYAN RED CORN (OSAGE)
PATHWAYS TOWARD NEW NARRATIVES

SOVEREIGNTY

EDUCATING STATE & FEDERAL POLICYMAKERS ON THE SOVEREIGNTY OF NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES & TREATY RIGHTS.

TODAY, THERE ARE 574 FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES, MANY STATE-RECOGNIZED TRIBES, AS WELL AS SEVERAL OTHER SOVEREIGN NATIVE NATIONS.

DIVERSITY OF NATIVE COMMUNITIES

SHOWING DIVERSITY INCLUDING MIXED NATIVE IDENTITIES.

DEPICTING SPECIFIC TRIBES & CULTURES RATHER THAN "PAN-INDIANISM".

NATIVE ART, CULTURE, VOICE AND INFLUENCE

LIFTING UP NATIVE PEOPLES AND THEIR HISTORY, CULTURE, & STORIES. SHOWING INDIGENOUS JOY, HUMOR, & HUMANITY.

K-12 EDUCATION

RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC MISTREATMENT OF NATIVE PEOPLES BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT & HOW IT STILL AFFECTS NATIVE AMERICANS TODAY.

ENTERTAINMENT

INVESTING IN NEW NATIVE STORIES IN FILM AND TV AND REPLACE FALSE DEPICTIONS WITH NATIVE PEOPLES’ STORIES.

HIRING MORE NATIVE ARTISTS IN THE FULL STORYTELLING PROCESS AS WRITERS, PRODUCERS, DIRECTORS, ACTORS, DESIGNERS, ETC.
INDIGENOUS FUTURES
SURVEY 2020

REPRESENTING 6,400 NATIVE PEOPLES & 401 TRIBES

THE INDIGENOUS FUTURES SURVEY IS THE LARGEST RESEARCH CONDUCTED IN INDIAN COUNTRY REPRESENTING A DIVERSE SAMPLE ACROSS AGE, GENDER, AND GEOGRAPHY.

THIS DATA CAPTURES INSIGHT ON NATIVE AMERICAN VOTING AND POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT. DEMOCRACY IS THE CORNERSTONE OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT; HOWEVER, VOTER SUPPRESSION, CAMPAIGN FINANCE FRAUD, AND THE ONGOING SYSTEMATIC DISENFRANCHISEMENT OF INDIGENOUS, BLACK, AND OTHER COMMUNITIES OF COLOR HAVE INHIBITED THE CREATION OF A TRULY REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY.

MANY CONVERSATIONS ON VOTING NORMS AND BEHAVIORS NEGLECT NATIVE PEOPLES AND DISMISS THE NATIVE VOTE AS INCONSISTENT, NATIVE PEOPLE AS UNENGAGED, OR THE NATIVE POPULATION AS TOO SMALL TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN ELECTIONS.

THIS SURVEY IS THE FIRST STEP IN A YEARSLONG PROCESS TO UNDERSTAND THE MOTIVATIONS, PRIORITIES, AND THE CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS AND BELIEFS OF THE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY.

A 2.0 VERSION OF THE INDIGENOUS FUTURES SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED IN 2021-2022 AND A NEW REPORT WILL BE PUBLISHED BY ILLUMINATIVE AT THE END OF THIS YEAR.
IDENTITY

94% NATIVE AMERICAN

(NOTE: PERCENTAGES DO NOT SUM TO 100% BECAUSE PEOPLE COULD IDENTIFY WITH MULTIPLE GROUPS)

6% FIRST NATIONS
3% ALASKA NATIVE
2% NATIVE HAWAIIAN

RESIDENCE

49% CITIES
23% RESERVATIONS
9% RURAL
19% SMALL TOWNS

ENCULTURATION

98% SOCIALIZE WITH NATIVE AMERICANS
98% KNOW & SHARE NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY
95% EAT OR COOK NATIVE AMERICAN FOOD
92% ATTEND POW-WOWS OR SOCIAL DANCES

PHOTO BY PAUL ROBERT WOLF WILSON
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ARE CIVICALLY ENGAGED

- Signing a petition: 82%
- Sharing political content online: 77%
- Participate in a grassroots org: 49%
- Contacting a public official: 47%
- Attending a protest (prior to the murder of George Floyd): 37%

PHOTO BY JOSUE RIVAS

INDIGENOUS TRANS, NON-BINARY, GENDERQUEER, AND TWO-SPIRIT PEOPLES ENGAGE IN MORE CIVIC ACTIVITIES.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE WHO PARTICIPATE IN MORE CULTURAL ACTIVITIES ENGAGE IN MORE CIVIC ACTIVITIES.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ARE MOTIVATED MOST BY CANDIDATES PLATFORM & TRACK RECORD ON NATIVE & TRIBAL ISSUES.

PRIORITY OF INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

- 69% Improving mental health
- 65% Caring for tribal elders
- 64% Addressing violence against women, children & LGBTQ+
- 63% Preserving tribal languages
**BARRIERS TO VOTING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Issue Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32%</td>
<td>Not receiving absentee ballot on time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27%</td>
<td>Not being able to access polling due to work hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19%</td>
<td>The polling place being too far away</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17%</td>
<td>Line to vote was too long</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

39% of Indigenous young people (20-29 yrs) experience more barriers due to lack of transportation to polls.

48% of Indigenous trans, non-binary, genderqueer, and two-spirit peoples experience more barriers to voting.