



**Social Activity Toolkit**  
**#WORLDxNAHM**



**NATIVE  
AMERICAN  
HERITAGE  
MONTH**

**AMERICA REFRAMED:**  
**MORONI FOR PRESIDENT**

**PRESENTED BY:**



Brave.  
New.  
Real.



**FUNDED BY:**





## Dear Viewers,

As the days grow shorter and the temperature drops, this begins the season of storytelling for many Native American Tribes.

Native people are storytellers. For generations, our ancestors passed our Indigenous culture on to us through stories shared around a fire in a warm tipi.

Today, with camera in hand, Native filmmakers bring those stories to life on screen.

November is a time each year where our stories receive widespread, national attention as part of Native American Heritage Month. This year, we are proud to partner with WORLD Channel to broadcast 45 programs by and about Native people on public media throughout the month of November.

Your friends, family, Tribal members, organizations...everyone deserves to see stories on screen that reflect their experiences. Please invite them to watch with you. And please share this toolkit widely so that all can participate in the national conversation occurring in community spaces and online at the hashtag #WORLDxNAHM.

Throughout the year, Vision Maker Media will continue to work with Native producers to develop and distribute new programs that tell our stories. Learn more about us at [VisionMakerMedia.org](http://VisionMakerMedia.org).

And stay tuned to WORLD Channel year round for more inspiring stories from Indigenous vision makers worldwide at [WORLDChannel.org](http://WORLDChannel.org).

We look forward to watching and participating with you.

**Pilamaye (Thank you)**  
***Shirley K. Sneve***  
(Sicangu Lakota)  
VISION MAKER MEDIA

**NATIVE  
AMERICAN  
HERITAGE  
MONTH**  
**NOVEMBER 2018**

# WELCOME

Thank you for honoring Native American Heritage Month with WORLD Channel.

The month of November is an opportunity to raise up the voices of Indigenous communities in the Americas. WORLD Channel, in partnership with Vision Maker Media, invites you to listen to the voices from Native America today through a collection of 45 programs made by and about Native storytellers.

This Social Activity Toolkit highlights five of those programs that focus on the stories of Native youth: ***Moroni for President, On a Knife Edge, We Breathe Again, The Mayors of Shiprock, and Unspoken: America's Native American Boarding Schools.***

We hope you will be moved to respond to the stories with collective social action. The activities included in this toolkit provide an easy way to participate in the national conversation happening throughout Native American Heritage Month online at **#WORLDxNAHM**.

Find more online at **[WorldChannel.org/WORLDxNAHM](http://WorldChannel.org/WORLDxNAHM)**.



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**WORLD Channel** is a 24/7, full-service multicast channel featuring public television's signature nonfiction documentary, science, and news programming complemented by original content from emerging producers. You can find WORLD Channel through your local PBS station and can access our programming directly on **[WORLDChannel.org](http://WORLDChannel.org)**.

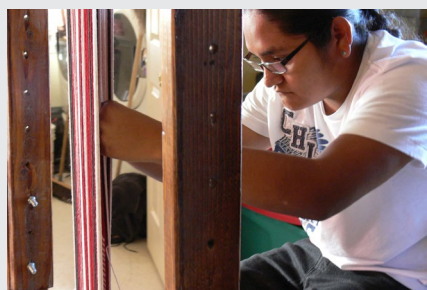




### ON A KNIFE EDGE

**November 6 on America ReFramed**

On a Knife Edge is the coming-of-age story of George Dull Knife, a Lakota teenager growing up on South Dakota's Pine Ridge Reservation. The film traces George's path to activism, inspired by his family's long history of fighting for justice for Native Americans. His focus: shutting down the liquor stores in Whiteclay, a tiny town nearby that exists only to sell beer to the reservation's vulnerable population. Learn more and watch online after broadcast: [WORLDChannel.org/programs/episode/arf-s5-515-knife-edge](http://WORLDChannel.org/programs/episode/arf-s5-515-knife-edge)



### THE MAYORS OF SHIPROCK

**November 19 on Local USA**

Meet The Mayors of Shiprock--a group of young Navajo leaders dedicated to helping their New Mexico town. The Northern Diné Youth Committee meets every Monday night to learn about their Native culture, discuss community improvements, and work to bridge divides within their community. Learn more and watch online: [WORLDChannel.org/programs/episode/lusa-305-mayors-shiprock](http://WORLDChannel.org/programs/episode/lusa-305-mayors-shiprock)



### MORONI FOR PRESIDENT

**November 20 on America ReFramed (NATIONAL PREMIERE)**

Every four years, the Navajo Nation elects its president, whom many consider the most powerful Native American in the country. Frustrated about the lack of progress in the reservation, Moroni Benally, a witty academic LGBTQ candidate with radical ideas, hopes to defeat the incumbent president. Moroni for President follows the political newcomer's grueling, lonely campaign. Learn more and watch online after broadcast: [WORLDchannel.org/programs/episode/arf-s6-617-moroni-president/](http://WORLDchannel.org/programs/episode/arf-s6-617-moroni-president/)



### UNSPOKEN:

### AMERICA'S NATIVE AMERICAN BOARDING SCHOOLS

**November 23 (NATIONAL PREMIERE)**

A moving and insightful look into the history, operation, and legacy of the federal Indian Boarding School system, whose goal was total assimilation of Native Americans at the cost of stripping away Native culture, tradition, and language.



### WE BREATHE AGAIN

**November 27 on America ReFramed**

Suicide is one of the leading causes of death for Alaska Natives. Almost every family has lost brothers, sisters, parents, and children to it. We Breathe Again introduces four Alaska Natives who are trying to break free from histories of trauma and suicide, creating a new, more positive trail for their communities. Learn more and watch online after broadcast: [WORLDChannel.org/programs/episode/arf-s5-512-we-breathe-again](http://WORLDChannel.org/programs/episode/arf-s5-512-we-breathe-again)

See all the programs available for Native American Heritage Month: [WorldChannel.org/WORLdXNAHM](http://WorldChannel.org/WORLdXNAHM).

**PARTICIPATE IN**  
**NATIVE  
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**NOVEMBER 2018**

## ACTIVITY



**#WORLDxNAHM #VisionMaker**

Inspired by the films *On a Knife Edge* and *The Mayors of Shiprock*, we invite you to share your vision to improve your community.

George Dull Knife, featured in *On a Knife Edge*, envisioned his Lakota community on the Pine Ridge Reservation free from the destructive effects of alcohol. He resolved to shut down the nearby liquor stores that reaped the profits.

Graham Beyale in *The Mayors of Shiprock* envisioned an alternative way for young people of the Navajo Nation to get involved in positive change for the community. He co-founded the Northern Diné Youth Committee.

How about you? What positive vision do you have for your community? Post your vision(s) on social media with the hashtags **#WORLDxNAHM** and **#VisionMaker**. Dream big. Don't be afraid to post more than one.

### EXAMPLE:



**OUR VISION:** to provide a positive alternative for Navajo youth to put their efforts into—something other than negative things like gangs or drinking.  
**#WORLDxNAHM**  
**#VisionMaker**

**TAKE IT FURTHER:** Invite others to help you brainstorm a plan for how you might make this vision a reality. What would you need to accomplish it? Who would you need to help?

Once you have your plan designed, start implementing it.

## ACTIVITY



#WORLDxNAHM #NativeVote

Moroni Benally, Zachariah George, and Alray Nelson from the film **Moroni for President** are all inspiring examples of Navajo LGBTQ youth that are fully engaged in the political process.

How do you engage in politics? Do you vote, serve in office, help a candidate, or

something else? However you participate, take a selfie in action and post it on social media with a caption about what you're doing. Your example may just encourage someone else to join in the political process. Be sure to include the hashtags #WORLDxNAHM and #NativeVote.

### EXAMPLE:



**LOGGED 17,000 MILES IN  
2 ½ MONTHS MEETING  
VOTERS ACROSS THE  
NAVAJO NATION.  
#MORONIFORPRESIDENT  
#WORLDxNAHM  
#NATIVEVOTE**

Historically, Native people are much more likely to vote in Tribal elections than in non-Tribal elections. But as Moroni reminds us in the film, the laws and policies of the federal government, as well as local and state governments, greatly affect the ability for Tribes to exercise their sovereignty. To learn how you can help Tribal citizens exercise their right to vote, check out the resources available through Native Vote, a nonpartisan

initiative by the National Congress of American Indians: [NativeVote.org/about/native-vote-resources](https://NativeVote.org/about/native-vote-resources).

**TAKE IT FURTHER:** You may also be interested to learn that there are a record number of Native candidates running for state and federal offices in the 2018 U.S. midterm elections. Follow their stories on *Indian Country Today*: [NewsMaven.io/IndianCountryToday](https://NewsMaven.io/IndianCountryToday).



## ACTIVITY

# THREE

#WORLDxNAHM #WeBreatheAgain #MyStrength

The films *Unspoken: America's Native American Boarding Schools* and *We Breathe Again* remind us of the vital role that culture plays in building individual and community resilience. Centuries of forced displacement and assimilation policies, such as boarding schools, disrupted the transfer of Native culture from ancestors to descendents. The effects have been devastating.

For Earl "Keggulluk" Polk, who is featured in *We Breathe Again*, connecting Native

youth to their cultural heritage is an answer to the alarming suicide rate among Alaskan Native youth. In the spirit of this work, think of something from your cultural heritage that makes you feel resilient. Is there a ritual, song, story, ancestor, place, or something else that helps you feel strong in the face of adversity? Share it with others by posting a photo or video representation on social media with the hashtags #WORLDxNAHM, #WeBreatheAgain, and #MyStrength.

### EXAMPLE:



**THE SEA IS  
#MYSTRENGTH. WHAT'S  
YOURS? #WORLDXNAHM  
#WEBREATHEAGAIN**

**TAKE IT FURTHER:** Please help share suicide prevention resources widely in your community. For 24/7 support, call the National Suicide Prevention

Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 or visit [SuicidePreventionLifeline.org/help-yourself/native-americans](https://SuicidePreventionLifeline.org/help-yourself/native-americans).



# SHARE

Encourage others to add their voices to the conversation by sharing films from **WORLD Channel** and this toolkit on social media.

- Remember to tag your posts with **#WORLDxNAHM**
- And link to **WorldChannel.org/WORLDxNAHM**

## EXAMPLES:

Three meaningful ways to participate in #NativeAmericanHeritageMonth this November: **WorldChannel.org/WORLDxNAHM**. **#WORLDxNAHM**

- What is your vision for your community? **#WORLDxNAHM** **#VisionMaker**
- How do you engage politically? **#WORLDxNAHM** **#NativeVote**
- What makes you resilient? **#WORLDxNAHM** **#WeBreatheAgain** **#MyStrength**

