



December 15, 2023

Greetings Relatives!

As we come to the end of our fall harvest and the winter rains begin to nourish the soil, we are honored to share with you a look back on 2023 and our work together in service to Native lands, peoples, and cultures. Collectively with our partners, supporters, funders, and volunteers, it has been an extraordinary year of continued growth, tending land, and serving local, national and international Indigenous communities.

It has been an exciting and productive year for The Cultural Conservancy! Our land project, [Heron Shadow](#), is quickly becoming a haven that provides a Native place of refuge and learning for community connection, growing Indigenous foods and seeds, and nourishing relations, and we are seeing the beginning stages of establishing the larger food hub and Native resiliency center at Heron Shadow that we envision. It has also been a wonderful year of continuing to support community partners through our Mino-Niibi Fund, building our new [Resource Library and Art space](#) at our San Francisco offices, deepening our Native Media work, and much more!

We are happy to share some of our good work this year in service to community.



Heron Shadow

[Heron Shadow](#) is a deep reflection of our commitment to community service and land-based self-determination. As we continue to deepen our work on this land and strengthen our relations, new partnerships rise such as our partnership with Grow-a-

Row, a remarkable ally organization that contributed hundreds of pounds of clean, healthy, organic foods to our food justice program this year.

Native Foodways

We continue to grow our [Native Foodways Program](#) and our land tending work through Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) systems at [Indian Valley Organic Farm & Garden](#), where we are a long-standing partner with a well-established small educational community garden site, and at [Heron Shadow](#) our growing land project. Through this beautiful land, we can extend our service to community exponentially while we focus on the protection and regeneration of Indigenous agriculture, Native sciences, and healthy lifeways. This past year, we were able to grow, source, and donate over 15,000 pounds with a few more weeks to go!



Mino-Niibi Fund

Our [Mino-Niibi Fund for Indigenous Cultures](#) works through small grants to support Native organizations and groups across Turtle Island (Americas) and Moananuiākea (Pacific). We are honored to have awarded more than \$140,000 in grant-making this year to Indigenous groups in 7 countries supporting Indigenous language revitalization, Native youth education, Traditional land practices, and Native women's collectives.



Native Media

Our Native Media work creates accessible, culturally appropriate, Indigenous multi-media and educational resources for community, playing a vital role in our overall documentation and work. We built our [Native Media](#) and [online resource library](#) catalogues of teachings and videos in response to requests for remotely accessible, culturally rich teachings and learning resources.



Native Seed Pod Podcast

This past year we completed Season 3 and launched Season 4 of the [Native Seed Pod](#) featuring seed stories, traditional food knowledge, and living connections to land through the voices of incredible Indigenous women and Traditional Knowledge Holders. We are excited to open Season 4 in partnership with Arizona State University's Center for Biomimicry exploring opportunities to weave new learnings together.



Chi-miigwech, Chioke utte'esia, Yakuzhonday, Yawako, Áho, to each of you for your connection, inspiration, partnership, kindness, investment, collaboration, and kinship! Please consider making a gift in support of Native American Heritage Month and the Indigenous communities we serve.

Thank you, to all our circles, for joining us in protecting and revitalizing Indigenous cultures and ancestral lands. We wish you and your loved ones a happy and healthy continued winter solstice season!

In Kinship and Gratitude,

The TCC Team

Donate



Images

Amaranth photo by Alexandru Salceanu at Heron Shadow

TCC Volunteer Harvest Day in the fields

Heron Shadow Farmer Luke Reppe in the growing fields

Growing fields at Heron Shadow

Foodways Manager Joshua Hoyt cooking at community traditional foods session at Heron Shadow

Community Resource Library in the Presidio Office with Sara Moncada, Louis Knecht, Heaven Estrada, and Alexandru Salceanu

Media Director Mateo Hinojosa and Heron Shadow Project Manager Jordan Torres recording at Heron Shadow

Native Seed Pod episode cover artwork by John Jairo Valencia

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