



Spring Happenings at The Cultural Conservancy

April 20, 2023

Greetings Relatives,

As we emerge from winter, we are sending warm greetings and good wishes to you and all your circles and community! Spring has sprung and we are excited to share with you some of the good work we have been doing at TCC. Our team has grown, the big rains have nourished the land, and we are grateful to be busy sharing good work with partners in community.

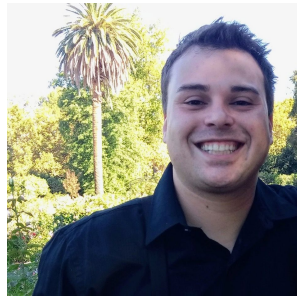
As we step into spring, we give thanks to once again be returning our hands to the soil, the seeds and their songs - for these months of spring planting that allow us to put forth our mission and revitalize our ancestral ways. Happy Spring!

Welcome New Team Members

We are excited to introduce you to three new dynamic additions to our [TCC team](#). Please meet Raven, Joshua, and Alexis!



[Native Media Producer](#)
[Raven E. Marshall](#)
(Sicangu Lakota/Ihanktonwan
Dakota/Nakoda)



[Native Foodways Manager](#)
[Joshua Hoyt](#)
(Turtle Mountain Band of the
Chippewa/ Dakota/Metis)



[Special Projects Manager](#)
[Alexis Stanley](#)
(Diné/Pueblo of Acoma/
Honduran)

Native Foodways and Tending Land

Greenhouse activity has begun! The team is working to increase our capacity to grow, building new greenhouse tables and preparing to build our new shade house. We worked on our ecological restoration over the winter months by planting California native plants and trees and growing our orchard and food forest with over 40 new fruit trees. Our growing seeds include:

- Ohkay Owingeh chiles
- Cherokee Purple tomato
- Plate de Haiti tomato
- Sonoran chiltepin
- Aji Amarillo chile
- Chilhaucle de Negro chile
- Milkweed
- Blue Elderberry
- Manzanita
- Salmonberry
- Yarrow
- Yerba Buena
- Oneo Seneca White Corn
- Currant
- Hazelnut
- Checkerbloom
- Apples
- Plums
- Pluots
- Pears
- Pluerrys
- Cherries
- Apricots
- Peaches
- Nectarines
- And more!



In Community

Cultural Burn with CIBA and CIMCC

In February, TCC was honored to host more than 50 attendees of the [California Indian Basketweavers' Association \(CIBA\)](#) annual event "Rekindling Culture and Fire" in partnership with [California Indian Museum and Cultural Center \(CIMCC\)](#). Folks gathered at Heron Shadow to learn the importance of cultural fires, how to safely interact with fire, and to watch and participate in a cultural fire demonstration. Read more via the [Press Democrat Article](#).



Image credit: Beth Schlanker/The Press Democrat

IFIP Conference in Yucatán, Mexico

TCC was honored to present our work in



Indigenous Philanthropy and our new land project, Heron Shadow, at the [2023 International Funders for Indigenous Peoples Global Conference](#) in Mérida, México on the Yucatán peninsula. Indigenous leaders from around the world gathered to make connections and center conversations on decolonizing philanthropy and overcoming barriers to shift power and resources to Indigenous community-led solutions. Read more about the experience on our [News page](#).



TCC at TEDx Sonoma County

TCC was honored to present at the 11th Annual TEDx Sonoma County [This is US](#) event in March. TEDx Sonoma speakers included TCC Board Chair and President Emerita Melissa K. Nelson as she shared her talk “[Native Hands, Native Lands](#)” to a full house. Using TCC’s new land project Heron Shadow as a model, Melissa brought forward the power and beauty of our deep connection to land as Native peoples and the impact of that connection on the health and wellness of our communities.



Watch the TEDx Sonoma County program video [here](#).

Also, listen to Melissa’s land repatriation podcast episode with Corrina Gould of Sogorea Te’ Land Trust on [the Native Seed Pod here](#).



Thank you for being part of our circles and working alongside us in service to Native lands and community! We acknowledge the wonderful Knowledge Holders and incredible ecosystem that, like seeds, generously share their teachings and knowledge with us and all of you. We are grateful to all who step into the circle with us in support of our work for Indigenous Peoples.

Many thanks and good wishes for health and wellness. We look forward to seeing you on the land soon!

In gratitude,
The Team at TCC

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