



The Vine Deloria, Jr. Native Writers Series

The NMAI is pleased to announce that the Native Writers series is now the Vine Deloria, Jr. Native Writers Series.

Vine Deloria, Jr. (Standing Rock Sioux), who died in 2005 at the age of 73, was "our ranking scholar and intellectual light," according to former NMAI director, Rick West Jr.

Author of such seminal works as *Custer Died for Your Sins* and *God is Red*, Deloria was the first guest on the Native Writers series in October 2004.

Presented by NMAI Cultural Arts, Museum Programs.

For more information, call 202.633.1000 or email NMAIprograms@si.edu.

For information about the Film + Video Center, call 202.633.1000 or visit: www.NativeNetworks.si.edu (English) and www.RedesIndigenas.si.edu (Spanish)

4th Street & Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, DC 20024

For evening programs, please enter the museum at the south entrance on Maryland Avenue near 4th Street and Independence Avenue, S.W.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN

Established in 1989, through an act of Congress, the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) is an institution of living cultures dedicated to the life, languages, literature, history, and arts of the Native people of the Western Hemisphere. The museum includes a new facility on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.; the George Gustav Heye Center, a permanent exhibition and education facility in New York City; and the Cultural Resources Center, a research and collections facility in Suitland, Maryland.

The Mall Museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., except for December 25.

To become a member of the National Museum of the American Indian, call 1.800.242.NMAI [6624] or email Nmaimember@si.edu.

Visit NMAI's website at www.AmericanIndian.si.edu.

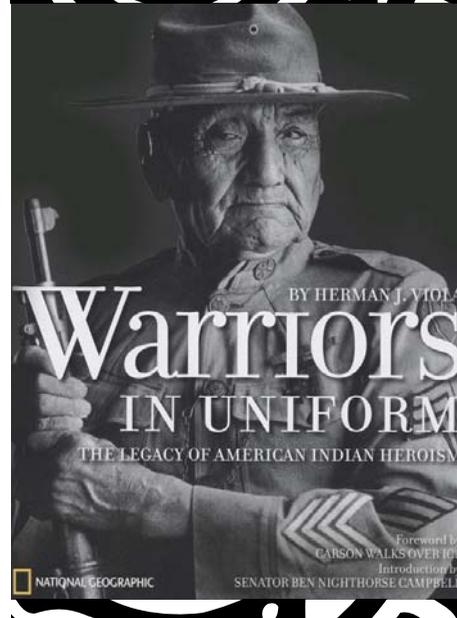
Saturday, December 13
Views from the Field: Alan Cheuse and Colin Sargent
2:00 p.m., Rooms 4018-19, Fourth level
Book discussion and book signing. *In partnership with the Writer's Center, Bethesda, Maryland.*

Sunday, December 14
Spotlight on Native Athletes: Ted Nolan
11:00 am, Rooms 4018-19
Interview and discussion. Ted Nolan (Ojibway) is a retired hockey player and former National Hockey League coach of the Buffalo Sabres and the New York Islanders. The program will be moderated by Erik Brady, senior writer for USA Today.

Saturday, December 20
Storytelling and book release: The Origin of the Milky Way
11:30 a.m., Rasmuson Theater
Book release, storytelling, and book signing. Barbara Duncan, the education director at the Museum of the Cherokee Indian, has compiled and edited a book on Cherokee stories for readers age 9 and up. The book, *The Origin of the Milky Way and Other Living Stories of the Cherokee* (University of North Carolina Press, November 2008), presents 27 stories from well-known storytellers of the Eastern Band of Cherokee in North Carolina. The program includes author Barbara Duncan and Cherokee storyteller Freeman Owle. *In partnership with the University of North Carolina Press.*

And More!

All programs subject to change. Seating is available on a first-come, first served basis.



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN

MUSEUM PROGRAMS, CULTURAL ARTS presents

Warriors in Uniform

Veterans Day Book Program

Tuesday, November 11, 2008
1:00 p.m.

Elmer and Mary Louise Rasmuson Theater

Book panel discussion and book signing.
Moderated by Jason Giles.

Top: Choctaw soldiers in training, WWI. Oklahoma Historical Society. Middle: Harvier Adams (Pima), 158th Infantry, 40th Division. Al Abrams. Bottom: A Charles Bird King portrait of Seneca chief Red Jacket, wearing his George Washington peace medal. Herman J. Viola Collection.



WARRIORS IN UNIFORM: THE LEGACY OF AMERICAN INDIAN HEROISM

Native Americans have served in the U.S. military since the American Revolution, and by percentage serve more than any other ethnic group in the armed forces. Historian Herman J. Viola has included these heroic and unforgettable stories in his latest book, *Warriors in Uniform: The Legacy of American Indian Heroism* (National Geographic, 2008). The book chronicles the roles of Native soldiers from 1770 to the present including tales of tragedy, humor, loyalty, and conflict. It reveals how serving in the U.S. military parallels warrior traditions found among many tribes. Former senator **Ben Nighthorse Campbell** (also a Korean War veteran) provides the introduction.

Jason Giles, Moderator

Jason Giles is a tribal citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma. Born and raised in McLean, Virginia, he attended the United States Military Academy from 1988 to 1992. Commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps, Giles was honorably discharged as a captain in 1997. He then attended law school at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Giles began his legal career as an associate attorney at a law firm in Honolulu, Hawai'i where he focused on labor law, real estate law, and bankruptcy issues. Giles gained valuable litigation experience arguing before both State and Federal Courts and participating in numerous arbitration and mediation hearings. He joined the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) in January 2005 as their legal counsel, where he assisted the executive director in advocating on behalf of Indian tribes before Congress and the Executive Branch. Currently he acts as NIGA's Deputy Executive Director/General Counsel.

Ron Big Black, left, receives a coup stick at his cleansing and naming ceremony; Herman J. Viola Collection.





Joseph Medicine Crow, WWII Veteran

In his memoir *Counting Coup: Becoming a Crow Chief on the Reservation and Beyond*, Joseph Medicine Crow (Crow) compares the warrior tradition to his time in the U.S. Army during WWII. His grandfather instilled in him the importance of bravery, strength, and spiritual power in the face of adversity. In Germany, Medicine Crow placed an eagle feather inside his helmet, painted red symbols on his arms, and prayed before each battle. He believes that this medicine protected him despite a number of close encounters with the Germans. Unknowingly Medicine Crow completed all four tasks required of becoming a war chief. For his courage, he was awarded the Bronze Star and the Chevalier Légion d'honneur. Medicine Crow earned his M.A. in anthropology in 1939, being the first Crow tribal member to obtain a master's degree. He is also the author of many books about Crow life and culture. At the age of 95, he is the last Crow war chief.

Vernon Tsoodle, Korean War Veteran

Vernon Tsoodle (Kiowa) was born in Mountain View, Oklahoma and attended the Chilocco Indian School. He was raised by his grandparents, Old Man Tsoodle and Kau Tompa Hodle, who taught him Kiowa traditions and language. When WWII began, all of his siblings enlisted in military service. He copied their example and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. In 1950, he was deployed to Korea and served in four combat tours—two in Korea and two in Vietnam. Tsoodle was recognized with numerous awards including the Bronze Star, Combat Action ribbon, and four Presidential Unit Citations. Tsoodle listened to stories about Kiowa warriors as a child and remembered that they would shout “Bay-Pae-Tay!” or “Courage!” when approaching enemies. That word stayed in his mind when he faced the enemy, and luckily, he “never got a scratch.” Tsoodle is married to Jimmie Leah Reese and has five children.

Top: **Joseph Medicine Crow** (Crow). Glen Swanson. Below: **Vernon Tsoodle** (Kiowa). Courtesy Vernon Tsoodle.



James Chastain, Vietnam Veteran

James Chastain (Lumbee) was born in Lumberton, North Carolina and was raised by his grandparents on their tobacco farm. He enlisted in the Army at the age of seventeen and was dispatched to Vietnam soon after his eighteenth birthday. He was with the 173rd Airborne Brigade for 33 months and received many awards including the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Presidential Unit Citation, and made sergeant. When Chastain returned to the United States, he was appointed to the new Army Recruiting Command. He became the top recruiter in his second year and took personal care of his recruits. Chastain continued in this role and became the youngest command sergeant major at the age of 35. He retired from the Army at the age of 39 and joined the Atlanta Police Department for sixteen years. He is married to Mary K. Hutcherson and has three sons.

Debra Kay Mooney, Iraq Veteran

Debra Kay Mooney (Choctaw) was born in Idabel, Oklahoma. At the age of seven, her family moved within state to Bartlesville, where she became more involved with her Native heritage. She began attending pow wows and was part of the Title IV Indian Education program. After graduation Mooney attended Eastern Oklahoma State College in Wilburton and East Central University in Ada, Oklahoma. She was an active member and leader of many Native American organizations. In 1991 Mooney joined the Army National Guard, and she was able to incorporate her indigenous culture alongside her military career. In 2004 Mooney conceived of and hosted a pow wow in the battle zone of Fallujah, Iraq for Native soldiers. She donated artifacts from that event to the National Museum of the American Indian and was an invited guest at the museum's 2007 pow wow. In October 2008 she returned to the United States from her last deployment in Iraq.

Top: **Ernest Childers** (Creek) go through training, WWII. Courtesy William Howell. Bottom: Dance regalia of **Vernon Tsoodle**: a Marine medallion on a beaded necklace, beaded pin, blanket, and a gourd made from a Vietnamese hand grenade. Courtesy Vernon Tsoodle.





Chuck Boers, Iraq Veteran

Chuck Boers (Lipan Apache/Cherokee) comes from a long line of military veterans; his family has served in every war since World War I and some acted as Army scouts in the late 1800s. Growing up an urban Indian in Fresno, California, he was fortunate to have many Native mentors. In 1982, his mother, a sergeant first class and Army recruiter, persuaded him to enlist. Fortuitously he was assigned to the same basic training camp and unit as her. A recipient of two Bronze Star and three Purple Heart medals, Boers has been on five tours to the Middle East, two tours to Haiti, two tours to Bosnia, and one tour each to Kosovo, Panama, and Grenada. While on leave from his third Iraq tour, he attended a pow wow in Fresno. There Lipan Tribal Chairman Daniel Romero called Boers to the center of the arena for a blessing and cleansing. With his mother and daughter Christina beside him, Romero made Boers “Nantá éé” or Lipan War Chief. It was a great honor since the tribe has not had a war chief in seventy years.



Top: Choctaw chief **Pushmataha**, painted by Charles Bird King. Herman J. Viola Collection. Below: **John Emhoolah** (Kiowa), the eldest of six brothers to serve in WWII, was a forward observer in the 158th Field Artillery. Courtesy Debbie Sankey.

PANELISTS

Herman Viola, Historian and Author

Herman J. Viola is a curator emeritus of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History. He received his B.A. and M.A. in American History from Marquette University and his Ph.D. in American History from Indiana University. His research specialties included the American West, American Indians, and the Civil War. Viola served as director of the Smithsonian’s National Anthropological Archives where he started an internship program for American Indian historians and archivists. He also curated two major exhibitions, *Magnificent Voyagers* and *Seeds of Change*. Viola is the author of numerous books on American Indian subjects including: *After Columbus: The Smithsonian Chronicle of the North American Indian*, *Ben Nighthorse Campbell: An American Warrior*, and *Diplomats in Buckskin: A History of Indian Delegations in Washington City*. His latest book is *Warriors in Uniform*. A teacher and a lecturer, Viola and his wife Susan have three sons and live in Virginia.



Left: The Hon. **Ben Nighthorse Campbell** (Northern Cheyenne). Peter Turnley/CORBIS. Above: Cadet **Micah Rae Highwalking** (Northern Cheyenne), West Point Class of 2010, at the grave of George Armstrong Custer, Class of 1861. Courtesy John Malinowski.