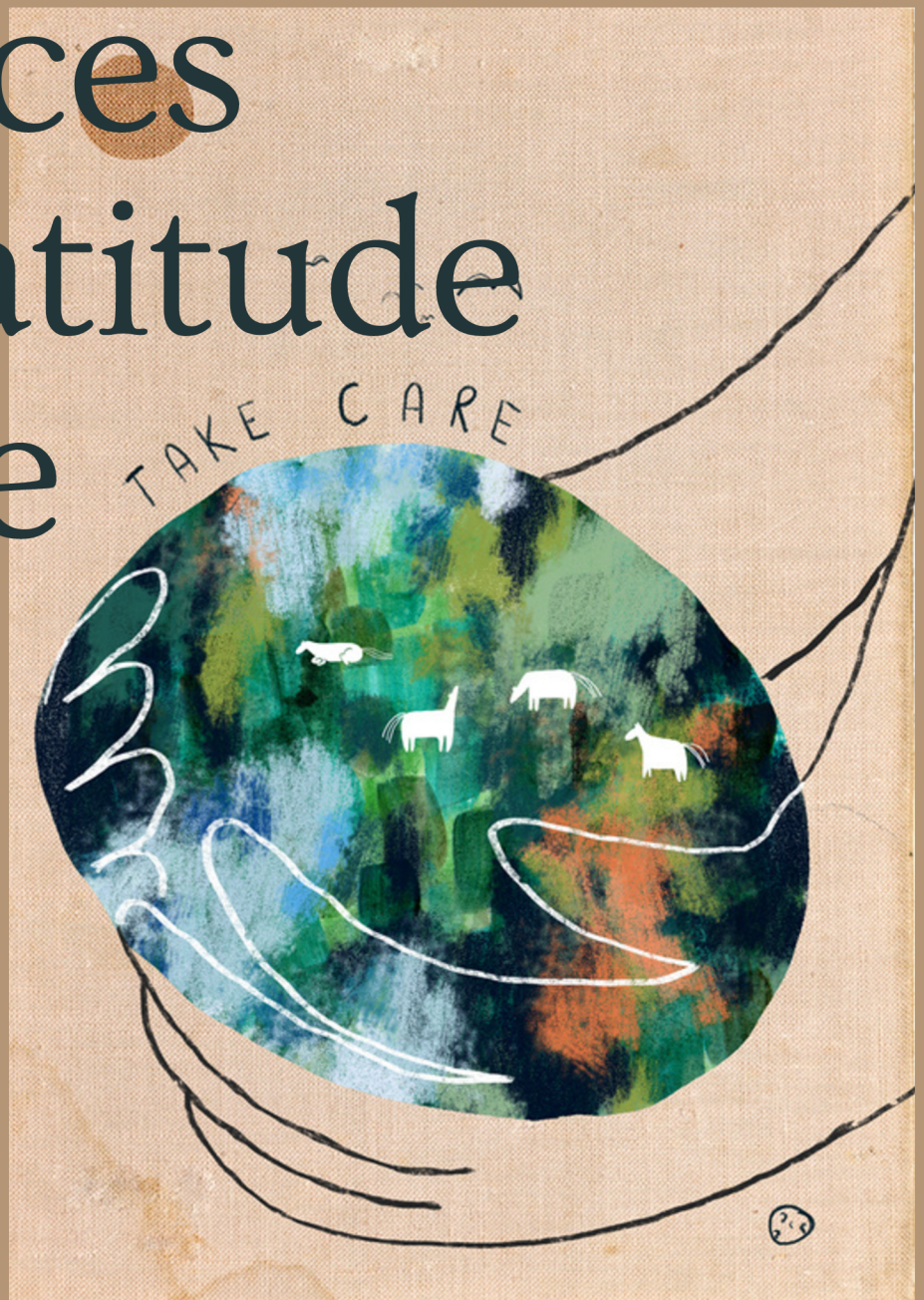


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Event Toolkit: Practices in Gratitude for the Earth



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created by Isabelle Woodruff-Madeira

Part 1: Introduction and Land Acknowledgement

This event is designed to encourage appreciation for and connection to land. Guests will hear different Indigenous voices discussing relationships to land, and will reflect through art-making with cut-up poetry.

Here is a short introduction to the activities of the event. Please modify or add to it as you see fit, and include a local land acknowledgement at the end. A Yolo County land acknowledgement is included as an example.

Welcome! This event creates an opportunity for people to gather, take time to recognize and appreciate the gifts of the Earth, and reflect on how we can build more reciprocal relationships with the land.

To do so we will learn about Indigenous knowledge and practices that respect and value land. We will listen to clips from the Imagining America podcast with Diana Almandariz, a Patwin/Wintun cultural practitioner, and read essays from "Original Instructions: Indigenous Teachings for a Sustainable Future." Lastly, we take time to reflect on these teachings and how we can practice gratitude for the Earth while creating cut-up poetry.

Yolo County Land Acknowledgment:



In practicing gratitude for the land we are on, we have to practice gratitude for those who have tended to this land for generations. The land we are on today has been the home of the Patwin people for thousands of years. Today, there are three federally recognized Patwin tribes: Cachil DeHe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community, Kletsel Dehe Wintun Nation, and Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation.

The Patwin people have remained committed to the stewardship of this land over many centuries. It has been cherished and protected, as elders have instructed the young through generations. We are honored and grateful to be here today on their traditional lands.

While it's necessary to acknowledge the original peoples of this land, we can't stop there. We encourage everyone to take time to learn more about the Patwin and Wintun peoples. Donate to native led organizations and native owned businesses. If you're a student, consider taking a Native American Studies class or support the Native Nest and go to an event. Today we'll also be learning about the Tending and Gathering Garden. If you have the chance, you can volunteer there or go to a workshop. It's also one way to actively practice our gratitude and reconnect with the land.

Part 2: Podcast Listening

Introduce the IA Hubbub podcast and invite guests to sit back, relax, and listen. Below are the clips from the first episode of the IA Hubbub podcast, titled “Cultural Fire,” as well as a link to the full episode if you are interested in further listening.

You may also choose another podcast if you are not in Yolo County and would like to learn about your own region.

IA Hubbub episode 1 clips:

<https://tinyurl.com/practicesInGratitudePodClips>

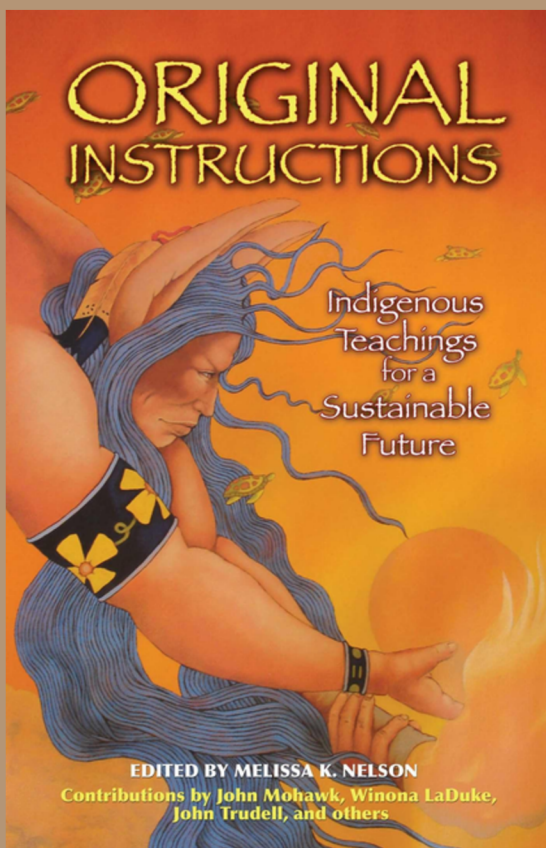
IA Hubbub full episode 1:

<https://tinyurl.com/IAHubbubep1>

Part 3: Group Readings from “Original Instructions: Indigenous Teachings for a Sustainable Future”

In this section you may want to split your group into two depending on how many guests you have.

Introduce the essay[s] and its author from “Original Instructions” that you have chosen to read. You can also find readings outside of this book. As you are introducing it, hand out the readings, the prompt, an example of cut up poetry, and writing utensils. Then go around the circle, each reading a paragraph of the essay aloud until the piece is completed.



reading 1:

“Clear Thinking: a Positive Solitary View of Nature” by John Mohawk

reading 2:

“An Okanagan Worldview of Society” by Jeanette Armstrong

Part 4: Reflection

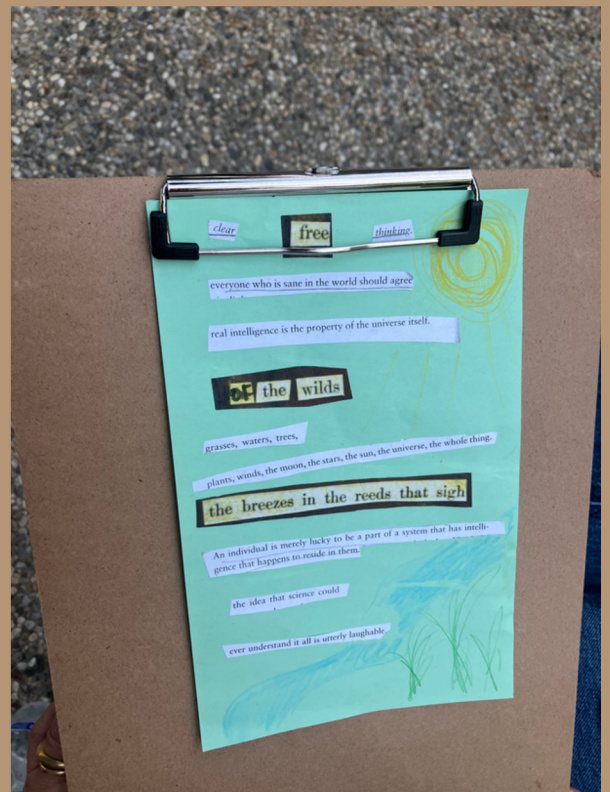
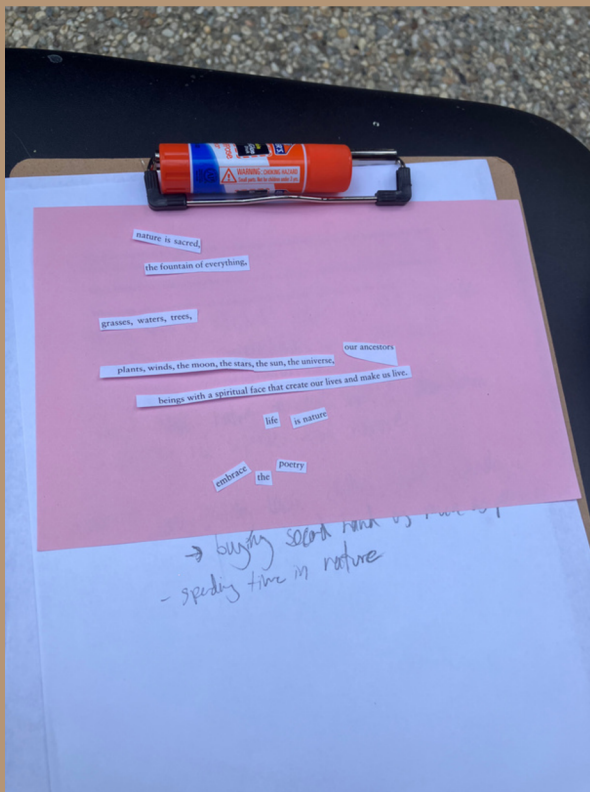
Give guests five minutes to reflect on what they heard in the podcast and readings. Invite them to respond to the prompts in whatever way works best for them, jotting notes, doodling, etc. Here are the questions we provided, feel free to create your own prompts.

- Considering what you heard in the audio clips and shared reading, what has changed in your understanding of land and your relationship to it?
- What ideas stood out to you that might inspire a greater sense of responsibility to the Earth?
- What is an action or activity that you could do to practice gratitude to the Earth?

Part 5: Making Cut-up Poetry

In the last section of the event, invite guests to create cut-up poetry from the readings and their reflections.

You may print out an example of cut-up poetry to hand out. Guests can work individually or in groups. As the event ends, invite guests to share their poems!



Materials List

- Printed copies of readings
- Printed example of cut up poetry
- Printed prompt questions
- Color paper (1/2 sheets)
- Blank copy paper (1/2 sheets)
- pens/pencils
- Markers
- Scissors
- Glue sticks/tape
- Speaker
- clip boards
- Water bottles
- Blankets
- Chairs
- Garbage bag



IMAGINING AMERICA
artists + scholars in public life