

# AGGIE FAMILY

## Inclusive Leadership

CVM is an inclusive leader in the field of veterinary medicine. The college is proud to celebrate inclusion and diversity with highlighted monthly programming. This month, TAMU– CVM spotlights :

## National American Indian Heritage Month

On August 3, 1990 President of the United States George H. W. Bush declared the month of November as National American Indian Heritage Month, thereafter commonly referred to as Native American Heritage Month.

## Native American/Alaskan Heritage Month

The first “American Indian Day” was declared by the state of New York as the second Saturday in May in 1916. The month long recognition of Native Americans was not achieved until 1990. President George H.W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating November as “National American Indian Heritage Month.”

Today, there are 563 federally recognized tribal governments in the United States. As of 2003, the United States Census Bureau estimated that there were 2,786,652 Native Americans living in the United States, with the largest numbers in the states of California, Arizona, and Oklahoma.

This month’s CVM diversity focus, celebrates Native American/Alaskan Heritage Month.



## Some ways to say “Hello”

“O’siyo” is “Hello” in the Cherokee language.

“Hinono’eitit” is “Hello” in the Arapaho language.

“Chahta Anumpa” is “Hello” in the Choctaw language.

## Why we Celebrate



Dear Colleagues,

The month of November is set aside by our nation to honor the history of the native peoples of North America and it is important to acknowledge the significant contributions that the original inhabitants of the Americas have made. Native Americans have greatly influenced our culture, and those who share this heritage, including members of our college and community, continue to do so today. I hope this month will provide a time to reflect on our shared values and the common humanity of all peoples. Our college cherishes the bedrock values of diversity and inclusion and works toward an inclusive future for all people.

American Indian Heritage Month is important to all caregivers and biomedical educators. The Native American population today faces health disparities including higher death rates from chronic illnesses, assaults, and suicides than in other Americans.

This month of commemoration serves to remind us to constantly work at building an ever more inclusive environment at CVM. As healers, we understand how important it is to improve the health disparities that marginalized groups continue to face.

Thank you for your constant, unwavering commitment to improving the well-being of all people and animals.

Dr. Kenita S. Rogers, Executive Associate Dean & Director of Diversity & Inclusion  
College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences  
Texas A&M University

## TAMU SOLD OUT Event!!! Native American Storyteller Performance with Eldrena Douma



TAMU welcomed a September (2016) afternoon event of Native American Storytelling in conjunction with TAMU Taos Society of Artists exhibition was held at the Forsyth Galleries. The performance was free to students and the community.

Storytelling and Pueblo singing were a way of life in Eldrena Douma’s upbringing. During everyday activities, family and friends shared pueblo stories, songs, and family history including the humorous and serious personal stories that life brought. As a professional storyteller and educator, Eldrena offers captivating stories of American Indian folklore, traditional and contemporary music, and history.



## TAMU American Indian Student Association

For more information on the student association go here:

[https://maroonlink.tamu.edu/organization/American Indian Student Assoc](https://maroonlink.tamu.edu/organization/American%20Indian%20Student%20Assoc)