



## Lawrence Township Celebrates National Native American Heritage Month 2022

This November, Lawrence Township, New Jersey is honored to celebrate National Native American Heritage Month (NNAHM) also referred to, American Indian and Alaska Native American Heritage Month. This month raises awareness surrounding the Native American Community to acknowledge the many contributions and achievements of Native people. Historically, NNAHM has significantly evolved from the State of New York being the first to declare “American Indian Day” to Presidents, including Gerald Ford, George H.W. Bush and Barack Obama, instituting resolutions or legislation to set a national tone for the observance to allow for federal departments, agencies, and state communities to create and facilitate their ways of celebrating and honoring the nation’s Native American heritage.

President Biden stated in his proclamation on October 29th, 2021, the intersectionality between Veteran’s day and Native American Heritage Month in this statement, “During National Native American Heritage Month, we also honor our Native Americans Veterans and service members who have courageously served and continue to serve in our Armed Forces — including the brave Native American Code Talkers in World War I and World War II. For over 200 years, Native Americans have defended our country during every major conflict and continue to serve at a higher rate than any other ethnic group in the Nation. Because of their selflessness, every generation of Americans receives the precious gift of liberty — and we owe each of them and their families a debt of gratitude

for their sacrifice and dedication<sup>1</sup>”.

I hope you will join us in the celebratory month of November as we celebrate National Native American Heritage Month. Despite a painful history marked by unjust federal policies of assimilation, American Indian and Alaska Native peoples have persevered. During National Native American Heritage Month, we celebrate the countless contributions of Native peoples past and present, honor the influence they have had on the advancement of our Nation and whose contributions to American society continue to this day.



Helpful Resources:

<https://nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov/>

<https://www.nps.gov/lecl/getinvolved/november-2022-native-american-heritage-month.htm>

<https://www.archives.gov/news/topics/native-american-heritage-month>

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/npscelebrates/native-american-heritage-month.htm>

<https://www.si.edu/events/heritagemonth>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/10/29/a->

proclamation-on-national- native-american-heritage-month-2021/

