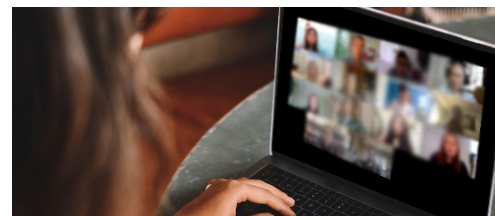


# NATIVE ISSUES ONLINE SUMMIT

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW



The *Native Issues Online Summit* equips high school students with the tools and knowledge needed to become informed and empowered catalysts for change. Students will examine historical and contemporary issues in their communities, Tribal Nations, and the United States in order to develop Call to Action statements. Over the course of seven 90-minute sessions, students will build relationships with their peers and others, expand their historical perspectives, deepen their understanding of community issues and their root causes, and work together to present their action statements.

## Program Sessions

Each 90-minute session will be led by Close Up facilitators:

- **Session 1: Illustrating Purpose and Building Community** – Students will understand the purpose of the program and examine their connections and relationships within their communities. Students will identify the means and capabilities of their own communities as a way to develop a sense of shared understanding of political power with fellow participants.
- **Session 2: Examining Federal Indian Policy** – Students will confront the six eras of Federal Indian Policy implemented over the last 200+ years. They will then examine the sociopolitical climate at a particular time in American history. This will contextualize the agency Native Peoples employed to resist often detrimental public policy.
- **Session 3: Americans: Shifting the Narrative** – Students will explore the Americans exhibit from the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian to critically examine the way language, stories, and symbols influence the way people understand the history and current conditions of Native peoples in the United States.
- **Session 4: Current Issues in Indian Country** – Students will discuss current issues affecting Native peoples in areas such as education, healthcare, crime and safety, land and natural resources, and economic development. Students will discuss what further actions federal and tribal governments should take in addressing these issues. This discussion will serve as the basis for the Call to Action statement.
- **Session 5: Seminar** – In self-selected issue groups, students will hear from a speaker with specialized knowledge of their issue. Students will be able to follow up with questions that help them gain information and identify the people/organizations that would be receptive to their call to action.
- **Session 6: Call to Action Statements** – Students will compile their experiences throughout the program to develop statements that call upon Tribal Governments, Community Organizations and/or the Federal government to address issues facing Native communities throughout the United States.
- **Session 7: Presentation and Reflection** – Students will formalize their Call to Action statements and present to their peers and potential stakeholders, empowering each other by delivering feedback and asking questions.

## Program Details

**Program Dates:** Monday and Wednesday afternoons, April 5-26, 2021

**Program Time:** 4:30pm-6:00pm (EST)

## About Close Up

Established in 1971, Close Up is a nonprofit, nonpartisan civic education organization dedicated to helping students develop the knowledge and skills they need to become informed, active, and engaged citizens. Each year, Close Up helps thousands of students and teachers across the country engage in civil discourse and take informed action in their communities. Close Up has worked with American Indian tribes for over 30 years, providing students with opportunities to examine current issues facing Native communities and the complex relationship between tribes and the federal government. Close Up has long-standing partnerships with BIE, NCAI, NIEA, and the USET organization, creating programs designed for both Native and non-Native students. Close Up's trained instructors will facilitate small-group discussions and guide students through their project work.

For questions about the program and how to register, please contact Cory Gassett at [cgassett@closeup.org](mailto:cgassett@closeup.org) or (904)703-5887.