

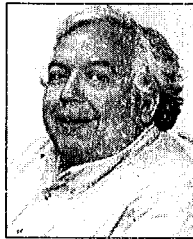
# HONORING JOHN MOHAWK'S LIFE & WORK: The Fourth Annual Storytellers' of the Americas Conference

Hosted by the American Studies Graduate Student Association,  
University at Buffalo

March 28-30, 2008

**John C. Mohawk**, one of our greatest thinkers, benefited Indigenous Peoples world wide through his personal, academic, journalistic, national, and international work. This conference offers a forum for us to honor the life and work of John C. Mohawk by discussing and planning the continuation of John's work through our own works. The conference presenters hope this will be but the first of many gatherings organized to discuss the ways John Mohawk's thinking and writing continue not only to influence the work Indigenous and Allied scholars, but also, and more importantly, to benefit Indigenous peoples, communities, and nations.

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## PROGRAM

**FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2008**

**Dinner**

(Pre-Registration & Confirmation of Registration are Required)

**6:30 p.m. @ Salvatore's Italian Gardens**

**Ganonhyok: G. Peter Jemison (Seneca, Heron Clan)**

**Key Note Speech(es): "John Mohawk: Consciousness and Commitment."**

*Jose Barreiro, Taino Writer and Activist, Director of Research at the  
National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian*

AND

*Katsi Cook, Mohawk Traditional Midwife, Director of First Environment  
Program*

**Silent Art Auction**, proceeds to benefit the John C. Mohawk & Yvonne Dion-Buffalo  
Memorial Research Fellowship Fund.

# **SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2008**

## **University at Buffalo, North Campus**

(Registration at the door for Saturday's events will be accepted)

**8:00 – 9:10 Registration – Coffee, Pastries & Fruit will be available**  
Clemens Hall, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor

**9:15 – 9:45 a.m. – Clemens Hall, Room 120**

### **Opening Remarks**

**Bob Antone** (Oneida Nation, Turtle Clan)

*Title: "John Mohawk: Multi-Dimensional Thought."*

## **SESSION 1A**

**9:55 a.m. to 10:55 a.m.**

**Park Hall, Room 280**

### **Utopian Legacies, Sovereignty Issues and John Mohawk**

Moderator: Nancy Napierala

"Empires Not Matter How Gained: "Utopian Legacies."

*Dr. Jace Weaver (Cherokee), University of Georgia*

"Exiled in the Land of the Free" -- The Legal Activism Legacy of John Mohawk."

*Dr. Donald Grinde (Yamasee Nation, Bird Clan),  
University at Buffalo*

## **SESSION 1B**

**9:55 a.m. to 10:55 a.m.**

**Clemens Hall, Room 120**

### **Iroquois White Corn Project**

Moderator: Lori Taylor

"John Mohawk as Food Non-Subject."

*Dr. Lori Elaine Taylor*

"Connecting the Creation to John Mohawk's Vision for our Modern Diet."

*Dr. Kevin J. White, University of Oswego*

**SESSION 1C**  
**9:55 a.m. to 10:55 a.m.**  
**Clemens Hall, Room 1004**

**Re-Constructing Haudenosaunee Identity**

Moderator: Bob Antone

“Haudenosaunee Clans and the Reconstruction of Traditional Haudenosaunee Identity and Nationhood.”

*Dr. Theresa L. McCarthy (Six Nations Onondaga, Beaver Clan),  
University at Buffalo*

“John Mohawk on Re-Constructing Ourselves as a People and Accepting our New Economic Realities.” [Video clips of John Mohawk]

*A. Brian Deer (Kahnawake Mohawk), Concordia University  
(Montreal)*

**SESSION 1D**  
**9:55 a.m. to 10:55 a.m.**  
**Jacobs Hall, Room 379**

**White Supremacy**

Moderator: Ula Piasta

“You want me to teach what with you? A course on white supremacy?”

*Nikki Dragone, University at Buffalo*

“Use of Native American Names/Mascots in NYS Public Schools.”

*Teresa L. Werth (retired), West Irondequoit Central School District*

“The Imaginative Mind and White Supremacy.”

*Steven T. Newcomb (Shawnee/Lenape), Sycuan Education  
Department, Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation; and  
Indigenous Law Institute*

**SESSION 1E**  
**9:55 a.m. to 10:55 a.m.**  
**Jacobs Hall, Room 325B**

**Cultural Continuity through Oral Tradition**

Moderator: Melissa Menon

"The Little People: An Indigenous Oral Tradition that Transcends Cultural Boundaries."

*Joe Candillo (Pascua Yacqui), University at Buffalo*

"Hadu'i and the Sleeping House: How Laughter Breaks Sickness in a Troubled Community."

*Amber Meadow Adams (Six Nations Mohawk), University at Buffalo*

"Nanabush Says Heal": How Stories Are Used to Heal Trauma."

*Bill Asikinack (Anishanaabe), First Nations University*



**SESSION 1F**  
**9:55 a.m. to 10:55 a.m.**  
**Alumni, Room 188**

**Performance Pieces**

Moderator: Greg Young

"Moving From the Bed Side to the Picket Line to the Stage:  
Theatricalizing the Oral History of a Nurses' Strike."

*Lisa Hayes, Accokeek Foundation*

**SESSION 2A**  
**11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon**  
**Park Hall, Room 280**

**Haudenosaunee Leadership in International Affairs**

Moderator: Darwin Hill (Tonawanda Seneca Nation, Beaver Clan)

“The History of Haudenosaunee Leadership in International Affairs.”  
*Tonya Gonnella Frichner, Esq. (Onondaga Nation, Snipe Clan),  
North American Representative to the UN Permanent Forum on  
Indigenous Issues*

“The UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples”  
*Kenneth Deer (Kahnawa:ke Mohawk)*

“The Role of the Haudenosaunee both in the Fight to Revoke the Papal  
Bulls and in Global Climate Issues.”  
*Oren Lyons, (Onondaga Nation) Turtle Clan Faithkeeper &  
University at Buffalo Distinguished Professor*

**SESSION 2B**  
**11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon**  
**Clemens Hall, Room 1004**

**Prophecy & Survival**

Moderator: Dr. Lori Elaine Taylor

“Migration of Indigenous Corn/Maize Without Borders.”  
*Mary Rojas, Indigenous Alliance without Borders*

“Water, Environmental Changes, and Their Impact: Traditional  
Stories, Future Survival.” [Video presentation].  
*Gary Padgett (Cherokee), University of South Florida*  
*AND*  
*Kurt Padgett (Cherokee)*

“Change Their Stories: John Mohawk on Revitalizations and Survival.”  
*Dr. Lori Elaine Taylor*

**SESSION 2C**  
**11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon**  
**Clemens Hall, Room 120**

**Video Presentation of John Mohawk**

Moderator: Claus Beigert

"Dewasenta - A Haudenosaunee Clanmother speaks"  
*Claus Beigert, Journalist, Filmmaker, Peace Activist*

mind, spirit, sense  
Kainikahyo  
Ka' shaskontshera

**SESSION 2D**  
**11:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon**  
**Jacobs Hall, Room 379**  
**Storytelling & Pedagogy**

Moderator: Dr. Lawrence Gross

Skennen  
peace

"Indigenoussness within the Western Academy."  
*Caroline VanEvery-Albert (Six Nations Mohawk),*

"Sustaining Relationships: John Mohawk's Influence on my Teaching the History of American Environmental Relations."  
*Dr. Edythe Anne Quinn, Hartwick College*

"Listening: Another Lesson of the Storyteller."  
*Dr. Stephanie A. Sellers, Gettysburg College*

"A Modest Proposal for Developing Classes to Teach the Art of Storytelling."  
*Dr. Lawrence Gross, Montana State University (Bozeman)*

**SESSION 2E**  
**11:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon**  
**Jacobs Hall, 325B**

**Cultural Intellectualisms**

Moderator: Greg Young

"Play: A Tuscarora Perspective."  
*Dr. Adena Sexton, Tuscarora Nation School*

"Listening Closely to Oral History: The U.S. Army Comes to Zuni."  
*Dr. Dennis Tedlock, University at Buffalo*

# Lunch Break

**12 Noon to 1:20 p.m.**

**Please feel free to go Off Campus or to Campus Corners for Lunch**



## **SESSION 3A**

**1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

**Park Hall, Room 280**

### **Part I:**

### **Haudenosaunee Cultural Foundations of Health & Environment**

Moderator: Amber Meadow Adams

“Collateral Damage in the Collision of Cultures: The Utopian  
Environmental Legacy.”

*Paul Williams (Six Nations Onondaga), Barrister*

“Commodity Food and Depression: A recipe for genocide.”

*Richard Hill, Sr. (Tuscarora Nation)*

“Three Lessons Offered Toward Peace.”

*Freida J. Jacques (Onondaga Nation)*

## **SESSION 3B**

**1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

**Clemens Hall, Room 120**

### **EarthGrasper: Looking Forward**

Moderator: Dr. Kevin J. White

“Iroquois Creation Story: An Appreciation.”

*Dr. Russell Judkins, Geneseo*

“Earth Grasper: “I Tell You Its Alive!” – What Comes Next?”

*Dr. Louise Johnston, Concordia University*

**AND**

*Dr. Kevin J. White (Akwesasne Mohawk), University of Oswego*

**SESSION 3C**  
**1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**  
**Clemens Hall, Room 1004**

**Storytelling through Video**

Moderator: Michael Rio

"Gumps' Hall of Fame storytelling: Professional lacrosse as a Seneca in the 1940's."

*Sid Horton, University at Buffalo*

"Oral Tradition, New Technology, and John C. Mohawk."

*Sierra Adare-Tasiwoopa api*

**SESSION 3D**  
**1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**  
**Jacobs Hall, Room 379**

**Indigenous Relations with the Natural World and the Settler Nations**

Moderator: Errol Meidinger

"Where You Stand Depends on Where You Sit: Reconciling Indigenous-Settler Relations."

*Dr. Franke Wilmer, Montana State University*

"Speaking for the Heron: Implementing the Haudenosaunee Responsibilities to the Natural World."

*Joseph Heath, General Counsel for the Onondaga Nation*

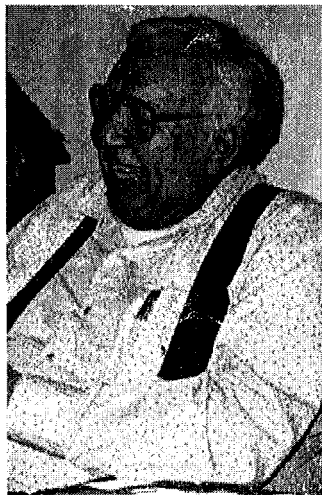


**SESSION 3E**  
**1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**  
**Jacobs Hall, Room 325B**

**Research with Native Americans:  
A Panel Discussion with the Co-Directors of the  
Native American Center for Wellness Research (NACWR)**

*Dr. Rodney Haring (Cattaraugus Seneca, Beaver Clan),  
University at Buffalo*

*Dr. David A. Patterson (Cherokee), University at Buffalo*



**SESSION 3F**  
**1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**  
**Jacobs Hall, Room 222**

**Part I – Topics in Cultural History**

Moderator: Jessica Wilkie

"In Her Own Words," New media and the Struggles of a Buffalo Laundry Worker."

*Dr. Ruth Meyerowitz, University at Buffalo*

*AND*

*Dr. Christine Zinni, SUNY Brockport*

"All I cared about was going home and riding the horses": Public Comment Testimony to the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments and the rise of the Indigenous Environmental Network."

*Dr. Julie Boddy, The Library of Congress*

**PLENARY SESSION 4A**  
**2:40 p.m. to 3:40 p.m.**  
**Slee Hall, Room 105 (Lippes Concert Hall)**

**FOJ: Friends of John Mohawk, and the Work We Did**

Moderator: Dan Longboat

"The Importance of John's Energy and Thinking in Past Struggles."  
*Oren Lyons, (Onondaga Nation) Turtle Clan Faithkeeper & University at Buffalo Distinguished Professor*

"Remembering John Mohawk." (title not confirmed)  
*Suzan Shown Harjo (Cheyenne & Hodulgee Muscogee), Writer, Poet, Curator, President, The Morning Star Institute*

"John's Utopian Vision for the Haudenosaunee."  
*Richard Hill, Sr. (Tuscarora Nation)*

**PLENARY SESSION 4B**  
**3:40 p.m. to 3:50 p.m.**  
**Slee Hall, Room 105 (Lippes Concert Hall)**

**John Mohawk's Legacy**

"In the Words of One of Our Greatest Thinkers, 'What Comes Next?'"  
*Dr. Dan Roronhiakewen Longboat (Grand River Mohawk, Turtle Clan), Trent University*

**SESSION 5A**  
**4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**  
**Park Hall, Room 280**

**Indian Land Rights**

Moderator: Nikki Dragone

"Sioux Land Claims"  
*Mario Gonzalez (Oglala Sioux)*

"The UN Declaration on the Rights of indigenous Peoples and Federal Law About Indian Lands."  
*Robert T. Coulter (Citizen Potawatomi Nation)*

**SESSION 5B**  
**4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**  
**Clemens Hall, Room 120**

**The Roots of Peacemaking: Indigenous Values, Global Crisis**  
<http://rootsofpeacemaking.syr.edu/>

Moderator: Melissa Menon

“The Roots of Peacemaking and the Importance of Collaboration.”  
**(title not yet confirmed)**

*Dr. Phillip Arnold, Syracuse University*

“Onondaga Lake and the Jesuit Relationship”  
*Sandy Bigtree (St. Regis Mohawk)*

“Global Partnerships for our Children.”

*Denise Waterman (Oneida Nation), MS School of Education,  
Syracuse University*

**SESSION 5C**  
**4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**  
**Clemens Hall, Room 1004**

**Intellectual Legacies of *Basic Call to Consciousness***

Moderator: Dr. Anthony Wallace

“A Basic Call to Consciousness’ Revisited.”

*Mark A. Powless, Sr. (Oneida Nation)*

“He Tangata, he Tangata, he Tangata; People are the Heart of  
Indigenous Development: A Comparative Analysis of Indigenous  
Development in Aotearoa/New Zealand and the U.S.”

*Carolyn Stirling, Pākehā, Aotearoa/New Zealand*

“John Mohawk’s Theoretical Contribution to Native Studies.”

*Dr. Edward Valandra (Sicangu Lakota), University of California,  
Davis*

**SESSION 5D**  
**4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**  
**Jacobs Hall, Room 379**

**Three Centuries of Conflict in the Indigenous World**

Moderator: Michael Rio

"Historical Haudenosaunee Warfare: A Study Inspired by John Mohawk."  
*Brandon Martin (Six Nations Mohawk), University at Buffalo*

"Victorians Run Wild" – Dedicated to John C. Mohawk  
*Dr. Robert Spiegelman, Independent Scholar, Founder  
ThenAndNow.us*

"Zapatista Movement and the Media."  
*Evelyn Santiago (Rosario), Buffalo State College; AMS Ph.D.  
Candidate, University at Buffalo*

**SESSION 5E**  
**4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**  
**Jacobs, Room 325B**

**Part II – Topics in Cultural History**

Moderator: Jessica Wilkie

"The Currency of Creativity: Poetry Making Change \$"  
*Elizabeth Mariani, Poet, Spoken Word Curator,  
University at Buffalo*

"Accustomed Embraces:" Harriet Jacobs and the Gendered Erotics of  
Terror."  
*Jeffry J. Iovannone, University at Buffalo*

**SESSION 6A**  
**5:10 – 6:10 P.M.**  
**Park Hall, Room 280**

**Part II:**  
**Haudenosaunee Cultural Foundations**  
**of Health & Environment**

Moderator: Amber Meadow Adams

"The Gifts of Seed Keepers"  
*Jan Kahehti:io Longboat (Grand River Mohawk, Turtle Clan)*

"Cultural Revitalization"  
*Bob Antone (Oneida Nation, Turtle Clan)*

"Beyond the Basic Call. . ."  
*Dr. Dan Roronhiakewen Longboat (Grand River Mohawk, Turtle Clan), Trent University*

**SESSION 6B**  
**6:10 – 6:25 P.M.**  
**Park Hall, Room 280**

Moderator: Dan Longboat

"Satsiosowah At Akwesasne: How John Mohawk Brought Deskaheh's Fire to the Mohawk Nation".  
*Doug George-Kanentiio (Akwesasne Mohawk, Bear Clan)*

**SESSION 6C**  
**5:10 – 6:25 p.m.**  
**Clemens Hall, Room 120**

**Traditional Representation in Contemporary Media:**  
**The Reclamation of Haudenosaunee Land Rights at Grand River**

Moderator: Dr. Theresa McCarthy

"Excerpts from the New Documentary Film, "Swadógwa" tsahtrat (Dish with One Spoon):

*Dr. Dawn Martin Hill (Grand River Mohawk, Wolf Clan) AND*  
*Chief Allen Macnaughton (Grand River Mohawk, Turtle Clan)*

**ROUND TABLE PANEL  
FOR UB GRAD STUDENTS WORKING IN INDIGENOUS STUDIES  
6:30 P.M. – OPEN  
Clemens Hall, Room 1004**

This panel provides an opportunity for UB Graduate Students -- whose Masters or Dissertation work benefits Indigenous communities and/or contributes to the field of Indigenous Studies -- to meet with a Roundtable panel of Native elders, community members, scholars and professionals, and very briefly (5 minutes or so) present their work and receive feedback from the panel members.

The Roundtable Panel is being co-chaired by Rodney Haring and David Patterson

Panelists include:

Paul Williams, Aggie Williams, Bill Asikinack, Jace Weaver, Brian Deer, Caroline VanEvery-Albert, Barry White, Theresa McCarthy, Cheryl John, Markey Jimerson, Lori Quigley, Pearl White, Al Parker and Dan Longboat, GiGi Ground, and Ronnie Reitter.



**SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2008  
Luncheon**

(Pre-Registration & Confirmation of Registration are Required)

**11:00 a.m. @ American Eagle House Inn**

**Moderator: Forrest Brooks (Oneida Nation, Turtle Clan)**

**Open Mic: "Once We Were Surrounded" – Remembering John Mohawk Through Stories**

**Ganonhyok: G. Peter Jemison (Seneca, Heron Clan)**

**Organized by the** American Studies Graduate Student Association, the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Storytellers' of the Americas Conference has been **co-sponsored by:**

- Native American SUNY: Western Consortium
- Seneca Nation of Indians
- Graduate Student Association, UB;
- Dennis Tedlock, McNulty Chair, UB
- University at Buffalo, School of Law
- Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy
- Donald Grinde, Chair of the American Studies Department, UB;
- Department of History and Social Studies Education, Buffalo State College;
- Bruce Jackson, Samuel Capen Chair, UB;
- Sub-Board I
- Native American People's Alliance, UB;
- Joyce Hertzson, Chair, Foundations, Rochester Institute of Technology;
- The Native American Center for Wellness Research, UB;
- School of Management, UB;
- Political Science GSA, UB;
- History GSA, UB;
- Geography GSA, UB;
- Graduate Americanist Group, UB;
- Vietnamese GSA, UB;
- Anthropology GSA, UB;
- Graduate Philosophical Association, UB; and,
- Sociology GSA, UB.
- Theatre and Dance Department, UB
- Christine Zinni, Ruth Goldman, & Swati Bandi

**Special Thanks** to Cheryl John and the Native American SUNY: Western Consortium, without whose support we could not have organized such a special conference.

**Special Thanks** to Maurice John, Glenda Taylor, and the Seneca Nation of Indians for their support and contributions to a successful conference honouring John Mohawk.

**Special Thanks** to David Bray and Roland Garrow for their support and advice throughout the organizing process.

**Special Thanks** to Laura Wirth, Betsy Thornton, and Alison Blaszak for their continued support and help.

**Special Thanks** to Gena Zimmerman and Stephanie Frank of the Graduate Student Association, whose support over the past four years of Conference organizing has been invaluable.

**Special Thanks** to G. Peter Jemison for opening and closing this Conference for us, for his support as our Master of Ceremonies, and for his support and advice throughout the past year.

**Special Thanks** to Jose Barreiro and Katsi Cook for joining us as our Key Note speakers on Friday evening.

**Special Thanks** to Bob Antone for opening the conference on Saturday morning.

**Special Thanks** to Forrest Brooks for chairing our closing Luncheon on Sunday.

**Special Thanks** to Tim Coulter for taking the initiative to contact John's colleagues and friends and let them know about the conference.

**Special Thanks** to Dan Longboat and Paul Williams, who have generously agreed to take charge of any publication/book coming out of this conference. Thanks also to Dan for his help organizing panels and providing a sounding board.

**Special Thanks** to the people volunteering their time to sit on the Round Table Panel.

**Special Thanks** to Karen Spencer, Law Librarian, who, in conjunction with the conference, created a special display honouring John Mohawk's work. See also the blog about the display: <http://libweb.lib.buffalo.edu/ublawn/index.php>

**Special Thanks** to Christine Zinni, Ruth Goldman, and Swati Bandi for video-taping portions of the conference.

**Special Thanks** to Doug George-Kanentiio whose contributions towards setting up a panel on John's work at Akwesasne in 1990 inadvertently ensured that we were able to cover costs for some important but unexpected changes to the program.

**Special Thanks** to those students and non-students who helped with registration and/or driving our speakers to and from the conference events.

**Special Thanks** to all the artists and craftsmen and women who so generously donated their work for the Silent Art Auction.

Finally, our **deepest gratitude** to the Indigenous Women's Initiative and The Friends of Ganondagan for their help establishing the "John C. Mohawk & Yvonne Dion-Buffalo Memorial Research Fellowship Fund."