

Standing Rock Thanksgiving: Boulder Resources



Open access [art](#) by Dylan Miner

This is an important moment in history we are living through as it gives us an opportunity to make decisions about Native American sovereignty, water as a human right, and whether or not we want to keep building fossil fuel infrastructure in an age of climate change. Below are Boulder, Colorado, based organizations of indigenous and environmental advocates who have been working to raise awareness about and support for Standing Rock locally.

Earth Guardians: A Boulder-based global network of youth activists, musicians and artists is led by an indigenous youth, Xiuhtezcatl (shu-tez-cot) Martinez. At age 16, he has addressed the United Nations three times, sued the federal government to take greater climate action, performed around the world, and been a guest on many shows. If you live in Boulder or elsewhere and want to learn more about what youth are doing to address climate change, you can find videos, information, and more at:

<http://www.earthguardians.org/>

Grace Slocum shares her story of **traveling from Boulder to Standing Rock** in “Standing Rock: Break Open to Feeling,” which you can read here:

<http://www.earthguardians.org/engage/2016/9/26/standing-rock-breaking-open-to-feeling>

Oyáte Native American Student Organization: A student organization at the University of Colorado Boulder serves as a support center for Native American students (graduate and undergraduate), and offers a communal atmosphere where students can come together to share their unique cultures, backgrounds, and traditions. It offers academic support, and is the central place for Native American students to network with one another, and other student groups both locally and nationally. They have **sold fry bread to raise funds for Standing Rock**, traveled to Standing Rock, and are doing much more. To contact them or learn of their events, see their website

(<http://www.colorado.edu/StudentGroups/Oyate/>) or check them out on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/oyate.cuboulder/>).

CU Environmental Center FLOWS Water Leaders Program (FLOWS = Foundations for Leaders Organizing for Water and Sustainability): A University of Colorado Boulder based campaign to educate students and community members about environmental justice and water. FLOWS provides leadership training opportunities, green job skills, and free energy and water upgrades while building partnerships between CU students and staff and community members. They partner with and work primarily for low-income communities for water and energy conservation (the communities most in need of lower energy and water bills). To support their efforts in training and providing free water and energy upgrades for low-income Boulder residents, see their website: <http://www.colorado.edu/ecenter/FLOWS>

American Indian Law Program at Colorado: Colorado Law serves as the region's convening institution for tribal leaders, advocates, scholars and community members to address the most pressing challenges in Indian law and policy. It offers opportunities to gain practical experience and serve Indian people and tribes. To learn more about their longstanding relationship with the Native American Rights Fund (NARF) and educational events & resources, see their website: <http://www.colorado.edu/law/academics/programs/indianlaw>

Center for Native American and Indigenous Studies (CNAIS): A vibrant organization that brings together the best of theory and practice, cross-disciplinary research, and collaboration among the University of Colorado Boulder and its constituents, to improve educational access for Native American students and advance research on issues facing Native American and Indigenous peoples in the US and around the world. To learn more and support their efforts, see their website: <http://www.colorado.edu/cnais/> And, like the CU CNAIS facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/cucnais/>

Boulder celebrated its inaugural **Indigenous Peoples' Day** on October 10, 2016. In Boulder, it was approved by recognizing that the city has benefitted directly from Indian removal policies that violate human rights. A map of cities and states that observe Indigenous Peoples Day instead of Columbus Day is available here: <http://fusion.net/story/355183/map-cities-states-celebrate-indigenous-peoples-day/>



This handout was compiled by **BoulderTalks** (<http://www.colorado.edu/bouldertalks/>), fostering community and knowledge through democratic engagement. **See also: Standing Rock Thanksgiving Talking Points and Standing Rock Thanksgiving School Fundraising & Resources.**