



Advisory Council Biographical Information

Laura Eliff Cruz is the Collections Manager for the School of Advanced Research. Laura was head of the collection management department at the Denver Art Museum for nearly six years overseeing the daily care, including a major collection move project and numerous grant storage upgrades during her time there. Previous experience includes working as a collection consultant, as an on-line teacher through Northern States Conservation Center, four years at Fort Lewis College, Center of Southwest Studies, and she was a former Americorps VISTA volunteer. She has a BA in Anthropology from Illinois State University, a graduate certificate in Museum Collections Management and Care from George Washington University, and an MA in American Studies from the University of New Mexico.

Dr. Sven Haakanson is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Washington and Curator of Native American Anthropology at the Burke Museum. Dr. Haakanson was previously executive director of the Alutiiq Museum in Kodiak, Alaska, and received a MacArthur Fellowship in 2007. His interests have focused on supporting the revitalization of Indigenous language, culture, and customs within the Kodiak archipelago. Under his leadership for 13 years, the Alutiiq Museum brought heritage innovation and international attention to the Alutiiq community for their model programs and facility. Haakanson received a PhD in Anthropology from Harvard University.

Julie Hart as Senior Director for Museum Standards and Excellence at the American Alliance of Museums, Ms. Hart provides leadership and oversight of its Continuum of Excellence, a pathway of standards-based programs including AAM's Accreditation Program and Museum Assessment Program, and other standards and ethics initiatives. She has been involved with accreditation and efforts to nurture institutional excellence throughout her 23 year tenure at AAM, providing her with insight into the best practices, issues, and challenges faced by museums and non-profits of many types and sizes.

Joe Horse Capture is Vice President of Native Collections and the Ahmanson Curator of Native American History and Culture at the Autry Museum of the West. His previous appointment was as the first Director of Native American Initiatives at the Minnesota Historical Society in Saint Paul, MN. He is an enrolled member of the A'aniih Tribe of Montana and has more than 25 years of museum experience. Horse Capture also served as an Associate Curator of Research and Documentation for the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian and served for 15 years as a curator of Native American Arts at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts.

Benjamin Jacuk-Dolchok is the grandson of Mack Dolchok and is tribally enrolled in the Kenaitze Indian Tribe. Benjamin has worked in many different areas for the betterment of Alaska Native peoples such as the United Nations Permanent Forum for Indigenous Issues and has done extensive research into the Church-run Boarding School Project within Alaska. Benjamin has a passion for the wellbeing and restoration of identity for all Alaska Native peoples and communities.

Honor Keeler (Cherokee Nation) is a legal scholar and author. She co-edited *The Routledge Companion to Indigenous Repatriation* (2020) and most recently taught at Brown University. Keeler is a former member of the NAGPRA Review Committee. She works on international repatriation, sacred places protection, Indigenous human rights, and Indigenous entrepreneurship.

Katie Klass is a citizen of the Wyandotte Nation and a partner in our Washington, D.C. office. Her practice is dedicated to advancing tribes' exercise of their inherent sovereign authorities and ensuring the United States is held accountable for its trust, treaty, and statutory obligations. Katie joined Hobbs Straus in 2014 and became a partner in 2019. She received her Juris Doctor in 2011 from the University of Arizona. While there, she gained a certification from the Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy Program, worked for the U.N. Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and participated in the Indigenous Peoples' Law Clinic.

Patsy Phillips is the Director of the IAIA Museum of Contemporary Native Arts (MoCNA) based in Santa Fe, New Mexico (2008 to present). Before joining MoCNA, Phillips worked at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian (2000 to 2008) and Atlatl, Inc., a national service organization for Native Arts (1996 to 2000). Phillips holds an MA in Writing from Johns Hopkins University, a Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies from Harvard University, and a BA in Anthropology from Southern Methodist University. She is an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation in Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

Jennifer Shannon is a Curator and Associate Professor of Cultural Anthropology at the University of Colorado Museum of Natural History where she teaches cultural anthropology and museum studies. She is the author of *Our Lives: Collaboration, Native Voice, and the Making of the National Museum of the American Indian* (2014), and a co-producer of NAGPRA Comics.

Tessa Shultz works on the Community Loans program at NMAI, a partnership-based effort to expand collections access collaboration between communities and cultural institutions. She holds a double BA in English Rhetoric and Art from University of Puget Sound. She is passionate about contemporary art, intangible cultural heritage, and stewardship of Indigenous material culture.

Gregory Smith is a partner with Hobbs Straus. Greg has represented Indian tribes and tribal organizations as an attorney and as a government affairs specialist for nearly twenty years. Greg's work on behalf of tribal clients has included introducing and securing passage of Federal legislation, advocating for and securing appropriations earmarks, successfully advocating for executive clemency, drafting testimony for Congressional hearings, preparing comments for federal rulemakings, developing legislative strategies, and preparing press releases and related public relations materials. He has also represented his clients on a wide range of matters before virtually every major Federal agency. In 2008, Greg was named "Indian Child Advocate of the Year" by the National Indian Head Start Directors Association. He serves on the National Council of the National Museum of the American Indian. He is a past Chairman of the Board of the Native American Library and Museum Project, Inc., and past Chairman of the Board of Native American Photovoltaics, Inc. Greg served on the Lawyers for One America Planning Work Group which coordinated President Clinton's call to action to the Nation's legal community to increase efforts to promote diversity within the legal profession and to fight racial discrimination.

W. Richard West, ATALM Board Member, is the former president and CEO of the Autry Museum of the American West in Los Angeles. He was the founding director of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, retiring from the position in 2007. He is also a citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes in Oklahoma and a Peace Chief of the Southern Cheyenne. His professional life has been devoted to serving the American Indian community on cultural, artistic, educational, legal, and governmental issues.