

***Native Voices:
Native Peoples' Concepts of Health and Illness***
Traveling Exhibition Host Guide
(rev 11/30/15)



U.S. National Library of Medicine

Table of Contents

Photo of the Native Voices Traveling Exhibition	2
The National Library of Medicine Background	3
NLM Native Voices Exhibition Description.....	3
Acknowledgement	5
Traveling Exhibition Banner-iPad Description.....	5
Conducting a Tour of the Native Voices Traveling Exhibition	8
Including Local Tribal Artifacts/Artworks & Special Events	9
Native Voices Blog: Stories from the Journey.....	9
NLM Contact Information.....	9
ADDENDUM 1 Fact Sheet: The National Library of Medicine.....	10

ABOUT THIS HOST GUIDE

The American Library Association (ALA) is managing a multi-year national tour of the traveling exhibition *Native Voices: Native Concepts of Health & Illness*, which was developed by the U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM) under the leadership of Donald A.B. Lindberg, MD, NLM Director Emeritus. This guide provides a range of information for current or future hosts of the *Native Voices* traveling exhibition. The guide includes information about NLM, the overall purpose and content of *Native Voices*, the traveling version of *Native Voices*, and ideas for conducting tours of *Native Voices* and related events at the host venue.

The guide also provides information about contributing to the *Native Voices* blog, Stories from the Journey, and contact information for relevant NLM staff.

This NLM host guide supplements information provided to host venues by the ALA.

Please note that information on planning media outreach and related special events around the *Native Voices* traveling exhibition is available on the NLM website (www.nlm.nih.gov/nativevoices/traveling/index.html). The website includes video highlights of several traveling exhibition venues, a host toolkit page with materials and images, a brief traveling exhibition overview, a contact link for questions or feedback, and a link to the Stories from the Journey blog.

A detailed NLM traveling exhibition installation guide is available for host venues upon request from the ALA.



Cover image credit: “Spirit of Eagles” painting by Chholing Taha, Cree Indian, 2010, by permission.

Photo of the Native Voices Traveling Exhibition

Native Voices Traveling Exhibition Standard Set Up with Six Banners and Six iPad Kiosks



Notes:

Photo courtesy Margaret Hutto.

For traveling exhibition specifications, see the “Traveling Exhibition Overview”:
www.nlm.nih.gov/nativevoices/traveling/hostdocs/NV_traveling_overview_508.pdf

The National Library of Medicine Background

The National Library of Medicine (NLM), in Bethesda, Maryland, is a part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Since its founding in 1836, NLM has played a pivotal role in translating biomedical research into practice. It is the world's largest biomedical library and the developer of electronic information services that deliver trillions of bytes of data to millions of users every day. Scientists, health professionals, and the public in the United States and around the globe search the library's online information resources more than one billion times each year.

The library is open to all and has many services and resources—for scientists, health professionals, historians, and the general public. NLM has nearly 19 million books, journals, manuscripts, audiovisuals, and other forms of medical information on its shelves, making it the largest medical and health sciences library in the world.

For additional information please see *Fact Sheet: The National Library of Medicine*, available as Addendum 1 or on the NLM website (www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/nlm.html).

NLM Native Voices Exhibition Description

The NLM, in consultation with Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians, has created the *Native Voices: Native Peoples' Concepts of Health and Illness* exhibition. The full-size exhibition premiered on October 5, 2011 at the main NLM building in Bethesda, Maryland, and closed on July 17, 2015. The *Native Voices* website (www.nlm.nih.gov/nativevoices) presents most of the exhibition content. The exhibition's many videos and interviews are also available via the free *Native Voices* app. (iPad or Android tablet users with an adequate Internet connection may download the app from the Apple iTunes App store or from Android App stores.)

The traveling version of *Native Voices* includes six (6) banners depicting selected exhibition content, and six (6) iPads, each of which includes all of the exhibition video content.

With over one hundred interviews from individuals associated with Native communities across the United States, the exhibition highlights Native peoples' own voices as they speak about health and illness within their tribes, villages, and communities. Stories arise out of both the past and the present and show how the determinants of health for Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians are tied to community, the land, and spirit. Speakers describe how individual and community wellness were affected by the political and cultural events of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Individual reflections show the impact of epidemics, federal legislation, the loss of land, and the inhibition of culture on the health of Native individuals and communities today. Collectively, these stories convey how Native people use both traditional and Western methods to enhance wellness, ultimately presenting an inspiring account of renaissance, recovery, and self-determination.

The exhibition's themes, objects, and interviews can be used by the public as a Native American/Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian health education and research source.

Native Voices is divided into five distinct themes —**Individual, Community, Nature, Tradition,** and **Healing**—that touch upon the following topics:

- Native views and definitions of health and illness
- Native views of Land, Food, Community, the Earth/Nature, and Spirituality as they relate to Native health and illness
- Contemporary and historical roles of traditional healing in Native American, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian cultures
- Relationship of traditional healing and Western medicine in Native communities
- Native stories about the practice of healing
- Native traditions and activities that promote health and healing
- Issues of economic development and the impact on the health of Native communities
- Role of Native Americans in military service as an element of pride, honor, sense of tribal health, and commitment to tribe and country
- Contemporary intergenerational views of Native health, including those of Native elders, women, and youth
- Current work by Native communities and leadership to improve their community and individual health conditions

The iPad kiosks include a timeline of Native American, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian historical events from early history to 2010. This timeline showcases the history and diversity of Native peoples and contextualizes health outcomes. The timeline content can also be viewed on the *Native Voices* exhibition website (www.nlm.nih.gov/nativevoices/timeline).

Highlighted artifact photos in the online and/or traveling versions of *Native Voices* include:

- Choctaw-made stickball sticks and balls
- A scale model replica of the original Native Hawaiian Hōkūle'a canoe, crafted in Hawaii by master boat builders Jay Dowsett and Tay Perry
- Herb Kane paintings of Native Hawaiian history and culture (prints purchased and displayed with permission from the Herb Kane Family Trust)
- An early Native Hawaiian surfboard (a redwood longboard, of the type use by famed surfer Duke Kahanamoku; from the Bishop Museum)
- A replica Holua sled (from the Bishop Museum)
- Plains Indian-crafted ceremonial objects

- Alaska Native, Navajo, and Zuni-crafted Eagle jewelry and sculptures
- A full size Healing Totem Pole carved by Jewell James and his Lummi Indian carving team, and installed by the healing plant garden opposite the NLM main entrance

The exhibition website also incorporates news stories from October 2011 to May 2015 that cover Native peoples' concepts of health and illness, and public policy issues of importance within Native communities. These news stories, which were periodically updated, came from a variety of Native-operated and mainstream newspapers. Several lists of books addressing many of the exhibition's topics and themes round out the supplemental material. Both the selected news stories and the book lists are accessible via the "Resources" section of the *Native Voices* website. That portion of the website also provides information on internships and scholarships, science programs, and careers for those interested in Native health (www.nlm.nih.gov/nativevoices/resources).

Acknowledgement

Those involved in creating the *Native Voices* exhibition acknowledge and regret that we were unable to include in the exhibition all tribes and communities of potential relevance, due to their large numbers. Similarly, we do not want to homogenize the three Native groups we have included into a synthetic and singular "Native People's voice." We expect the features of our common humanity will be plain but will not obscure the fascinating differences in perspective and teachings of Native peoples. We strive to present a picture of health and illness in these communities that will be viewed with pride by Native Peoples and with interest, understanding, and acceptance by all who see the exhibition. NLM has made every effort to be sensitive to the cultural preferences of Native Peoples, and have included in the exhibition only items and information that have been made public and freely available.

Traveling Exhibition Banner/iPad Description

The traveling exhibition comprises six banners and six iPad kiosks.

- The **six banners** comprise an introduction banner and five topical banners, each covering a major theme.
 - **1st Banner: Introduction**
 - This banner displays the exhibition name, a brief introduction to the exhibition, and photographs of some of the people interviewed.
 - **2nd Banner: Individual**
 - *"Native peoples seem to us to share a common view that each person has a responsibility for his or her proper behavior and health. This includes such matters as diet, exercise, traditional or Western medical treatment."* (NLM Director's Introduction video)

- This banner describes the role of the traditional healer in the healing process of the individual and includes examples and photos of Native traditional healing elements such as prayer, the sweat lodge, and the medicine wheel.
 - Related video topics: Personal Responsibility, Identity, Family, Tribal Ties, and Role Models.
- **3rd Banner: Community**
 - *“Native people place the tribe, the group, the village, at the center of their beliefs about health and happiness. The rebirth of voyaging and the canoes of Hawaii seek to rebuild the people’s pride in their group and its sea-going history. You will see Choctaw boys and girls taking charge of their own health through traditional sport.”* (NLM Director’s Introduction video)
 - This banner describes the role community plays in the healing process through stories about the Kalaupapa Hawaii leprosy colony and the Navajo Code Talkers.
 - Related video topics: Urban Settings, Attitudes, Reservation Life, Education, Boarding Schools, Medical School, Kalaupapa, and Diseases/Disorders.
- **4th Banner: Tradition**
 - *“When you listen to the interviews, you will surely hear a reverence for traditions, for tribal Elders, and for a Supreme Being.”* (NLM Director’s Introduction video)
 - This banner features the importance Native people place on tradition and how Native culture and games play an important part in improving health and well-being. The banner highlights the story of the Native Hawaiian Hōkūle’a canoe and explores Native sports and physical activities, such as stickball, surfing, canoeing, pow wow, and high kick.
 - Related video topics: Ideas, Elders, Creator, Death and Burial, Language, and Ceremonies.
- **5th Banner: Nature**
 - *“There is a common high regard for Nature—the climate, the plants, the animals, the land itself. It’s a complex topic that blends physical reality with spirituality.”* (NLM Director’s Introduction video)
 - This banner describes the importance Native people place on nature for their health and well-being. The banner includes information on the Healing Totem Pole and different plants used for medicinal purposes.

- Related video topics: Land, Water, Higher Power, Art, Plants, and Environment.
 - **6th Banner: *Healing***
 - “Our exhibition is also about young Native people today and how they incorporate all these experiences in their own ways to help make their lives happy and healthy.” (NLM Director’s Introduction video)
 - This banner describes how Native people today pursue healing using both traditional and Western health practices. It includes information on two Native-operated and Native-serving health clinics that incorporate both types of health care: the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center, Oahu, Hawaii, and the Southcentral Foundation, Anchorage, Alaska.
 - Related video topics: New Ways, Old Ways, Healers, Beliefs, and Diet & Nutrition.
- The **iPad kiosks** provide an overview of the main themes and stories, and deliver all video interviews from the full-size *Native Voices* exhibition.
 - The six iPad kiosks are positioned between the banners.
 - All the iPads have the same video content, including:
 - Overview videos on the exhibition’s major concepts
 - Several hundred brief interview clips, each 30-90 seconds long, organized by major banner themes and by sub-topics within the major themes
 - Longer curated videos:
 - An overview of the Native Hawaiian contributions to the exhibition, including a segment about the voyage of the Hōkūle’*a* canoe, an icon of Native Hawaiian culture and health;
 - The journey of the Healing Totem Pole from the Lummi Nation in Washington State to the site of its permanent home at the NLM;
 - The experiences of the Navajo Code Talkers during World War II.
 - Because each iPad contains the entire video content, all six iPads may be used by visitors in parallel.
 - We recommend placing chairs or stools in-front of some of the iPad kiosks for visitors’ comfort.

Conducting a Tour of the Native Voices Traveling Exhibition

Special Notes

- Familiarize yourself with the traveling exhibition banners and iPad content before giving a tour to be better able to describe the exhibition and answer visitor questions.
- The iPad will play the audio out loud if the headphones are disconnected.

Staff or Docent-Led Tour Option

1. Begin the tour by briefly introducing the National Library of Medicine. (See Addendum 1, *Fact Sheet: The National Library of Medicine* for details.)
2. Describe the exhibition's overall structure, the array of topics it covers, and the additional resources available online. (See the NLM Exhibition Description section above for details.)
3. Describe each banner's theme and content. (See the Traveling Exhibition Description section above or review the information on the physical banners.)
4. After describing each banner, use an iPad to show one or two video clips associated with the banner's theme.
5. Offer the visitors multiple opportunities to ask questions and to discuss what they see or hear.
6. Close the tour by encouraging visitors to further explore the traveling exhibition on their own or online (www.nlm.nih.gov/nativevoices/) and by informing them of any related displays or special events at the local venue.

Self-Guided Tour Option

1. Begin the tour by briefly introducing the National Library of Medicine. (See Addendum 1, *Fact Sheet: The National Library of Medicine* for details.)
2. Provide an overview of the exhibition's structure, topics, and supplemental resources available online. (See the NLM Exhibition & Traveling Description sections above for details.)
3. Describe the traveling exhibition banners and iPad kiosks, explaining how visitors can engage with the traveling exhibition.
4. Invite visitors to explore the traveling exhibition at their leisure.
5. Encourage visitors to explore further online (www.nlm.nih.gov/nativevoices/).
6. Inform visitors of any related displays or scheduled special events at the local venue.

Including Local Tribal Artifacts/Artworks & Special Events

NLM encourages those hosting *Native Voices* to work with local partners, including tribal or Native groups, if possible, who can support and expand upon exhibition content by loaning relevant artifacts, artworks, photographs, or videos.

In addition, NLM urges hosts to offer at least two public programs in conjunction with the *Native Voices* traveling exhibition. Possible exhibition-related events include ceremonies, guest speakers, panel discussions, or cultural performances. *Native Voices* host venues may wish to invite the participation of local tribal leaders, doctors, healers, and other health providers, and tribal-related and other faculty, staff, students, and community members. Ideally the program offerings will include events for different age groups.

Native Voices Blog: Stories from the Journey

The NLM has created a blog for the *Native Voices* traveling exhibition to provide a venue for tracking the exhibition's journey, publicizing the host sites, describing events and programs associated with the exhibition, posting compelling stories, and sharing additional Native voices. Blog posts can be about visitor information, special events or activities, host reflections, visitor experiences, or important guest speaker or participant quotes.

The NLM blog team will contact participating host venues to arrange for collecting appropriate information and photos, and for conducting telephone interviews when needed. Questions on the *Native Voices* blog may be directed to Dr. Rob Logan, Blog Manager.

Please invite exhibition visitors to visit the blog at nlmtotem.wordpress.com, where they may comment on current posts and share their own perspectives on Native health and wellness.

NLM Contact Information

Questions on topics covered in this Host Guide may be referred to the following individuals:

Kathleen Cravedi (Press/Media/Events)

Director, Office of Communications and Public Liaison
National Library of Medicine
National Institutes of Health
8600 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20894
office: 301.496.6308
cell: 301.379.5612
email: cravedik@mail.nlm.nih.gov

Robert Logan (*Native Voices* Blog)

Communications Research Scientist
Office of Communications and Public Liaison
office: 301.496.1936
email: logan@nlm.nih.gov

Margaret A. Hutto (Set Up/Install)

Native Voices NLM Project Manager
cell: 202.997.3225
messages: 301.435.5241
email: margaret.hutto@nih.gov

Fred Wood (Exhibition Content)

Outreach and Evaluation Scientist
Office of Health Information Programs Development
office: 301.402.9278
email: woodf@mail.nlm.nih.gov

ADDENDUM 1

Fact Sheet: The National Library of Medicine

The [National Library of Medicine](#) (NLM), in Bethesda, Maryland, is a part of the [National Institutes of Health](#) (NIH), [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services](#) (HHS). Since its founding in 1836, NLM has played a pivotal role in translating biomedical research into practice. It is the world's largest biomedical library and the developer of electronic information services that deliver trillions of bytes of data to millions of users every day. Scientists, health professionals, and the public in the United States and around the globe search the library's online information resources more than one billion times each year.

The library is open to all and has many services and resources--for scientists, health professionals, historians, and the general public. NLM has nearly 22 million books, journals, manuscripts, audiovisuals, and other forms of medical information on its shelves, making it the largest health-science library in the world.

In today's increasingly digital world, NLM carries out its mission of enabling biomedical research, supporting health care and public health, and promoting healthy behavior by:

- Acquiring, organizing, and preserving the world's scholarly biomedical literature;
- Providing access to biomedical and health information across the country in partnership with the 5,600-member [National Network of Libraries of Medicine](#) (NN/LM[®]);
- Serving as a leading global resource for building, curating and providing sophisticated access to molecular biology and genomic information, including those from the [Human Genome Project](#) and [NIH Roadmap](#);
- Creating high quality information services relevant to toxicology and environmental health, health services research, and public health;
- Conducting research and development on biomedical communications systems, methods, technologies, and networks and information dissemination and utilization among health professionals, patients, and the general public;
- Funding advanced biomedical informatics research and serving as the primary supporter of pre- and post-doctoral research training in biomedical informatics at 14 U.S. universities.

Scientific Information Services: The most frequently consulted online scientific medical resource in the world is [MEDLINE[®]/PubMed[®]](#), a publicly available database of over 22 million journal citations from 1946 to the present.

Another important part of NLM's vast online holdings is [PubMed Central[®]](#) (PMC), a Web-based repository of biomedical journal literature providing free, unrestricted access to more than 3.3 million full-text articles.

The National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) distributes [GenBank[®]](#), a collection of all known DNA sequences, and also provides access to the assembled Human Genome data. NCBI also has a prominent role in the important new Genome-Wide Association Studies project, an NIH-wide initiative directed at understanding the genetic factors underlying human disease. In 2007 NCBI significantly expanded its breadth of public resources by developing the [database of Genotypes and Phenotypes](#). These and other NCBI resources are accessible at <http://www.ncbi.nih.gov>.

It has been 20 years since the [Visible Human Project](#)[®] male and female datasets were released by NLM's Lister Hill Center. The datasets (some 50 gigabytes in all) are being applied in a wide range of projects by nearly 4,000 licensees in 64 countries.

The [Specialized Information Services Division](#) (SIS) offers a wide range of resources relating to [environmental health and toxicology](#). Among the best known is [TOXNET](#)[®], a collection of databases on hazardous chemicals, toxic releases and environmental health. SIS also compiles information on HIV/AIDS, disaster preparedness and other topics. The Division has also created a series of information portals targeted to special populations, including Native Americans, Asian Americans, and those living in the Arctic.

Information Services for the Public: The library has extensive information resources to serve the general public. The library's main portal for consumer health information is [MedlinePlus](#)[®], available in both English and Spanish ([MedlinePlus en español](#)). MedlinePlus has comprehensive, up-to-date, easy-to-read information on nearly 900 health topics. It also provides interactive health tutorials and a collection of surgery videos. MedlinePlus features information on thousands of prescription and over-the-counter medicines, as well as alternative treatments such as herbals. And, to provide the public with more health care news it can use, NLM staff oversees the production of the free, quarterly [NIH MedlinePlus magazine](#) and its Spanish-language counterpart, NIH [MedlinePlus Salud](#).

[ClinicalTrials.gov](#) provides the public with comprehensive information about all types of clinical research studies. The site has over 184,000 protocol records sponsored by the U.S. government, the pharmaceutical industry, and academic and international organizations, in all 50 states and over 180 countries.

[Genetics Home Reference](#) is NLM's website for consumer-friendly health information on genetic conditions. This information resource bridges consumer health information and scientific bioinformatics data, and it links to many existing resources, both at NLM and at other reliable sites.

Another information resource for the public is [NIHSeniorHealth.gov](#), which is maintained by the library in collaboration with the [National Institute on Aging](#) and other NIH institutes. The site features information on topics of interest to seniors, with special features like enlargeable type and a "talking" function that allows users to listen as the text is read to them.

NLM has information for the public, too, on toxicology, environmental health, and HIV/AIDS. The [Household Products Database](#) provides easy-to-understand data in consumer-friendly language on the potential health effects of more than 2,000 ingredients contained in more than 7,000 common household products. [Tox Town](#)[®] points out many harmful substances and environmental hazards not only in a town but in a port, a big city, a farm, and the U.S.-Mexico border area. [ToxMystery](#), an interactive website for children ages 7-10, teaches users about potential chemical hazards in a home. There is also a Spanish-language version (click on "español") of this lively interface.

National Network of Libraries of Medicine: NLM's key partner in making information available is the [National Network of Libraries of Medicine](#). The network consists of 5,600 member institutions, including eight Regional Medical Libraries that receive NLM support, 125 resource libraries connected to medical schools, and more than 5,000 libraries located primarily in hospitals and clinics.

Grant Programs: The [Extramural Programs Division](#) provides grants to support research in medical informatics, health information science and biotechnology information, as well as for research training in these areas. Network planning and development grants support computer and

communications systems in health institutions and the study of new opportunities with high-speed computer networks in the health sciences. Health science library resource grants assist in improving information access and services for health professionals. Research and publications in the history of medicine and the life sciences are also funded.

Annual Statistical Profile of NLM:

- Collection (book and non-book): 21,808,906
- Items Cataloged: 21,507
- Serial titles received: 20,901
- Articles indexed for MEDLINE: 671,904
- Circulation requests processed: 405,475
- For interlibrary loan: 234,020
- For on-site users: 171,455
- Computerized searches (MEDLINE/PubMed): 775,504,557
- Budget authority: \$328 M (FY14)
- Staff: 1,730

Visitor Information: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/about/visitor.html>

Address: 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20894

Phone (Toll-Free): 888.FIND.NLM (888.346.3656)

Tours: Monday-Friday, 1:30-2:30 PM (except Federal holidays)

Tours originate in NLM Visitor Center, off the first floor lobby of Bldg. 38A, Lister Hill Center.

For group tours of NLM: 301.594.7526

For exhibition tours: 301.594.1947

Reading Room Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM-5:00 PM (except Federal holidays)

Complete List of NLM Fact Sheets: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/factsheets.html>

For more information about NLM programs, contact the Office of Communications and Public Liaison, publicinfo@nlm.nih.gov, 301.496.6308, or consult the NLM website.