

6. Native Contributions

Native people continue to contribute to all levels of society from local to global in diverse fields including medicine, science, government, education, economics, art, music and many more.

Extended Description

Native Contributions to North Dakota are AKI-rich black dirt for farming, ranching, native species, trees, berries, waters, irrigation, natural medicines. Three sisters (corn, squash, and beans) We bring people and help them to heal with our medicine, prayers, and ceremonies. We contribute the Natural Spiritual Beliefs of connecting the four realms of life. (MENTAL, EMOTIONAL, PHYSICAL, SPIRITUAL) We bring the Shakey Tent, Doodooswan-Sweat lodge, Thirsty Dance (Sundance) Big Drum Ceremony, Buffalo Dance, Jingle Dress Dance, Making of a Relative, Lacrosse, Wigwam, Moon Ceremony, Nimiiwin-Powwow. We are natural barterers and traders. We love to live life in a natural, humble way to include the elders, children, and the family. American Indians have a warrior tradition and a high military volunteer rate. According to statistics provided by the U.S. Department of Defense, in 2010, 22,569 enlisted service members and 1,297 officers on active duty were of American Indian heritage. So while the U.S. population recorded only 1.4 percent American Indian, the military population was 1.7 percent Native, making it the highest per-capita commitment of any ethnic population to defend the United States (Elder JT ShiningOne Side).



Woodrow Keeble (1917–1984), Medal of Honor recipient and Sisseton-Wahpeton Tribal member.



Vine Deloria Jr., Standing Rock Elder, scholar, writer and activist.