

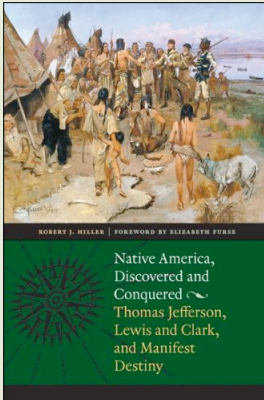


The PORTLAND YOUTH & ELDERS COUNCIL

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 11, 2011, 6-8pm

MONTHLY UPDATE

January 2011



Native America, Discovered and Conquered Thomas Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, and Manifest Destiny

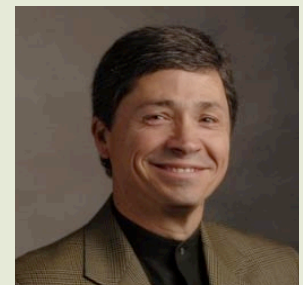
North America was explored and colonized by England, France, and Spain under an international law that is known today as the Doctrine of Discovery. When Europeans set out to explore and exploit new lands in the fifteenth through the twentieth centuries, they justified their sovereignty and their commercial and property claims over these territories and the Indigenous peoples with the Discovery Doctrine.

This legal principle was justified by religious and ethnocentric ideas of European and Christian superiority over the other cultures, religions, and races of the world. The Doctrine provided that newly-arrived

Europeans automatically acquired property rights in the lands of Native peoples and gained political and commercial rights over them. The U.S. Supreme Court expressly adopted Discovery in 1823 in the very important Supreme Court case of */Johnson v. McIntosh/*. This case and the Doctrine of Discovery has been cited and relied on by Canadian, New Zealand, and Australian courts.

England was an avid supporter of the Doctrine and used it around the world. The English colonial governments and colonists in Canada and the United States utilized Discovery, and these governments still use Discovery principles today to exercise power over the lands of Native peoples and to control Indigenous peoples.

Professor Bob Miller will explain Discovery, how it developed, and how it continues to limit the rights of American Indians and their governments today. This information is important for us, not only as Indian people - but as all people - trying to understand the significance of history and it's influence on matters that impact us today. Learning about and acknowledging the components that have contributed to the historical and generational trauma that occurred as a result of European contact is a critical piece in deepening the understanding of challenges that face Indian communities today. The Portland Youth and Elders Council invites you to come and deepen our understanding together.



Robert J. Miller

Upcoming Events and Activities:

Advocacy 101 Workshop January 18th, Are you interested in being more effective advocate on community issues that are impacted by state laws or want to organize your community on issues such as, education, transportation funding, liquor licensing, and land use laws. Participate in the Office of Neighborhood Involvement workshop on Tuesday, January 18, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM City of Portland Council Chambers, City Hall. The Advocacy 101 workshop is designed to give you the tools to be an effective advocate for your neighborhood and community needs during the 2011 State Legislative Session. The topics that will be covered include an overview of the State Legislature, the state legislative process, lobbying do's and don'ts, and community organizing strategies. Please contact Jeri Williams, 503-823-5827 or jeri.williams@PortlandOregon.gov for more information.

NAYA TAX SITE Opens February 3, 2011: FREE tax preparation and filing for current and prior year returns are being offered. Each year, millions of dollars in valuable family tax credits go unclaimed. Native families are particularly vulnerable to predatory refund anticipation loans, and to missing out on the Earned Income Tax Credit. Tax site hours are 3:30 pm – 7:30 pm Wednesdays and Thursday and 9am – 12pm Saturdays. Appointment preferred, but a limited amount of walk-in appointments are available on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information about the NAYA Family Center Tax Site, please contact Irena Solomon at extension 280 or email irenas@navapdx.org.

GREAT CITIES DON'T HAPPEN BY CHANCE. COME BE A PART OF WHAT'S NEXT FOR PORTLAND.

PORTLAND PLAN – INSPIRING COMMUNITIES SERIES

What kind of city can we become? Let's talk about it. Growing our economy. Educating our people. Greening the city. Creating more livable neighborhoods. Offering all Portlanders a better quality of life. Come be part of the discussion as we hear from some of the world's best and brightest on urban issues.

Wednesday, January 12, 2011, Cynthia Girling and Ronald Kellett, University of British Columbia, School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture Designing for Environment and Community, Ecotrust Building, Billy Frank Jr. Conference Rm, 721 NW 9th Ave.

Monday, January 17, 2011, Bob Weissbourd, RW Ventures Economic Development, Mercy Corps Action Center, Aceh Community Room, 28 SW 1st Ave. For additional information visit www.pdxplan.com.

January 11, 2011

- 6:00-6:15pm** Arrive & greet your neighbor
- 6:15-6:30pm** Prayer - Dinner Served
- 6:30-7:30pm** Presentation, Doctrine of Discovery
- 7:30-7:45pm** Homeownership Retention
- 7:45-8:00pm** Announcements

Please RSVP for a dinner count.



Donita S. Fry, Portland Youth and Elders Council Organizer
503-288-8177, ext. 284 or email donitasf@nayapdx.org.

Nesi'Ka Wawa Toastmasters Club

Telling about our lives is important for those who come after us, for those who will see our experience as part of their own historical struggle. --Linda Hogan, CHICKASAW

How important it is for us to support one another? How important it is for us to know our culture and to share our experiences with one another? How powerful it is to share our stories? Portland Youth and Elders Council Toastmasters Club is recruiting members. If you are interested please join the Monday, January 10th meeting at 1:00pm, NAYA Family Center. If you have any questions about the Toastmasters program call Donita S. Fry at 503-288-8177 ext. 284. www.toastmasters.com

The Portland Youth and Elders Council



NAYA Family Center
 5135 NE Columbia Blvd.
 Portland, OR 97218

"Our circle is timeless, flowing, it is a new life emerging from death-life winning out over death."

--Lame Deer, LAKOTA

When we look at the world in the manner which the Great Spirit designed it, we can see why it makes sense to live in harmony with it: the trees grow and bear fruit, the fruit has seeds, the seeds fall to the ground, the ground grows new trees, old trees die to make way for the young. Any time we think we can interrupt this cycle or change it we will experience turmoil and confusion. The Human Cycle exists as the baby becomes the youth, the youth becomes the adult, the adult has children, the adult becomes the Elder, and the Elder teaches the youth. Elders go on to the Spirit World. Spirit comes into babies to produce new life. Flow into the flow. Be the path of least resistance.