

5TH ANNIVERSARY
BAY AREA
BOOK
FESTIVAL

MAY 4 + 5, 2019
DOWNTOWN BERKELEY
225 AUTHORS • 100 SESSIONS
FREE OUTDOOR FAIR



FOR TICKETS + INFO:
BAYBOOKFEST.ORG

Talks on Native Issues & Identity

Saturday, May 4

11:45 - 1:00

Digging Up The Roots: Transracial Adoptees Seek Truth (The Marsh Cabaret)

Susan Devan Harness, Lisa Marie Rollins, Greg Sarris, moderated by Katie Wynen

Separated from their birth families and raised by white parents, these writers were left to unravel their identities on their own, nursing the ache of loss as they put the pieces of their origin stories together. They have handled their experiences in different ways, some by telling their stories, others by forming community with other adoptees. Join writer, professor, and Native leader Greg Sarris, author and American Indian transracial adoption researcher Susan Devan Harness, and poet-playwright Lisa Marie Rollins for a discussion on how they found their histories, integrated a fractured sense of self, and came to understand home and family. Sponsored by the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria.

Sunday, May 5

10:00 - 11:15

Straddling Worlds: Native Writers Reinvent Identity (Brower Center, Goldman Theater)

Kali Fajardo-Anstine, Susan Devan Harness, Tommy Pico, and Rebecca Roanhorse, moderated by Greg Sarris

What does it mean to be a modern indigenous person, particularly when indigenous identity has been so riddled with stereotypes and when the category is so wide-reaching? Join Kali Fajardo-Anstine, Susan Devan Harness, Tommy Pico, and Rebecca Roanhorse as they plunge into the paradox of Native identity politics and discuss how it manifests in their writing. Sponsored by the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria.

1:30 - 2:45

Rattlesnake Wins Hummingbird's Heart: A Word for Word Performance (The Marsh Theater)

Greg Sarris and Native Youth of Sonoma County

Experience indigenous legends the way they were passed down—through oral tradition. Word for Word Performing Arts Company is an ensemble whose mission is to tell great stories with elegant theatricality, staging performances of classic and contemporary fiction. Today's performance features Native youth from Sonoma County presenting an adaptation of the story "Rattlesnake Wins Hummingbird's Heart" from Greg Sarris's collection "How a Mountain Was Made," indigenous stories from Sonoma Mountain. How does a creature as lowly as Rattlesnake win the beautiful Hummingbird? What key does Rattlesnake possess? Come find out. Performance is 45 minutes, followed by discussion. Sponsored by the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria.