# RISE:2719

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## Northeastern University

## YOU ARE ON INDIGENOUS LAND

### A Native American Artist Residency Program

Native Americans occupied what is now North American soil over 6,000 years before Columbus discovered the New World in 1492. By the 1850s, the Native population had decreased from over 10 million to less than 300,000. Over the past 500 years, Native Americans have been severely mistreated, neglected, and their culture discarded. Until 1978, Indian **Boarding Schools taught Native** children to be ashamed of their background. Today, living conditions on reservations continue to be burdened with poverty, unemployment, crime, and poor public health conditions. Moving beyond this image, we are confronted with the disappearing knowledge of Native American culture and history, where stories of European colonists dominate official historical accounts, and Native elders struggle to keep their culture alive with little support from cities and local governments.



"I remember hearing stories from my mother and father about their parents and grandparents when they were taken off the reservation, taken to the boarding schools, and pretty much taught to be ashamed of who they were as Native Americans. You can feel that impact today."

## Approach: Creating a Site Respectful of Traditions & Land

Aspects of Native Culture:



- Solstices







Farming Techniques

Story-Telling

Analysis of Land & Natural Cycles: - Tide Cycles



This project proposes a working model for a Native American Artist Residency Program to be implemented on sites throughout the U.S. that were once homes to the Indigenous people. The program offers a support network for Native artists to create work as well as an opportunity for American cities to reconnect with their native histories. Informed by central Native concepts of temporality and land manipulation—the form and duration of each residency program is adapted to respond to the natural cycles and landscape conditions of the site, thereby encouraging artists to take ownership of their land by creating site-specific interventions. The residencies aim to provide an evolving spatial and pedagogical framework for the preservation of indigenous material cultures and craft traditions.





Result: A Native Home





Thompson Island Nipmuc Land



Artist Spaces Brush Arbor System



Public Allowed on Island Green Corn Festival

### Kit of Parts: Artist Spaces Shelter Cleared Open Spaces Studio Space Living Areas Amphitheatre Recreation Areas Impact: A New Motivation & Dialogue to the Modern U.S.A.

#### A Native Home

- Express & embrace Native culture
- Time & resources to create art & revitalize tradition
- Discuss what it means to be Native in today's society
- Establish a trading post of ideas & tribe culture
- Connect & Collaborate with other Natives within the region.

#### A New Dialogue

- Create reparations with the Native people
- Develop new awareness of contemporary Native people
- Directly support Native artists & traditions

