A Native American Artist Residency Program

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.

Analysis of Land & Natural Cycles:
- Tide Cycles
- Solstices
- Temperatures
- Farming Cycles
- Important Festivals

Aspects of Native Culture:
- Manipulation of Land
- Story-Telling
- Farming Techniques
- Place-making

Result: A Native Home

"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."

"The picturesque red man, adorned with his primitive paint and feathers and armed with his characteristic weapons of wood and stone, has — like the bison — become an almost extinct species, to be regarded by another generation as a curiosity" - Kicking Bear

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
- 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