



## MEDIA RELEASE

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**FOR RELEASE:** Immediately

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### **Free Talks to Mark Indigenous Peoples Day at Highline College Offers Alternative to Columbus Day Celebration**

DES MOINES, Wash. — The public is invited to recognize Indigenous Peoples Day on October 8, 2018, at Highline College. Two Native presenters will offer their unique perspectives. Both talks are free and open to all on the college's [main campus](#) in Building 2.

Highline began [official recognition](#) of Indigenous Peoples Day in 2016.

The day offers the chance to reflect on the ongoing struggles of indigenous peoples. It also provide an opportunity to celebrate the thriving culture and value that neighboring tribes and other indigenous nations add to the college. Local tribes include the Duwamish, Muckleshoot and Puyallup.

#### **10–11 a.m.**

“The Muckleshoot” presented by Dr. Denise Bill (Muckleshoot)

Dr. Denise Bill will share her knowledge of the culture and history of the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe. She currently serves as executive director of higher education at Muckleshoot Tribal College. She has been a teacher, staff development trainer and administrator in public education for more than 20 years, including two years as superintendent of the Muckleshoot Tribal School.

#### **11 a.m.–12 p.m.**

“Two-Spirit” presented by Hiram-Calf Looking (Blackfeet)

Hiram-Calf Looking of the Northwest Two-Spirit Society will share stories of resilience and powerful sacred roles of two-spirit people. Attendees will learn how the community-based organization works through centering the voices of two-spirits in healing and advocacy.

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#### **Links within this release:**

— Highline College location and directions: <https://www.highline.edu/campus-guide/locations-and-directions/>

— Highline College proclamation: <https://www.highline.edu/indigenous-peoples-day-2018/#proclamation>

*Founded in 1961 as the first community college in King County, Highline College annually serves more than 17,000 students. With over 70 percent students of color, Highline is the most diverse higher education institution in the state. The college offers a wide range of academic transfer, professional-technical education, basic skills and applied bachelor's degree programs. Alumni include former Seattle Mayor Norm Rice, entrepreneur Junki Yoshida and former Washington state poet laureate Sam Green.*