

# Conference on Iroquois Research



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Fostering and promoting research on the Haudenosaunee since 1945

**October 16-17, 2020  
75th Anniversary Edition**

**ONLINE via ZOOM**

**Final Program**

Last revision: October 13, 2020

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## FRIDAY

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### Friday Evening

7:00 — 7:30 pm

Welcome at the Woods Edge, Announcements & Tributes

Terry Abrams and Francis Scardera

Opening Thanksgiving Address

7:30 — 8:00 pm

**‘No Place at the Table’: The Seneca Nation and the Creation of Allegany State Park**  
**Laurence M. Hauptman, SUNY Distinguished of Professor Emeritus of History**

Next year is the 100th anniversary of the New York State legislative act-one objected to by the Senecas- that established the 65,000-acre Allegany State Park. the largest one administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation [OPRHP]. Although today numerous park visitors bring substantial cash benefits into the Allegany Reservation economy, there has been a century-old history of tensions between park officials, both at the state and local level, and the Seneca Nation. Albert Thomas Fancher, the Republican political boss of Cattaraugus County who was no friend of the Senecas, is considered the “father” of Allegany State Park. Indeed, his residence is the site of the current park headquarters at Red House. However, the push for the creation of the park came from other quarters as well, including from three faculty members at the State College of Forestry in Syracuse, two Progressive reformers influenced by Theodore Roosevelt’s concern for conservation, Robert Moses, who was then ascending to his role as New York State’s powerbroker, and even from advocates of eugenics.

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## SATURDAY

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**9:00 — 9:30 am**

**The Early History of the Tuscarora of North Carolina**

**Arwin D. Smallwood, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University**

This presentation will discuss the history of the Tuscarora of North Carolina and their impact on both North Carolina and American history from the 16th century to the present. It will explore the relationship between the Tuscarora and the various Native Americans that traded, wared and were in alliance with them. The presentation's main objective is to explore the forgotten history of the Tuscarora in North Carolina and America from European exploration and settlement through the early colonial period. The presentation will explore the survival and sometimes creolization of the Tuscarora within the contexts of North Carolina and American History.

**9:30-10:00 am**

**Mentoring Student Writing about the Early History of the Tuscarora of North Carolina**

**Awendela Grantham, North Carolina A&T State University**

The proliferation of writing about the Tuscarora and other Native Americans in North Carolina stimulates broader conversations about how to represent communities who are systematically marginalized and oppressed. My experience mentoring at the Register of Deeds and developing students' writing raises new questions about appropriate treatment of Native American histories in scholarship. It is imperative to re-center people of color at the forefront of the dialogue and to write in a way that avoids misrepresentation, gender and racial profiling, and hegemonic frameworks. In my own writing, I model how to provide a counter-narrative to stereotyped representations of people of color. My most recent works (The Africana Experience: We've Come This Far, TROPES: Church Politics & Its Impact on The Black Female Identity, and Whistleblower 211: A Study Guide for African American History Exams) demonstrate a similar cross-cultural sensitivity in subject matter, attribution, and vocabulary. In this presentation, I provide a framework for advising students and for writing that avoids one-dimensional and mono-cultural views about Native American communities.

### **Research Updates**

**10:00-10:20**

**"Keepers of the Southern Door": The Tuscarora Experience as the Sixth Nation of the Iroquois Confederacy During Conflict and Change within the Borderlands between the Six Nations and the Five Civilized Tribes.**

**Kamilah Henry, North Carolina A&T State University**

This presentation will discuss the experiences of the Tuscarora as members of the powerful Iroquois Confederacy or Six Nations of the Northeastern Woodlands and the impact of the Five Civilized Tribes, particularly the Cherokee, Creeks and Catawbas, of the Southeastern Woodland on the Tuscarora from the Tuscarora War through the late 19th Century. The presentation will also explore the relationship between the Tuscarora and Africans and Europeans in North Carolina and the Northeast during slavery.

**10:20-10:40 am**

**The Homeland: How the Tuscarora populated pre-Colombian North Carolina**  
**Joanna Martinez, North Carolina A&T State University**

This presentation will discuss the early migration of the Tuscarora to North Carolina and will do an investigate of the early political and cultural developments of the Tuscarora. It will also explore their role in shaping early North Carolina settlement and history. The presentation will conclude by examining the “Tuscarora War” and the Tuscarora’s subsequent diaspora around the state, nation, and world.

**10:40-11:00 am**

**COFFEE BREAK**

## **Papers**

**11:00-11:30 am**

**Kevin J White, University of Toronto**

**Iroquois White Corn Project: My history with the Project**

Dr. John Mohawk was the visionary of the Iroquois White Corn Project. I began working for Dr. Mohawk on the project while at UB. I was helping John run the project until 2006 from Oswego. The intentions of the project remain an aspiration I think still works as a model that integrates a return to one of our original dietary staples for health and cultural continuity, an economic model for farmers, and a sense of food security and food sovereignty. This is my history and association with the project; that is now fully operated by the Friends of Ganondagan.

**11:30-12:00 noon**

**Andrea Lynn Smith and Nēhdōwes, Dr. Randy A. John, Lafayette College**

**A Misplaced Marker: Celebrating the Brodhead Expedition on Seneca Territory**

The presence of historical markers commemorating the Sullivan Expedition of 1779 suggests public approval at the time of their establishment. The story of a marker state officials proposed for the Allegany Reservation of the Seneca Nation complicates this characterization, however. In this paper, we outline the difficulties these officials encountered when they attempted to commemorate the Brodhead mission of Washington’s “Indian Expedition” with a historical marker on Seneca land. In the end, the marker they established was placed nowhere near where Brodhead traveled, and it is the only one of New York’s 1929 Sullivan-Clinton memorials that has been completely altered since.

**12:00-12:15**

**COFFEE BREAK**

**12:15-12:45**

**1569: The First English Visit to a Northern Iroquoian Town**

**Dean Snow, Penn State**

The journals of Jacques Cartier's three visits to St. Lawrence Iroquoian towns, 1534-1541, are well known to ethnohistorians, but reliable English records for the sixteenth century are scarce. Recent analysis of original documents has revealed that three English sailors spent a week at a Susquehannock town in the spring of 1569. The record of that visit comes from the testimony given in a 1582 interrogation of one of the three sailors. His name was David Ingram. Ingram has been dismissed as a liar by historians for over four centuries, based on their readings of Richard Hakluyt's 1589 publication of *The Relation of David Ingram*. However, close study of the original records of the interrogation clearly shows that the fault lies in Hakluyt's confusion and incompetent editing. The primary documents of Ingram's testimony actually provide us with much reliable information, including our first uncorrupted look at Susquehannock culture.

**12:45-1:15 pm**

**Brian Rice, University of Manitoba**

**Three Transformative Stories About Tewarathon (lacrosse)**

Using three traditional stories about Tewarathon, my oral presentation will be based on stories by John Arthur Gibson and Jacob Thomas about how Tewarathon changed over various eras from the Sky World, to the Peacemaker and finally Ayenwatha.

# 2020 Organizing Committee

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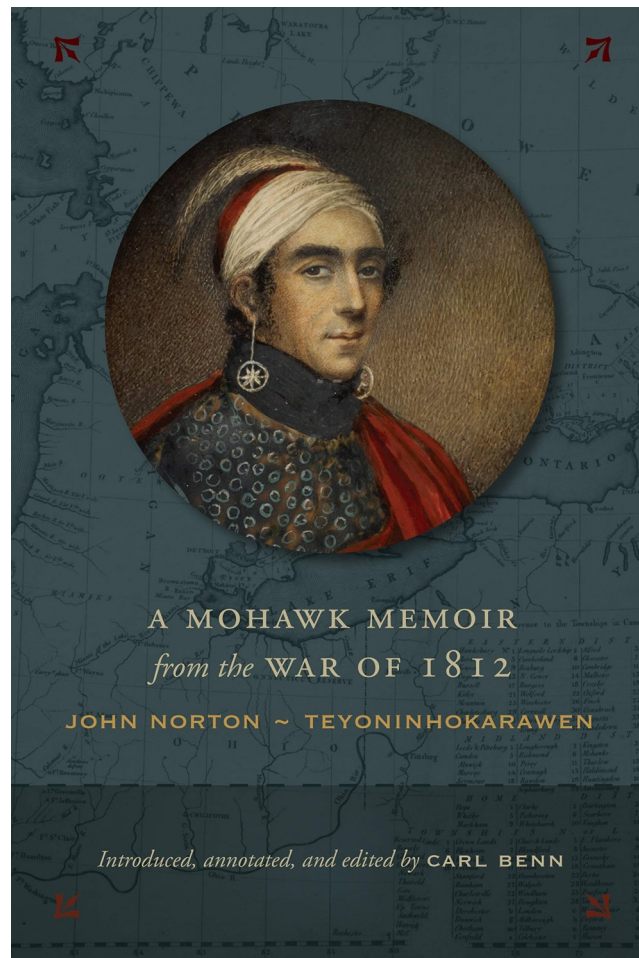
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### **A Mohawk Memoir from the War of 1812: John Norton - Teyoninhokarawen** Introduced, annotated, and edited by Carl Benn

A Mohawk Memoir from the War of 1812 presents the story of John Norton, or Teyoninhokarawen, an important war chief and political figure among the Grand River Haudenosaunee (or Iroquois) in Upper Canada. Norton saw more action during the conflict than almost anyone else, being present at the fall of Detroit; the capture of Fort Niagara; the battles of Queenston Heights, Fort George, Stoney Creek, Chippawa, and Lundy's Lane; the blockades of Fort George and Fort Erie; and a large number of skirmishes and front-line patrols. His memoir describes the fighting, the stresses suffered by indigenous peoples, and the complex relationships between the Haudenosaunee and both their British allies and other First Nations communities. Norton's account, written in 1815 and 1816, provides nearly one-third of the book's content, with the remainder consisting of Carl Benn's introductions and annotations, which enable readers to understand Norton's fascinating autobiography within its historical contexts. With the assistance of modern scholarship, A Mohawk Memoir presents an exceptional opportunity to explore the War of 1812 and native-newcomer issues not only through Teyoninhokarawen's Mohawk perspective but in his own words.