

# Occupation of Alcatraz 50th Anniversary Commemoration

## Call for 2019-2021 Cultural Program Proposals



Image: Bettmann/Getty Images

*“Alcatraz put me back into my community and helped me remember who I am. It was a rekindling of the spirit. Alcatraz made it easier for us to remember who we are.” - JOHN TRUDELL*

## Overview

2019 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the occupation of Alcatraz by the Indians of All Tribes, a key event in the history of Alcatraz Island, the Native American civil rights movement, and our nation. The National Park Service, in collaboration with Indians of All Tribes, is planning 19 months of events and programming (to reflect the length of the Occupation), including:

- An **exhibit**, *Red Power on Alcatraz: Perspectives 50 Years Later*, located in the New Industries Building on Alcatraz that includes photographs and artifacts. This exhibit is scheduled to open on November 20, 2019 and remain for the next nineteen months.
- A **three-day commemoration** on Alcatraz Island -- November 20 (the start date of the Occupation), November 21, and November 23 -- focusing on the veterans of the Occupation. Off-island partner events will take place on November 22.
- 19 months of **cultural programming**. In keeping with original ideas from the Occupation, the exhibit will include space for cultural programs and activities within the exhibit.

## Cultural Programming

The National Park Service (NPS) is seeking to partner with Native American groups to host one public event each month, generally the second Saturday, beginning in December 2019 and ending in June 2020.

Are you interested in presenting on Alcatraz? The NPS is currently accepting cultural program proposals from the community. Examples could include indigenous cultural presentations, workshops, arts and crafts, book panels, performances, or storytelling.

**Who is the audience?** Alcatraz Island receives between 3000-5000 visitors per day, including many diverse groups, international visitors, and families. The 50th anniversary presents a unique opportunity to educate the public about the enduring significance of the Occupation, and these visitors will be invited to attend cultural programming. In addition, NPS will provide up to 50 complimentary tickets to program presenters who wish to bring local groups, community members, and/or family to take part in their program.

The NPS is also working to partner with venues in the Bay Area, so that some programs may be held both on and off the island in order to reach a broader audience. Venues may include libraries, museums, and universities.

NPS provides stipends, paid via PayPal, according to the following schedule:

- Lead a workshop or present historical research: \$200 per hour
- Personal testimonial or performance: \$150 per hour
- Panelists: \$100 per event
- Group performances of more than 6 people: \$1000 flat rate

Please contact Ranger Steve Cote at [stephen\\_cote@nps.gov](mailto:stephen_cote@nps.gov) with your questions. NPS will work with community members to review the requests and put together a calendar of programs. Priority will be given to proposals associated with former Occupiers and indigenous groups that resonate with both the history and contemporary legacy of the Occupation.

## Criteria

We will consider:

- Programs that are educational and/or cultural in nature, and relate to indigenous cultures, history, current events, and/or the Occupation itself.
- Programs may include performances, lectures, workshops, symposia, arts demonstrations, film screenings, book talks, etc.
- Program or workshop proposals from individuals, groups, non-profit organizations, and educational institutions.
- Programs facilitated by former Occupiers, family members, and/or indigenous groups.
- Programs open to the visiting public and/or school groups. We will consider hosting closed events if they serve an audience with significant connection to the Occupation (ie, a reunion of Occupiers).

We cannot consider:

- Business events
- Programs that involve fundraising or sales

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- Programs without a significant connection to indigenous history, culture, or issues
- Programs requiring amplified sound during bird nesting season (Mid-February through mid-September)
- Events that address current politicians or candidates, or advocates for changes to laws or policies as a primary focus

## About the Space

On-island programming will take place in the New Industries Building, home to the upcoming exhibit Red Power on Alcatraz. The cultural space is embedded in the exhibit. It includes:

- 12'x16' low stage
- Basic sound system for speaking (microphone and PA system) - only available mid-September through early February due to bird nesting restrictions
- Seating (folding chairs) for up to 100 guests
- 6' folding tables on request
- Mid-sized screen and projector

Some unique requirements of the space:

- The room is very large and made of concrete. Noise in the space is very "live," with significant echoes. We're working on lessening this.
- During bird nesting season (mid-February through early September, it is important to keep noise to a minimum -- no amplified sound, snaps instead of claps, no loud voices, music, or other sounds.
- Because it is a historic building, nothing may be attached to the walls or other surfaces without prior NPS approval.
- Any equipment must be able to be transported on and off the island by program leaders via passenger ferry, departing Pier 33 at 8:20am daily. This is the staff boat.
- No eating or drinking allowed in the space without prior NPS approval.
- No restrooms on site -- closest public restrooms are on the dock, a 5-minute walk from the space.
- The building is ADA accessible. Event hosts with guests or participants needing assistance getting to the building (it's about 2/10 mile up a moderate hill) may request transportation via tram from the NPS.
- Smoking only permitted at the dock.
- Minors must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Any programs involving youth participants must include 1 adult chaperone (21+) to every 9 youth (under 18).

March-October events may take place between 10am-4pm. November-February events may take place between 10am-2pm. This allows for an hour of setup before and an hour of cleanup afterwards. Program leaders are responsible for setup and cleanup.

**Please apply by filling out the form below. Proposals should be submitted at least two months before your preferred program date.**

# Occupation of Alcatraz 50th Anniversary: Program Proposal

The National Park Service (NPS) is seeking to partner with Native American groups to host one public event each month, generally the first Saturday, beginning in November 2019 and ending in June 2020.

Are you interested in presenting on Alcatraz? The NPS is currently accepting cultural program proposals from the community. Examples could include indigenous cultural displays, presentations, workshops, arts and crafts, book panels, or storytelling.

**1. Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Organization (optional):** \_\_\_\_\_

*If your program is affiliated with an organization or group, please let us know! If you would like to present as an individual you may leave this blank.*

**5. Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Yourself or your organization*

**6. Approximate number of presenters:** \_\_\_\_\_

**7. I would describe this program as a:**

- Workshop
- Performance
- Cultural demonstration
- Lecture
- Panel
- Symposium
- Film Screening
- Arts event
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**8. Equipment needed (provided by you or by NPS):**

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**9. Preferred time and duration (must be between the hours of 10:00am-4:00pm):**

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**10. First choice date:**

*Events will generally be held the second Saturday of each month. However, we can be flexible if another day is strongly preferred.*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <del>December 14, 2019</del> | <input type="checkbox"/> September 12, 2020 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <del>January 11, 2020</del>  | <input type="checkbox"/> October 10, 2020   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <del>February 8, 2020</del>  | <input type="checkbox"/> December 12, 2020  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <del>March 14, 2020</del>    | <input type="checkbox"/> January 9, 2021    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <del>April 11, 2020</del>    | <input type="checkbox"/> February 13, 2021  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <del>May 9, 2020</del>       | <input type="checkbox"/> March 13, 2021     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> June 13, 2020                | <input type="checkbox"/> April 10, 2021     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> July 11, 2020                | <input type="checkbox"/> May 12, 2021       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> August 8, 2020               |   |

**11. Second choice date:**

*Events will generally be held the second Saturday of each month. However, we can be flexible if another day is strongly preferred.*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <del>December 14, 2019</del> | <input type="checkbox"/> September 12, 2020 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <del>January 11, 2020</del>  | <input type="checkbox"/> October 10, 2020   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <del>February 8, 2020</del>  | <input type="checkbox"/> December 12, 2020  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <del>March 14, 2020</del>    | <input type="checkbox"/> January 9, 2021    |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> June 13, 2020                | <input type="checkbox"/> April 10, 2021     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> July 11, 2020                | <input type="checkbox"/> May 12, 2021       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> August 8, 2020               |   |

**12. If none of these dates work for you, please list at least two different dates you'd prefer:**

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**13. Anything else you'd like us to know?**

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- I have read and agree to follow NPS guidelines on restrictions during bird nesting season and use of the historic building.**

**Please return this completed form to [stephen\\_cote@nps.gov](mailto:stephen_cote@nps.gov). Thank you!**