



Braiding Knowledges: The Journey of an Indigenous Archaeologist in Academia

Free presentation by
Archaeologist Ora Marek-Martinez (Diné), PhD



Photos courtesy of Ora Marek-Martinez

**Tuesday Evening
July 26, 2022**



**7 to 8:30 p.m. Arizona Time
(Same as Pacific Daylight Time)**

Ora Marek-Martinez, PhD, has been an archaeologist in the Southwest for over 20 years, working with, by, and for her People – The Navajo Nation. She was the first Navajo female Tribal Historic Preservation Officer to serve the Navajo Nation and also was one of the first five Navajo Tribal Members with a doctoral degree in Anthropology.

The knowledge, approaches, and protocols that Dr. Marek-Martinez learned from her Navajo People have provided her with her own unique approach to Indigenizing archaeology – which led to the co-creation with the Navajo Nation of *Nihookaa Diné Bilá Ashdláí'l* archaeology, or an archaeology of the Five Finger Earth Surface People.

In this talk, Dr. Marek-Martinez will discuss her journey to braiding knowledges as an archaeologist and as a *Diné Asdzaa*, or Navajo Woman, in hopes of creating a future that the Navajo People envision based on and guided by their own understandings and stories of the past.

(More on next page)

Background image from www.southernliving.com

To register for the Zoom program go to

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Wn7PTGxBQSaQ1PLWfoOLnA.

For more information contact Old Pueblo at info@oldpueblo.org or 520-798-1201.

Braiding Knowledges . . .



Our guest presenter for this program is Ora Marek-Martinez, PhD. She is a citizen of the Diné Nation, and is born for the Nez Perce people. She is a mother to a 15 year old, twin 11 year olds, and an adorable fur baby!

Dr. Marek-Martinez is a Director and an Indigenous “Academic Aunty” at the Northern Arizona University Native American Cultural Center. Her work includes supporting and ensuring the success of Northern Arizona University Native American and Indigenous students through Indigenized programming and services. As an Assistant Professor in the NAU Anthropology Department, her research interests include Indigenous archaeology and Indigenous Heritage management, including research and approaches that utilize ancestral knowledge and storytelling in the creation of archaeological knowledge.

Other research interests include southwestern archaeology, Indigenous futurisms, and decolonizing and Indigenizing archaeological narratives of the cultural landscape on Indigenous homelands as a way to reaffirm Indigenous connections to land and place. Her current research focuses on a Flagstaff Indigenous Heritage Trail project and an ethnographic research project on Indigenous archaeology that will contribute to the efforts in our discipline to move archaeology beyond its colonial origin. Dr. Marek-Martinez is also a founding member of the Indigenous Archaeology Collective.

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center’s “Indigenous Interests” free Zoom webinar series provides Native American presenters with a forum for discussing issues important to Indigenous peoples today.

The series is hosted by Martina Dawley (Hualapai-Diné), Maegan Lopez (Tohono O’odham), and Anabel Galindo (Yaqui), all of whom are members of Old Pueblo’s board of directors. The series has received support from Arizona Humanities and many of its online viewers.



For more information about this program or the Indigenous Interests series contact Old Pueblo Archaeology Center at info@oldpueblo.org or 520-798-1201.

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center

