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Native American Heritage Month at EMCC in Avondale

by **Eddi Trevizo** - Oct. 26, 2011 10:16 AM
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Estrella Mountain Community College will celebrate Native American Heritage Month with free events and educational presentations. Native American heritage is celebrated nationally during November to celebrate the contributions Native Americans have made to U.S. The events at EMCC, 3000 N. Dysart Road, in Avondale are open to the public.

Nov. 1, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.





The celebrations kick off in the college's Komatke Courtyard with traditional Indian dances such as the Hoop Dance, Eagle Dance, Fancy Dance and Rainbow Dance. Visitors can taste native foods such as fry bread and Yaqui stew, "Awaki Vaki." The college will host a health booth with information about health services for Native Americans in Maricopa County. **Nov. 8**

Visitors can catch different show times for the film "Dance Me Outside," about life on an Indian reservation in Ontario, Canada, and focuses on two college-bound students who must balance dreams of college with real situations. The film will be presented in the Center for Teaching and Learning with showings at 8:30 and 10 a.m. and 2 and 4 p.m. **Nov. 9, noon-1:30 p.m.**

Visitors can hear from state Rep. Chris Deschene, D-St. Michaels, who grew up on the Navajo Indian Reservation near Page. He will talk about his political career, environmental causes and recommendations for getting involved in Arizona's [sustainability](#) initiatives. The speech will be at the Center for Teaching and Learning. **Nov. 10, 3-4 p.m.**

A cultural specialist from the Phoenix Indian Center will teach visitors about the Dine, or Navajo, perspectives and lifestyles. This event will be held at the Center for Teaching and Learning. **Nov. 15, 9-10 a.m.**

[Cherokee](#) artist and digital media specialist Roy Boney Jr., in partnership with the EMCC Honors Program, will present the "Cherokee Syllabary: From Handwriting to Pixel." He will teach visitors about the technological history of the Cherokee writing system and trace the evolution of the syllabary from handwriting to digital devices. EMCC Native American Studies students and EMCC art students will present "Native American Stories as told and illustrated by EMCC students." The display shows art and posters illustrated to show historic Native American stories. The event will be held in the Center for Teaching and Learning.

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