

PHL250 Land Acknowledgement

Expanded Land Acknowledgement

PHILADELPHIA250 acknowledges that the land we have built lives and communities on is the traditional and unceded territory of the Lenni-Lenape nation. We respect the citizens of the Lenni-Lenape Nation and all indigenous people, both past and present, and their continuing relationship with their ancestral lands.

We wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands we refer to as the United States of America; the grounds on which we sit, play, study, work, and commune were taken and hold a heritage of genius love as well as the grief, pain, and suffering of their people. We also acknowledge that many people of varying racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds have lost ancestral homes and lands at the hands of America's founding.

We know this acknowledgment does not change history and are committed to ensuring our actions are guided by atonement and care. We request a moment of silence in recognition of Indigenous people, heritage, and land.

Abbreviated Land Acknowledgement

PHILADELPHIA250 acknowledges that the land we have built lives and communities on is the traditional and unceded territory of the Lenni-Lenape nation. We respect the citizens of the Lenni-Lenape Nation and all indigenous people, both past and present, and their continuing relationship with their ancestral lands.

We know this acknowledgment does not change history and are committed to ensuring our actions are guided by atonement and care. We request a moment of silence in recognition of Indigenous people, heritage, and land.

Context

- Some see land acknowledgments as performative, so the sentence "We know that this acknowledgment is only a small and does not change history, and we are committed to ensuring that our actions are guided by atonement and care." is intentional to acknowledge that we know this doesn't change anything that has happened.
- It is essential to reflect that the "**traditional custodians**" or similar language is used. See the language that Australia used for Aboriginal people: <https://humanrights.gov.au/about/news/speeches/acknowledgement-traditional-custodianship>.
- We do not want to take away from Indigenous people. Still, it is essential to recognize that the genocide is layered: "We also acknowledge that many people of varying racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds have lost ancestral homes and lands at the hands of America's founding."
- I mention **genius love** as a frame for the heritage of Indigenous people, but that can be reframed or thought of differently if you choose.
- Lenni-Lenape is the full name, and the Indigenous name is Lenape Haki-nk. I do not think it's disrespectful not to use that naming, but it is valuable to know. Some people shorten to Lenape singularly, as well.
- We do not mention federal recognition on purpose. Do not segment the Indigenous community in this document for any reason.
- If this is shared in any external environment be conscious of the branding associated with it. PHL Diversity has photography of Indigenous people from across decades and that may be beneficial.