

BIO INTRO for Donovan Sprague 2023

Donovin Sprague was born and raised at Dupree, SD on the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation and is an enrolled tribal member. He is a Minnicoujou Lakota and is a history faculty member at Sheridan College, WY and is the advisor for the Native American students. He is a tour guide, author of 10 historical books, historian, artisan, and musician. He taught at Iowa State University, University of Iowa, University of Northern Iowa, University of Wyoming, Black Hills State University, and Oglala Lakota College. He is a consultant to the Smithsonian National American Indian Museum. His museum historical research and written captions are at the George Heye Center American Indian Smithsonian Museum in New York City, Expansion of the West Museum at the archway, St. Louis, MO, Ft. Kearny Museum, Banner, WY. The N.Y. permanent exhibit there is "Infinity of Nations" and contributing author to the Smithsonian book by the same title. He works as an advisor with Tribal Historic Preservation Officers and as an archivist with the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe. He completed 80 hours of Para-Professional Cultural Resource Survey/Monitor Training through the tribe and was also a training presenter for the same group.

He worked for three years for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and Citizen Potawatomi Nation in Shawnee, OK. He currently works summers in Indiana developing American Indian curricula for Culver Academies.

He received a Coat of Arms from the Queen of England, was selected as South Dakota Ziebach County Historian of the Year, received the Distinguished Scholar Award from the South Dakota Humanities Council, and West River, SD History Conference Award (2018). Member of the Jim Gatchell Museum & Historical Assn., Buffalo, WY, Brinton Museum, Big Horn, WY, Big Horn Historical Society, Big Horn, WY, Rockpile Museum, Gillette, WY, Hoofprints of the Past Museum, Kaycee, WY, Wyoming State Historical Society, Estate of Crazy Horse, Wounded Knee Survivors, Ziebach County History Assn., Dupree, S.D. He is former Vice-President of West River History Conference, Rapid City, SD and advisory board member of Fort Phil Kearny/ Bozeman Trail Assn., Story, WY. March 23rd the City of Rapid City, SD proclaimed "Donovin Sprague Day" for his work in American Indian/white relations. He has a Master of Arts (M.A. degree from the University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD + 15 graduate hours in political science and a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree from Black Hills State University, Spearfish, SD.

He presents at major universities in the U.S., Canada, and Europe and was a keynote speaker for the 150th Anniversary of the Fetterman Fight (2016), the 150th Anniversary of the Wagon Box Fight (2017). He presented at the 150th Anniversary of the Treaty of Fort Laramie Educational Symposium (2018) at Brinton Museum in Sheridan, WY. He was keynote speaker at Fort Knox, TN U.S. Army base and the Defense Logistics Information Systems, Battle Creek, MI for Native American Heritage Month celebrations, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmund, OK, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK, Southeastern Oklahoma State, Durant, OK, Jones Academy, Hartshorne, OK, Upper Sioux Community-Pezihutazizi Oyate, Granite Falls, MN, Lac du Flambeau, WI Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Tribe, United Tribes College, Bismarck, ND, Timber Lake & Area Historical Assn. Timber Lake, SD, Timber Lake Schools, SD, Cheyenne-Eagle Butte Schools, SD, Ziebach County Historical Assn. Dupree, SD, Lakota Nations Education Conference, Rapid City, SD, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS, University of North Carolina-Charlotte, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO, U.S. Forest Service-Black Hills National Forest, South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD, Black Hills State University, Spearfish, SD, Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD, Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD, Old Courthouse Museum, Sioux Falls, SD, Dakota Discovery Museum, Mitchell, SD, Sturgis, SD Public Library, Rapid City, SD Public Library, Preservation Thursday, Deadwood, SD, Tri-State Museum, Belle Fourche, SD, Wright, WY School, National American Indian & Alaska Native ATTC, Atlanta, GA, NAIAN ATTC, Oklahoma City, OK, University

of Minnesota-Minneapolis, Coe College, IA, Drake University, Des Moines, IA, Oglala Lakota College, Kyle, SD, Sitting Bull College, Ft. Yates, ND, Chadron State College, Chadron, NE, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY, Rockpile Museum at Heritage Center, Cam-plex, Gillette, WY, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA, Iowa State University, Ames, IA & Culver Academies, Indiana. 2018 visits and presentations included the University of Frankfurt, Germany; Lucius D. Clay U.S. Army base at Wiesbaden, Germany; and Paris, France. 2019 presentations: Gatchell Museum in Buffalo, WY, 150th Anniversary of the Transcontinental Railroad at the University of Nebraska-Omaha, National History Assn. Conference, Seattle, WY, Custer Week, Monroe, MI, Journey Museum, Rapid City, SD, High Plains Heritage Center, Spearfish, SD, Dacotah Prairie Museum, Aberdeen, SD, Unity Fest, Watertown, SD, South Dakota State Historical Conference, Pierre, SD, Fort Pierre, SD Bicentennial, Klein Museum, Mobridge, SD, Books-A-Million, Sherman, TX, Tribal Tourism & History, Farmington, NM, Alliance of Tribal Tourism Advocates National Conference, Maricopa, AZ, Organization of American Historians National Conference, Seattle, WA, Federal Employees Assn. Conference, Spokane, WA, National Historians Annual Conference, Seattle, WY, and 2 Thickman Faculty Lecture Series at Sheridan College, WY, Gillette College, WY & National Trails Interpretive Center, Casper, WY. 2022 presentations: South Dakota Historical Assn. & Governor's Awards Annual Conference, Wyoming Writer's Conference, Oregon-California Trails Assn. Conference, Casper, WY. In 2022 he presented to Lakota-Dakota Tribal Chairman at the Little Bighorn National Monument, MT.

2023 activities included: keynote presenter at the Mari Sandoz Symposium at Chadron State College, NE; keynote at Humanities Nebraska annual state conference at Fort Robinson, NE; presented at the Wyoming Daughters of the American Revolution state conference in Riverton, WY; presentation at Washakie Museum in Worland, WY; presents annually at The Journey Museum in Rapid City, SD; won Lakota art awards at the POP Festival in Rapid City, SD in 2022 & 2023; interviewed by Time Magazine and National Geographic magazine; interviewed for the award-winning documentary *The Battle of Red Buttes* which won a Spur Award for Best Historical Documentary.

In, 2020 he appeared in Time Magazine, New Yorker & National Geographic magazine. He was selected as the 2021-22 Sheridan College student advisor of the year for the American Indian Student Organization. He was recently interviewed by History Channel in 2022.

He was also General Manager of KILI-FM 100,000 watt American Indian radio on Pine Ridge Reservation, S.D.

He is certified by Institutional Review Board (IRB) for interviews of human subjects in an ethical manner through the University of Iowa.

He served as an advisory board member of a National Indian Health group, Cloudburst in Rockville, MD. and is also an award-winning artisan and teaches American Indian art classes. He has won first place at 3 Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Art Shows during their Labor Day celebration.