



Undergraduate Student Government of the Kent Campus

Sponsor: Senator Boardman, Director Fermaintt

Co-sponsors: President Jackson, Chief Dingey, Director Gomez, Senator Walton

GA/R/F2021-001

Wednesday, October 5, 2021

A Resolution to formally recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day and to honor the Kent State Community thus affected by its recognition.

Whereas, the Undergraduate Student Government upholds the principles of representing every student on-campus and advocating for the common betterment of all.

Whereas, There is a significant population of Indigenous students, who comprise 0.3% of the Student Census and an estimated 840 students at the Kent Main Campus.¹

Whereas, The Ohio cities of Cleveland², Columbus³, and Cincinnati all recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Whereas, The Ohio State University recognizes the day as of 2018 when their Undergraduate Student Senate drafted a resolution in support of the holiday.

Whereas, Undergraduate Student Government recognizes the value and contribution of the Indigenous Student/Faculty/Staff community through both academic and cultural contributions.

Whereas, The celebration of Indigenous Peoples' Day on the second Monday of October, changes the narrative from a celebration of genocide and colonialism to that of celebrating the communities of people who inhabited American lands long before any Europeans set foot.

Whereas, Indigenous Peoples' Day is necessary to pay due respect to the contributions of culture and history in the entirety of the Americas.

¹ Student Body Profile | Kent State University.

² Letizia, J. (n.d.). Cleveland Joins Other Ohio Cities in Creating Indigenous Peoples' Day.

³ Staff, W. (2020, October 12). Columbus City Council passes resolution designating Oct. 12th as "Indigenous Peoples" Day'.

Therefore, LET IT BE RESOLVED by the Undergraduate Student Senate of the Kent Campus of Kent State University, acting in full session, as follows:

Section 1: The USG shall promote the celebration of Indigenous Peoples' Day in order to recognize the rich history and culture of the Indigenous communities of America.

Please refer to these links for further information:

Basic Information

- <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/blogs/national-museum-american-indian/2020/10/12/indigenous-peoples-day-updated2020/>
 - The Smithsonian Magazine has a background on the origins of both Indigenous Peoples' Day and Columbus Day, as well as details the importance of celebrating the day and which U.S. states currently do so.
- <https://www.uua.org/racial-justice/dod/indigenous-day>
 - Further outlines the history of the day as well as methods in which people can recognize and celebrate the Indigenous community.
- <https://sites.austincc.edu/accent/indigenous-peoples-day-importance-of-heritage-pride/>
 - The importance of heritage and pride that follows the recognition of Indigenous people.

Works Cited

- Letizia, J. (n.d.). Cleveland Joins Other Ohio Cities in Creating Indigenous Peoples' Day. Retrieved October 5, 2021, from [www.wcbe.org](https://www.wcbe.org/post/cleveland-joins-other-ohio-cities-creating-indigenous-peoples-day) website: <https://www.wcbe.org/post/cleveland-joins-other-ohio-cities-creating-indigenous-peoples-day>
- Staff, W. (2020, October 12). Columbus City Council passes resolution designating Oct. 12th as "Indigenous Peoples" Day'. Retrieved October 5, 2021, from WSYX website: <https://abc6onyourside.com/news/local/columbus-city-council-approves-resolution-designating-oct-12th-as-indigenous-peoples-day>
- Student Body Profile | Kent State University. (n.d.). Retrieved October 5, 2021, from [www.kent.edu](https://www.kent.edu/Array/student-body-profile) website: <https://www.kent.edu/Array/student-body-profile>