

Pathfinder

NOVEMBER 2023



NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

- In 1990 President George H. W. Bush approved a joint resolution that designated November as National American Indian Heritage Month. The purpose of setting apart this month is to encourage people to learn about the contributions and cultures of the Indigenous peoples of North America. Golden West sophomore Aubrey Woods has Native American heritage from her father's side. Her great grandmother is full American Indian from the Pima tribe in Arizona. Aubrey's American Indian heritage is important to her because it creates unity within her family. She wishes that people knew more in general about her heritage.
- An anonymous Golden West student with American Indian Heritage mentioned that family members who live on the Tule River Reservation in Porterville have a very close community with a variety of educational and social opportunities for tribe members.



Aubrey Woods, GW sophomore

HERITAGE CLUB SPOTLIGHT: FRENCH CLUB

- The Golden West French Club meets every other Monday in Mrs. Gibson's classroom, P-20. The French Club president, Rowan Hammond, has taken French for three years. She is a junior at Golden West and said the purpose of the French Club is to help people learn more about French culture. She hopes people realize that there is more to the French culture than what we see online and it's really fun to learn. The club has fun plans for the spring semester, including learning more about Mardi Gras traditions and mask making. All Golden West students are welcome to join the French Club.



Rowan Hammond, GW junior

HERITAGE CLUBS ON CAMPUS: WHERE AND WHEN

- Asian Pacific Islander Club:** Meets in P-23 every other Thursday during lunch
- Black Student Union:** Meets in FS2 every other Wednesday at lunch
- French Club:** Meets in P-20 every other Monday at lunch
- International Dance:** Meets Tuesdays at lunch in the dance room
- LatinX:** Meets in FS9 at lunch on the first Thursday of the month
- M.E.C.H.A.:** Meets in P-7 on Thursdays as needed

EL DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

El Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) is an important cultural holiday celebrated in many Spanish-speaking countries around the world. México has a long tradition of celebrating this holiday on November 1st and 2nd. Remembering and honoring loved ones who have passed away is the focus of the holiday. A popular tradition for Day of the Dead is creating an altar (ofrenda, in Spanish) in honor of deceased loved ones. The altar often includes pictures, candles, figurines, food and other things that were cherished by the person during their life. Spanish classes at Golden West read about the holiday, watched videos, and created class or personal altars. Students across campus celebrate the holiday annually in a variety of ways with their families.

Brayam Gonzalez, a freshman at Golden West from Nayarit, México, celebrates Day of the Dead by making an altar.

Kateryn Hernandez, a Golden West freshman, is from Veracruz, México and also celebrates Day of the Dead with her family by putting up an altar and placing food on it.

Esteban Cabrera is from Michoacán, México. He is a junior at Golden West. His family celebrates Day of the Dead by visiting deceased relatives' graves and leaving things there that the family members enjoyed during their lives.

Gael De Jesus Hernandez, a Golden West sophomore, is from Cuernavaca, México. His family makes food, puts up an altar, and leaves flowers at the cemetery to celebrate the holiday.



Class altar created by Señor Pulido's Spanish students.



Class altar created by Señora Campbell's Spanish students.



Altar created by Angel Cobarrubias, a junior in Señor Amezcua's Spanish 3 class.