

## ARTS, MEDIA, AND ENTERTAINMENT



Bobby Wilson (Sisseton-Wahpeton Dakota) Ryan RedCorn (Osage), Sterlin Harjo (Seminole/Muskogee), Migizi Pensoneau (Ponca-Ojibwe) and Dallas Goldtooth (Mdewakanton Dakota/Diné, not pictured) are the comedy troupe called The 1491s. They use slapstick and satire in performances that unpack stereotypes, debunk racism, raid contemporary culture, and highlight crucial Native issues.

“We are a sketch comedy group based in the wooded ghettos of Minnesota and the buffalo grasses of Oklahoma. We are a gaggle of Indians chock-full of cynicism and splashed with a good dose of Indigenous satire. We coined the term “All My Relations” and are still waiting on the royalties. We were at Custer’s Last Stand. We mooned Chris Columbus when he landed. We invented bubble gum. We teach young women to be strong. And teach young men how to seduce these strong women.”

### INVESTIGATION

What is the media’s and Hollywood’s responsibility in shaping how society views American Indians? How have Indigenous content creators challenged stereotypical representations?

How can inclusive cultural representation be achieved through the arts, media and entertainment industry?

## ARTS, MEDIA, AND ENTERTAINMENT

# EXPLORATION

**#1:** Watch a show/movie or listen to a song created by Native Americans.  
**How are American Indian cultures and identities portrayed in the content?**

---

**#2:** Listen to the All My Relations podcast episode Native Fashion (5/8/2019).  
**How are Native fashion designers representing their communities through their art?**

As Dr. Jessica Metcalfe (Turtle Mountain Chippewa) asks, **“What are the ways we can represent our identities through what we choose to wear?”**

---

**#3:** Read sections of the Native Appropriations blog by Adrienne Keene and listen to the All My Relations podcast episode Native Appropriations (4/17/2019). **What is “cultural appropriation?” How has cultural appropriation harmed Native American communities?**

Give examples of where this happened in the Media and Entertainment world (ex. Halloween costumes, Johnny Depp as “Tonto in the Lone Ranger movie.” **How can one take steps to not engage in Native cultural appropriation when creating art?**

