

Pocahontas Reframed Film Festival & VMFA Present

Family Powwow

Sat, Nov 23, 2024 | 10:30 am–1 pm

Welcome to the Pocahontas Reframed Film Festival Family Powwow event at VMFA!
We encourage you to use this agenda as your guide to explore the event.

Schedule & Locations

Conference Room 1, Level L	Paper Basket Weaving Art Activity	10:30 am–1 pm
Theater Lobby, Level L	Learn about Seed Saving with Amyrose Foll	10:30 am–1 pm
Cheek Theater, Level L	Short Film: <i>Land of Little Big</i> (25 min.) with Introductions by Koli Kohler	10:30–11 am
Atrium, Level 1	Hoop Dancing and Powwow Drumming with Sam Bearpaw and the Sinquah Family	10:30–11 am
Cheek Theater, Level L	Storytelling with Darren Thompson	11–11:25 am
Cheek Theater, Level L	Short Film: <i>Land of Little Big</i> (25 min.) with Introductions by Koli Kohler	11:30 am–noon
Reynolds Lecture Hall, LL	Film: <i>Four Souls of Coyote</i> (100 min.)	11:30 am–1:15 pm
Cheek Theater, Level L	Storytelling with Darren Thompson	noon–12:25 pm
Atrium, Level 1	Hoop Dancing and Powwow Drumming with Sam Bearpaw and the Sinquah Family	noon–12:30 pm
Cheek Theater, Level L	Short Film: <i>Land of Little Big</i> (25 min.) with Introductions by Koli Kohler	12:30–1 pm

Co-presented by



Presenters and Participants

Amyrose Foll

Learn about seed saving and food sovereignty for families with Amyrose Foll. She founded the Virginia Free Farm to help provide free, nutrient-dense food assistance to those in need and furnish plants and seeds to community gardens, schools, tribes, and community-based organizations. It is a hub for educating young people in the Richmond metro area about Indigenous agriculture, ethnobotanical knowledge, and lifeways to cultivate the next generation of land and water protectors. Her background in health care and her native heritage (Penobscot/Abenaki) prompted her to begin advocating for food sovereignty, security, and preservation of Indigenous food culture through seed saving and distribution. She is a frequent guest on the VPM/PBS program *Virginia Home Grown*.

Sam Bearpaw and the Siquah Family

Master of Ceremonies Sam Bearpaw is a champion powwow dancer in the categories of Men's Northern Traditional Dance and Prairie Chicken Dance. Moontee Siquah and his two sons, Sampson Sixkiller and Scott Sixkiller, are deeply rooted in their culture and traditions as members of the Hopi, Tewa, and Choctaw nations from the Hopi nations of Northern Arizona. Their goal is to inspire and create art through music, dance, and storytelling. Moontee is a champion Grass dancer, Sampson is a champion Prairie Chicken dancer, and Scott is a champion Fancy War dancer in both the United States and Canada. All three are World Champion Hoop Dancers.

Darren Thompson

Darren Thompson (Ojibwe/Tohono O'odham) is a Native American flute player and storyteller. In this presentation, he will recount the Ojibwe creation story, "How the Woodpecker Lost Its Voice," "How the Porcupine Got Its Quills," and "How the Skunk and Chipmunk Got Their Stripes."

Koli Kohler

A descendant of the Hupa, Yurok, and Karuk tribes of Northern California, Koli Kohler comes from a long line of storytellers. She has been nominated for six Native American Music Awards in 2019 and 2022 including Female Artist of the Year, Single of the Year, and Best Folk Album.

About the Films

Land of Little Big (25 min.)

An ancient space creature comes to Earth to teach the plant people, rock people, and animals about the humans who would be arriving. The story is intended for young children, ages 2–8, and focuses on teaching about gratitude. It is musically charged, with lots of fun song-and-dance numbers, and encourages reading skills, cultural appreciation, and social intelligence.

Four Souls of Coyote (100 min.)

Native American protesters confront an oil pipeline project down the hill from their ancestral land. The grandfather evokes the tale of Creation, reminding us that we must find our place in the great circle of creatures. *Four Souls of Coyote* is an alternative and more modest creation myth, in which the human being is not the "king of the world," but merely one creature among many.

Art Activity

Paper Basket Weaving | 10:30 am–1 pm | Conference Room 1, Level L

Inspired by traditional Native American arts practices, create your own woven basket with colorful paper that integrates a meaningful message. Enjoy practicing the ancient art of weaving!