

SEMANA THOMPSON

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Education

B.S., American Indian Studies, Arizona State University, 2007

Experience

Independent Consultant/Artist/Homeschooler & SDE

August 2015 - Present

Providing a broad range of services including:

- Transcription of oral history interviews for book projects.
- Write blog posts for non-profit organization(s).
- Grant proposal writing for non-profit organization(s).
- Consultation on subjects such as building social network platforms (Patreon in particular), youth education, native youth identity and foster care.
- Collaborative art projects with artists and culture workers.
- Homeschooled, then provided self-directed education (SDE) for two elementary-age children; SDE topics included birds (through cultural materials and The Cornell Lab of Ornithology), Black and Akimel O’Otham history, Star Wars science, math (through workbooks, Pokemon, and the Akimel O’Otham language), queer and disability studies, zine making and comic making, facilitation of zine and comic workshops via Facebook.
- Create zines and mixed media, collage, illustration and portrait art for sale in online shop.
- Editor of the zines Decolonizing Parenting, queer indigenous girl, and Black Indigenous Boy.
- Founder/Curator/Librarian of The People’s Zine Library (TPZL).
- Fundraising for TPZL; initial start-up funding for library via micro-grant from the Autistic People of Color Fund; donations from library to individuals and projects by Black, Indigenous, people of color who are autistic, disabled, queer and trans, poor, unemployed/underemployed, sex workers, parents etc.
- Zine-making workshops.

Contracts & Grants Specialist

Office of the Community Manager

Gila River Indian Community

March 2015 – August 2015

- Documentation: assisted departments with quarterly, semi-annual, and/or annual data, financial and progress reporting, expenditure reports, budget modifications, change in scope of work, plans of action, resolutions, agreements, intergovernmental agreements, amendments and any other grant documentation.
- Management of documentation storage: paper and electronic files included grant agreements, amendments, modifications, internal correspondence and agency communication, financial and progress reporting, expenditure reports and complete grant application.
- Planning: assisted with program planning, plans of action, contingency planning and spending down funds.
- Review and process: for signature – grant agreements, intergovernmental agreements, amendments and grant documentation through the law office, community manager, finance and governor/lieutenant governor.

- Reporting to upper division: compliance and management to community manager and governor/lieutenant governor.
- Authorized representative: submitted to agencies grant adjustment notices, no-cost extensions and other grant documentation for departments.

Grant Writer

Office of the Community Manager

Gila River Indian Community

May 2014 – March 2015

- Research and review: researched, reviewed and documented data and information from funding opportunity announcements, notice of funding availability and request for proposals for departments and executive level administrators.
- Projects: averaged approximately six grant proposals and associated tasks per month.
- Development: grant proposal planning team that included department project staff, grants office staff and community members, if needed; grant project work plan, timeline and detailed checklists that included all application documentation and tribal grant resolution process through committees, council and tribal community districts; project proposals per private, state and federal granting agency guidelines; budget planning with finance department to ensure allowable costs and relevant to project methods; and application documents including job descriptions, objective work plan, staff plan, letters of commitment and evidence of community support.
- Organization and facilitation: grant proposal planning team meetings twice weekly and at times, daily, which included meetings with community members, groups, districts, and culture and language boards; facilitated grant proposal planning team presentations, at times twice weekly, to culture committees, tribal council, cultural groups, elderly concerns group and district meetings.
- Authorized Organization Representative: finalized, compiled and submitted grant applications and grant related documents through grants dot gov, Government Management Systems, e-Grants, On-Line Data Collection and other management systems.

Cultural Resource Specialist

Tribal Historic Preservation Office

Gila River Indian Community

September 2010 – May 2014

- Official representative: served as repatriation official for the tribe to consult with museums, universities, and tribal, local, state and federal agencies pursuant to federal (Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act and National Museum of the American Indian Act) and state laws for return of culturally affiliated remains and funerary objects removed from the tribe's ancestral claims area ranging from the southern edge along the Gila-Salt Baseline Meridian (otherwise known as Baseline Road), east along Greenlee County along the eastern AZ border, south to Picacho Mountain, and west to Yuma.
- Management of documentation storage: input of and secured data from all summaries, inventories, burial agreements, correspondence, burial discoveries and all other relevant materials.
- Review and revision: assisted with comprehensive agreements and plans of action, state burial agreements, historic preservation treatment plans, and any other legal amendments and agreements; developed resolutions, letters, memos, reports and other documentation.
- Organization and facilitation: repatriation meetings, workshops and presentations with tribal entities, local, state and federal agencies and tribal nations.
- Tribal representative: on the AZ Historic Preservation conference traditional cultural places planning committee, Southwest Native Nations Advisory Board and Four Southern Tribes Cultural Resource Working Group.
- Oral history project: managed, conducted and transcribed oral histories of 12 elder community members for the "Beyond the Barbed Wire Fence: Gila River Indian Community and Japanese American

Experience of Internment during World War II.” Project supported by Arizona Humanities Council and the Japanese American National Museum.

Museum Aide

Huhugam Heritage Center
Gila River Indian Community
June 2008 – September 2010

- Collections management: developed introductory collections manual, cataloged Bureau of Reclamation prehistoric Hohokam artifacts, and collections move of the Blackwater Trading Post collection which also included object condition reporting, photography, documentation and custom basket mounts.
- Exhibition Development: assisted with concept design, research, community outreach, oral histories of community artists and drafted text and designed panels for the Great House Overlook, a permanent exhibit.
- Educational programming: museum admissions; assisted with classes on birds and mammals for community school-age children; and conducted community oral histories on Japanese American internment and oral history workshops.
- National Association for Museum Exhibition 2010 Fellow.

Training

The Grantsmanship Center

- Competing for Federal Grants
- Grantsmanship Training Program

National Preservation Institute

- Consultation and Protection of Native American Sacred Lands
- Identification and Management of Traditional Cultural Places
- NAGPRA: Determining Cultural Affiliation
- NAGPRA: Inventories, Summaries and Databases
- Section 106: An Introduction
- Section 106: Agreement Documents

Maricopa County Department of Public Health
Parent Ambassador Training Program

Mental Health First Aid

safeTALK