



As we celebrate Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month, it's a great reminder of why this work matters preserving stories, sparking conversations, and deepening our understanding of the past to shape a more connected future.

To amplify this effort, we are seeking fresh, innovative ideas to uplift the stories of the borderlands and Camp Naco through the Naco Heritage Alliance Fellowship for Arts, Culture, and Scholarship. Share the news and help us to spread the word about this exciting opportunity!

Let's do this together.
Jeremy



Jeremy Fricke
Naco Heritage Alliance
Executive Director

Fellowship Program

NACO HERITAGE ALLIANCE FELLOWSHIP FOR ARTS, CULTURE, & SCHOLARSHIP

Graciously
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One of the fundamental goals of the Camp Naco project is to support the Arts, Culture and Scholarship of Naco, Bisbee, Cochise County, and the entire Borderlands. As a part of the generous Mellon Foundation grant, the Naco Heritage Alliance is proud to announce the kickoff of the 2025 Naco Heritage Alliance Fellowship program.

The Naco Heritage Alliance (NHA) is seeking proposals from diverse disciplines to tell the stories of African American military service, Indigenous communities, Mexican communities, and borderlands experiences.

Scholars and creators from various disciplines including history, written arts, visual arts, theatre, music, culinary arts, printmaking and installation art, industrial arts, textile arts, and media arts are invited to apply.

Projects should reflect a deep understanding of the cultural, historical, and ecological context of the borderlands and/or Camp Naco.

To apply, visit CampNacoAZ.org/fellowship. Applications must be received by March 31.

**Dr. John P. Langellier Fireplace Chat and book
signing: *Buffalo Soldiers in Arizona***

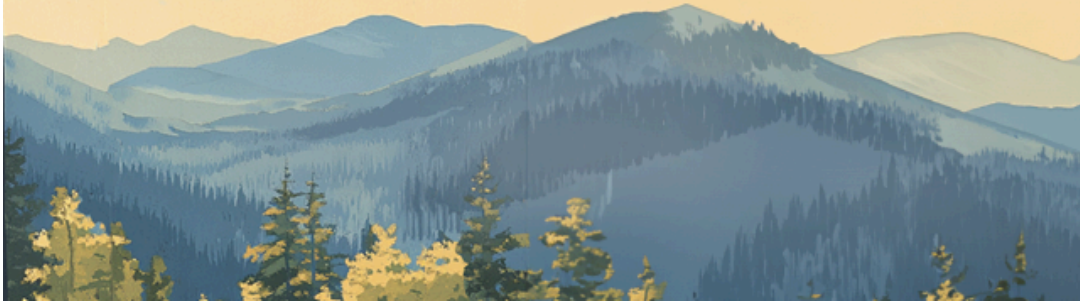
**Saturday, March 22 at 6pm
Bisbee Mining and Historical Museum**



Join us for a Question & Answer session and book signing with Buffalo Soldier author and military historian John Langellier, Ph.D. hosted by Becky Orozco. Space is limited for this event, register at <https://forms.gle/eLeitBhxP3KZixiK6>

In 1881, the first Buffalo Soldiers arrived in Arizona pursuing elusive Apaches. Over the following decades, African Americans from the Tenth U.S. Cavalry and Twenty-Fourth and Twenty-Fifth Infantry added to the laurels won by the Ninth U.S. Cavalrymen. For more than six decades, Black soldiers served with honor, from campaigns against determined Native Americans to facing dangers along the turbulent border as the Mexican Revolution raged. During the dark days of World War II, they prepared for combat against foes both abroad and at home. All the while, they faced an ever-present, persistent enemy: racism. Author John P. Langellier brings to life the rich history of Buffalo Soldiers in the Copper State.

Logging, Ranching and the Military: African Americans of the Grand Canyon Region



Last month, Naco Heritage Alliance Board Chair Margaret Hangan shared her presentation Logging, Ranching, and the Military: African Americans of the Grand Canyon Region. We are excited to share that event with you on our YouTube channel. Be sure to subscribe to see all of our new content as we move forward with the project!

Visit <https://www.youtube.com/@NacoHeritageAlliance>

In Memoriam: Crystal Carrancho



We are truly saddened to share the news that Crystal Carrancho, who supplied the technical expertise for Camp Naco's award winning storymap, passed away on February 1, 2025. As some of you may

know, Crystal spent the last two years battling cancer. She passed away peacefully at home with her family by her side.

Crystal held a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Arizona. Before she joined the Camp Naco team, Crystal had spent ten years with the Arizona State Land Department and had joined the Phoenix Historic Preservation Office in 2019, where she is remembered both for her technical expertise and for her good nature and kindness.

The storymap caught the eye of the National Trust in 2022, when it was chosen as one of that year's Eleven Most Endangered Historic Sites. This recognition led in turn to grants from the Mellon Foundation and from the office of Governor Doug Ducey, setting Camp Naco on its path to rehabilitation.

Those of us who worked with Crystal on the storymap remember her boundless dedication to the project. A true collaborator, she was always willing to take an extra step to ensure a perfect result. We are grateful to have been her colleagues, and we will miss her very much.

Helen Erikson

Naco Heritage Alliance

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The City of Bisbee and Naco Heritage Alliance express their gratitude to the following for the generous financial support and advocacy that has enabled Camp Naco to launch its vision:



