

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Laramie County Library System Celebrates the Opening of *Native Voices* Exhibit with Presentation by Dr. Lee Francis IV

Dr. Lee Francis IV is in the business of sharing powerful stories, stories that include a myriad of Indigenous characters at the helm who break stereotypes and re-shape the narrative on Native Peoples to accurately portray them as the contemporary, dynamic, and inspirational people they are. On January 15th at 6:30 p.m. in the Cottonwood Room, Lee Francis IV will help the Laramie County Library System celebrate the opening of the exhibit, *Native Voices: Native Peoples' Concepts of Health and Illness*, with a presentation on the impact stories have on people. His presentation will touch on his experiences of hearing, creating, and sharing stories throughout his career and lifetime.

As an educator, member of the Laguna Pueblo Tribe, comic book creator, and business owner, Lee Francis IV strives to create and disseminate meaningful narratives with powerful characters who range from Navajo Code Talkers to Indigenous Superheroes. Graphic Novels and Comic Books from Lee Francis IV's printing press, Native Realities Publishing, will be available to purchase after the presentation.

The *Native Voices* exhibit will be on display at the Laramie County Library from January 7th to February 13th. The exhibit explores interconnectedness of illness, health, and cultural life for Native Peoples by drawing on stories from both the present and the past. The U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM) developed and produced *Native Voices: Native Peoples' Concepts of Health and Illness*. The American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office, in partnership with NLM, tours the exhibition to America's libraries.

Artwork from the Creative Indigenous Collective, a group of contemporary Native American artists, and Native American artifacts from the Wyoming State Museum will be on display throughout the Library during the duration of *Native Voices*. Wyoming Humanities has also provided a display entitled *Two Nations, One Reservation*, which highlights the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming.

Please help us welcome *Native Voices* to the Laramie County Library by attending Lee Francis IV's presentation, which promises to be as powerful, intriguing, and exciting as the heroes in his stories.

Contact

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