# Democracy Reform Summit: Removing Barriers to Native Political Participation

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3 // 9:00 A.M.-4:30 P.M.

Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ

8:00 a.m.

**Breakfast and Check-In** 

9:00 a.m.

**Welcome and Keynote Introduction** 

Matthew Campbell, Deputy Director, Native American Rights Fund

Chelsea Jones, Research Fellow, Brennan Center for Justice

9:10 a.m.

**Keynote Address** 

David Wilkins, E. Claiborne Roberts Distinguished Professor, University of Richmond

10:00 a.m.

Roundtable: State of Play of Native Voting Rights at the Federal Level

Exploring threats to the Voting Rights Act and prospects for strengthening it, the need to pass the Native American Voting Rights Act, and the efforts to build a grassroots movement in support of federal Native voting rights legislation.

**Patty Ferguson-Bohnee**, Charles M. Brewer Professor of Trial Advocacy, Arizona State University (facilitator)

Eileen O'Connor, Senior Counsel, Brennan Center for Justice

Jacqueline De León, Senior Staff Attorney, Native American Rights Fund

Judith LeBlanc, Executive Director, Native Organizers Alliance

11:10 a.m.

## Panel I: Ethical Data Analysis on Tribal Voting and Voters

Discussing how data can help advance Native voting rights, how gaps in research have limited the public understanding of Native political participation, and how researchers can work to address those gaps while protecting tribal sovereignty.

**Megan Gall**, Principal, Blockwell Consulting (facilitator)

Dan McCool, Professor Emeritus, University of Utah

**Melissa Rogers**, Professor, Claremont Graduate University

Gary Bohnee, Director of Congressional and Legislative Affairs, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

## 12:20 p.m.

## **Lunch served**

## 1:35 p.m.

## Panel II: Facing Current Threats and Expanding Rights in the States

Discussing ongoing policy threats to the Native vote, how civic engagement leaders navigate those threats, and how state and local policy and practice can increase access to voting for Native communities.

Allison Neswood, Senior Staff Attorney, Native American Rights Fund (facilitator)

Nicole Donaghy, Executive Director, North Dakota Native Vote

Zara Stevens, Director, Native Vote Washington

Gabriella Cázares-Kelly, Pima County Recorder

## 3:20 p.m.

## **Group Civic Engagement Strategizing**

An opportunity to engage with summit attendees, share ideas and reenvision the future of democracy and Native political participation.

#### 4:10 p.m.

## **Closing Remarks**

