

# NATIVE AMERICAN AND INDIGENOUS MUSLIM STORIES (NAIMS) PORTRAIT EXHIBITION GUIDE



DORIS DUKE  
FOUNDATION



**Native American and Indigenous Muslim Stories (NAIMS): Reclaiming the Narrative**, the first comprehensive study of its kind, is centered around spreading awareness of the lived experiences of Native American and Indigenous Muslims in the United States.

**Visions and Voices**, a publication of the NAIMS project, centers the lived experiences of Native American and Indigenous Muslims in the United States. ISPU researchers conducted 17 in-depth, semi-structured interviews with Native American Muslims over a period of six months. Interviews explored identity, ways to navigate multiple marginalized communities, and insights into participants' struggles, hopes, and dreams.

The following questions can guide a group discussion and also provide a framework for individual introspection. We recommend that participants take the time to go through the exhibit, looking at the portraits and reading the summary story for each one before engaging with the discussion questions. The full narratives are available by scanning the QR codes on the portraits.

1. What emotions do you feel after engaging with this exhibit?
2. Do the experiences of any individuals highlighted in the exhibit resonate with you? If so, which ones?
3. How do your personal background and experience influence your engagement with the exhibit?
4. Are there any symbols or objects in the portraits that you think hold particular significance to the individuals in the portraits?
5. Are there common themes or motifs that appear across multiple portraits in the exhibit?
6. Are you able to identify any continuities between the themes discussed in this exhibit and past events?
7. What do you think it means for the individuals highlighted in this exhibit to share their story with audiences?
8. Looking at the exhibit as a whole, what commonalities do the individuals highlighted in this exhibit express between Islam and their Native cultures?
9. How do the individuals highlighted in this exhibit draw inspiration from Islam and their Native cultures?
10. Are there any struggles the individuals highlighted in this exhibit mention that surprised you?
11. How can you build allyship around some of the

issues raised by the individuals in this exhibit?

12. How do these portraits challenge or reinforce societal norms and stereotypes?
13. What changes, if any, has the exhibit made to your perspective or perceptions? What was most surprising?

## Next steps:

- Share about the exhibit on your social media channels. Here's an example:
  - I just viewed @theISPU's Native American and Indigenous Muslim Stories exhibit and explored the connections between Muslim and Indigenous narratives. Take a look: [ISPU.org/NAIMS-visions-and-voices](https://ISPU.org/NAIMS-visions-and-voices)
- Native American and Indigenous Muslim Stories: Reclaiming the Narrative exists in two parts. Explore the thematic report, *Trends and Treasures*, by scanning the QR code or accessing this link: [ISPU.org/NAIMS-trends-and-treasures](https://ISPU.org/NAIMS-trends-and-treasures)
- Learn how you can bring the exhibit to other venues in your local community: [bit.ly/NAIMS-exhibit-interest](https://bit.ly/NAIMS-exhibit-interest)



Learn more about NAIMS

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