

THE SIMON ORTIZ AND LABRIOLA CENTER LECTURE ON INDIGENOUS LAND, CULTURE, AND COMMUNITY

Ofelia Zepeda

Legacies of the Tribal Languages of Arizona:
Gifts or Responsibilities?

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2012

Lecture 7:00 p.m. | Book signing 8:00 p.m.

Heard Museum, Steele Auditorium (2301 N Central Ave) | www.heard.org | Phoenix, Arizona

Lecture is free of charge and open to the public.



Photo/courtesy Ofelia Zepeda

BEING ABLE TO FULLY APPRECIATE the richness and uniqueness of languages is a good place to start when considering language efforts for the future.

—OFELIA ZEPEDA

Ofelia Zepeda is a Regents' Professor of Linguistics at the University of Arizona and recipient of the MacArthur Fellowship for her work in American Indian language education, maintenance, and recovery. She is a member of the Tohono O'odham Nation of southern Arizona, born and raised in Stanfield, Arizona.

Zepeda's work in linguistics includes the first pedagogical grammar of the Tohono O'odham language, *A Tohono O'odham Grammar*, as well as other topics on the O'odham language, Native American language shift, language endangerment, and documentation. In addition Zepeda is a poet with publications in both Tohono O'odham and English. She has three books

of poetry, *Ocean Power: Poems from the Desert*, *Jewed I-hoi/Earth Movements*, and *Where Clouds are Formed*. In 2009 she collaborated on a public arts project that included engraving of some of her poems on boulders north of the University of Arizona campus. Other public art includes work in *Passages* at South Mountain Community College Library in South Phoenix.

Zepeda is currently the director of the American Indian Language Development Institute (AILDI), one of the longest running Indigenous language training institutes in the country. She is also the series editor of *Sun Tracks*, a book series publishing Native American writers at the University of Arizona Press.

The Simon Ortiz and Labriola Center Lecture on Indigenous Land, Culture, and Community at Arizona State University brings notable scholars and speakers to Arizona for public lectures twice per year. These speakers address topics and issues across disciplines in the arts, humanities, sciences, and politics. Underscoring Indigenous American experiences and perspectives, this series seeks to create and celebrate knowledge that evolves from an inclusive Indigenous worldview and that is applicable to all walks of life.



Sponsored by Arizona State University's American Indian Policy Institute; American Indian Studies Program; Department of English; Faculty of History in the School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies; Women and Gender Studies in the School of Social Transformation (all units in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences); Indian Legal Program in the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law; and Labriola National American Indian Data Center; with tremendous support from the Heard Museum.