WINONA LADUKE
The Next Energy Economy
Monday, October 9, 7:30 PM
Street and Davis Performance Hall, Anne and Ellen Fife Theatre
JAVON JACKSON WITH NIKKI GIOVANNI AND NNENNA FREelon
The Gospel According to Nikki Giovanni
Fri., Nov. 3, 7:30 PM

The Nutcracker
Saturday, December 7
1:00 pm and 6:00 pm
tickets on sale beginning September 1

VOX LUMINIS
Thurs., Oct. 19,
7:30 PM
WINONA LADUKE

The Next Energy Economy:
Grassroots Strategies to
Mitigate Global Climate Change
and How We Move Ahead

This event marks the observance of Indigenous Peoples’ Day.

Co-sponsored by the Virginia Tech Office of Inclusion and Diversity
and Ati: Wa:oki Indigenous Community Center
WINONA LADUKE

Advocate for Indigenous economics, sustainable energy, and environmental justice

A Native American activist, Harvard-educated economist, and author, Winona LaDuke has devoted her life to advocating for Indigenous people’s rights, environmental justice, women’s and children’s rights, rural development, and economic, food, and energy sovereignty.

In 1985 LaDuke co-founded and co-chaired the Indigenous Women’s Network (IWN), a coalition dedicated to empowering women to take active roles in tribal politics and culture. In 1989 she founded the White Earth Land Recovery Project (WELRP), a reservation-based land acquisition, environmental advocacy, and cultural organization and one of the largest reservation-based nonprofits in the country. She is a former board member of Greenpeace USA. In 1993 she collaborated with the Indigo Girls to co-found Honor the Earth, an advocacy group working on behalf of Native environmental groups.
In 1994 LaDuke was nominated by *Time Magazine* as one of America’s 50 most promising leaders under the age of 40. She was awarded the Thomas Merton Award in 1996, the Biha Community Service Award in 1997, the Ann Bancroft Award for Women’s Leadership Fellowship, and the Reebok Human Rights Award, which she used to begin the White Earth Land Recovery Project. LaDuke was a two-time Green Party running mate for Ralph Nader in 1996 and 2000, and she is an international thought leader and lecturer in climate justice, renewable energy, and environmental justice, plus an advocate for protecting Indigenous plants and heritage foods from patenting and genetic engineering.

In 1998 *Ms. Magazine* named her one of their Women of the Year. In 2021 LaDuke was named to the first *Forbes* list of “50 Over 50 Women of Impact” in partnership with Mika Brzezinski’s “Know Your Value,” a program dedicated to shining a light on women over the age of 50 who have achieved significant success later in life, often overcoming formidable odds or barriers. She was a leader at the 2016 Dakota Access Pipeline protests that sought to protect water access and sacred Indigenous lands in North Dakota, and her work inspired the 2017 documentary *First Daughter and the Black Snake*. In 2017 LaDuke also won the University of California’s Alice and Clifford Spendlove Prize in Social Justice, Diplomacy, and Tolerance.

LaDuke has published six acclaimed nonfiction titles, including *The Militarization of Indian Country; Recovering the Sacred: The Power of Naming and Claiming; All Our Relations: Native Struggles for Land and Life; The Winona LaDuke Chronicles: Stories from the Front Lines in the Battle for Environmental Justice; The Winona LaDuke Reader: A Collection of Essential Writings*; and most recently, *To Be a Water Protector: Rise of the Wiindigoo Slayers* — a book that deals with her activism battling Line 3, an Enbridge tar sands oil pipeline in northern Minnesota. She is also the author of one novel, *Last Standing Woman*. 
Today, LaDuke lives and works on the White Earth reservation in northern Minnesota, and she is active with multiple organizations, including the Anishinaabe Agriculture Institute, Akiing. Her latest effort is Winona’s Hemp and Heritage, a farm and nonprofit agency whose mission is to create an Indigenous women-led economy that is kind to the Earth.

This is the first appearance by LaDuke at the Moss Arts Center.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

We’d love your feedback on this performance. If you complete the short survey, you can enter for a chance to win two tickets to Vox Luminis on Thursday, October 19, 2023. bit.ly/laduke-feedback
What are some of the ideas that Winona LaDuke advocates for to create what she terms the “next energy economy?” What could we commit to locally to manifest those ideas?

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2023
UNIVERSITY CLASS VISIT:
INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES

Winona LaDuke spoke with undergraduate students about her multi-decade work as an activist and advocate for the environment and Native communities.

DISCUSSION AT ATI: WA:OKI INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY CENTER

Native and Indigenous students, faculty, and staff gathered for a meal and informal discussion with Winona LaDuke about her role in the broader movements for Native rights and ecological conservation.

Special thanks to Ati: Wa:oki Indigenous Community Center, Virginia Tech Office of Inclusion and Diversity, Michelle Carter, Sam Cook, Michele Deramo, Melissa Faircloth, Vicky Ferguson, Menah Pratt
When you support the Moss Arts Center, you’re supporting the future of the arts in Southwest Virginia.

Help us continue to bring unforgettable arts experiences to people of all ages. A gift of any size makes a big impact.

Learn more about how you can support the Moss Arts Center at artscenter.vt.edu/support or contact Paul Brammer at pbrammer@vt.edu.

GIVE NOW
bit.ly/support-the-moss
IN THE GALLERIES

THROUGH SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

**william cordova**

*can't stop, won't stop: tenets of southern alchemy*

Ruth C. Horton Gallery

William Cordova examines the visual aspects of transition and displacement, studying the evolution and adaptation of objects and perception across time and space. Constructing artworks composed of reclaimed elements, paint, gold leaf, and collage, Cordova presents encoded representations of social systems and the material histories of objects and images.

**Laurie Steelink**

*Spirit Is Alive, Magic Is Afoot*

Miles C. Horton Jr. Gallery and Sherwood Payne Quillen ’71 Reception Gallery

Multidisciplinary artist Laurie Steelink is a citizen of the Akimel O’otham Nation and a member of the Gila River Indian Community. Exploring connections to her Native American roots, Steelink creates assemblages of found objects and reassembled paintings to question authenticity and consider spirituality. Using her creativity to reconnect with and to reference her ancestors, culture, and community, Steelink defines her work as an expression of her personal identities.
K-12 PROGRAMS AT THE MOSS ARTS CENTER

At the Moss Arts Center, we believe that arts experiences are a crucial part of a child’s education. We’ve been dedicated to providing opportunities for children at no cost since we opened in 2013. A wide array of Moss programming and experiences to inspire, engage, and empower students of all ages and backgrounds. This season, we’re offering five school-day matinee programs, in-school workshops and performances, and gallery tours with professional artists for learners of all ages.

Learn more at bit.ly/moss-K12.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Moss Arts Center has received the U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification. LEED-certified buildings save money, improve
efficiency, lower carbon emissions, and create healthier places for people. They are a critical part of addressing climate change, enhancing resilience, and supporting more equitable communities.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Virginia Tech acknowledges that we live and work on the Tutelo/Monacan People’s homeland and we recognize their continued relationships with their lands and waterways. We further acknowledge that legislation and practices like the Morrill Act (1862) enabled the commonwealth of Virginia to finance and found Virginia Tech through the forced removal of Native Nations from their lands, both locally and in western territories.

We understand that honoring Native Peoples without explicit material commitments falls short of our institutional responsibilities. Through sustained, transparent, and meaningful engagement with the Tutelo/ Monacan Peoples and other Native Nations, we commit to changing the trajectory of Virginia Tech’s history by increasing Indigenous student, staff, and faculty recruitment and retention, diversifying course offerings, and meeting the growing needs of all Virginia tribes and supporting their sovereignty.

We must also recognize that enslaved Black people generated revenue and resources used to establish Virginia Tech and were prohibited from attending until 1953. Through InclusiveVT, the institutional and individual commitment to Ut Prosim (That I May Serve) in the spirit of community, diversity, and excellence, we commit to advancing a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive community.
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• The first female students developed a sense of community and belonging at the Y.
• Lucy Lee Lancaster was in the 1st 5 female graduates and was a champion of the Y.
• She later donated her house to the Y, where our offices are located at 403 Washington St.

A few key moments in the YMCA at Virginia Tech History
• 1873 The YMCA forms at VT, focusing on religious and extracurricular activities for students
• 1892 71 out of 177 students of Virginia Tech are members of the YMCA
• 1893 YMCA publishes the first Student Handbook for Virginia Tech
• 1899 The cornerstone for the YMCA building, the first "Hokie Stone" building, is laid
• 1902 The YMCA building opens its doors and serves as the first Student Center at Virginia Tech

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