

# Suzan Shown Harjo

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## Who Is She?

Suzan Shown Harjo is a poet, writer, lecturer, advocate, and more. Harjo is Cheyenne and Muscogee and is currently the president and executive director of the Morning Star Institute, a non-profit American Indian rights organization.

Harjo has been incredibly busy throughout her life with *many* advocacy efforts:

- Since the 1960s, Harjo has been advocating for schools, colleges, and professional teams to get rid of Native names and mascots.
- In 1967, Harjo advocated for sacred garments at the Museum of the American Indian in New York to be returned to their rightful tribes and helped change policies surrounding Native artifacts.
- In the '70s, she served as legislative liaison for law firms that fought for American Indian rights.
- In 1978, she was appointed as a congressional liaison for Indian Affairs.

## Fast Facts

- Harjo co-produced the first American Indian news program in the United States, "Seeing Red."
- In 2014, Harjo received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, which is the United States' highest civilian honor.

## References

Pratt, S. (2019, March 28). 10 native women you should have learned about in history class. HelloGiggles. Retrieved February 28, 2022, from <https://hellogiggles.com/lifestyle/native-women-learned-history-class/>

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