

Land Acknowledgment Overview and Guidelines

The attached Land Acknowledgment is the result of an intentional year-long process grounded in Indigenous sovereignty, relational accountability, and respect for the Gabrielino people as the original stewards of the land on which Mt. SAC stands. This Land Acknowledgment has been formally approved by our local Gabrielino Tribe, ensuring cultural accuracy, consent, and accountability to the community whose land the campus occupies.

This collaborative process intentionally centered Indigenous leadership, faculty partnership, and student perspectives to reflect a model of shared responsibility. Intentional action was implemented through relational accountability for how Indigenous presence and ongoing stewardship are named and honored.

The creation of this Land Acknowledgment was developed in relationship with the following contributors and representatives:

- **Primavera Reza-Nakonechny, Ed.D.** representing the First Peoples Native Center at Mt. SAC
- **Jamie Rocha**, Gabrielino Secretary of Press, representing the Gabrielino Tribe
- **Frances Borella, Ph.D.** representing Mt. SAC faculty
- **NAISA (Native American and Inter-tribal Student Alliance)**, representing the student voice

Guidance for Institutional Use

Two approved versions of the Land Acknowledgement are attached with guidelines listed below for respectful implementation of a Formal Version and an Abbreviated Version. These guidelines were intentionally created to support consistency and respect while avoiding overuse or dilution of the Land Acknowledgement.

Official Formal Version

- Recited at the beginning of formal events and major institutional gatherings (i.e. Commencement, Board Meetings, Flex Day, Conferences, major campus events ...)
- Used at the start of a series of meetings or sessions to establish tone and accountability
- Utilized for important events and professional development sessions (i.e. End of the Year Celebrations, New Employee Orientation, Employee Professional Development, ...)
- Included on department webpages and online presence
- Used in formal communications to the wider campus and external community

Abbreviated Version

- Recited during subsequent meetings within a series after the longer version has been stated
- Used for informal or routine meetings and gatherings (i.e. committee meetings, departmental meetings,)
- Included in emails, pamphlets, and brief written communications

Instructional Use

- Either version may be included in course syllabi
- Faculty are encouraged, when appropriate, to contextualize the Land Acknowledgement within course content

Respectfully,

Primavera Reza-Nakonechny, Ed.D.
Special Project Manager, First Peoples Native Center
Mt. San Antonio College

MT. SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mt. San Antonio College acknowledges and recognizes that the land in which we occupy is the unceded ancestral territory of the Gabrielino-Shoshone, Gabrielino-Tongva, and Gabrielino-Kizh nations, the Indigenous peoples of this region since time immemorial. Mt. San Antonio College is located near the Gabrielino village of **Pemookangna**, known today as the city of Walnut.

We recognize the Gabrielino people have suffered an immense loss of their people, culture, lands, water, and other natural resources due to the theft, murder, kidnapping, and enslavement. These injustices started with colonization, and most Indigenous people consider colonization a current and ongoing process.

Despite the atrocities and injustices committed against the original caretakers of this land, the Gabrielino remain to be a thriving community and continue to practice their traditions, heritage, sovereignty, self-determination, and spiritual relationship to their land. The nations that make up the Gabrielino community continue to work to protect their sacred ways and homelands for future generations. Their descendants are a testament to the resilience and strength of the indigenous peoples that call this land their ancestral home.

The Gabrielino view this land as a source of healing, nourishment, and protection. As students, faculty, staff, and alumni of Mt. San Antonio College, we honor the Gabrielino people by acknowledging their legacy and current lived experiences.

We recognize this land acknowledgement as an opportunity for Mt. SAC to advocate for Indigenous students through support of the First Peoples Native Center and continued learning and shared knowledge for Native American and Indigenous peoples.

- Mt. San Antonio College First Peoples Native Center, <https://www.mtsac.edu/fpnc/> | fpnc@mtsac.edu
- Jamie Rocha, [Gabrielino-Shoshone Nation of Southern California](https://www.gabrielino-shoshone.org/) | jrocha@gabrielinoshoshone.org

Updated June 2025

MT. SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE ABBREVIATED LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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