

Substance of Stars Talking Points

Substance of Stars tells of the links to land and sky for four Indigenous groups talking about place and creation.

The groups are:

- Haudenosaunee: The Six Nations Confederacy, also known as the Iroquois Confederacy of the northeast United States. This includes the Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, Seneca and Tuscarora.
- Yup'ik and Central Arctic people of Alaska
- Diné or Navajo of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah
- O'odham of the Sonoran Desert

In the exhibition are narratives of creation told by knowledgeable advisors and culture keepers who are speaking for themselves.

Substance of Stars begins with the Sky Dome, 8 minute immersive experience created by Indigenous filmmakers. Without narration, the sounds of nature are in the foreground. The experience sets the stage for the stories that follow.

When you leave the Sky Dome, be sure to go to the second level of the exhibition where you will see art that references the artists' creation stories.

- If people have come from HOME, you could mention the mixture of historic pieces and contemporary art as living artists continue to be inspired by the stories. Also, as in HOME, poetry is included to enrich the experience.
- You could mention for people who would like to learn more we have a beautiful catalog available in Books and More.
- While Brenda Mallory's exhibition is up you can also make a link to her reference to the North Star.