

# INDIGENOUS INNOVATIONS SHOWCASE



## ROSWELL PARK CANCER CENTER FOR INDIGENOUS CANCER RESEARCH

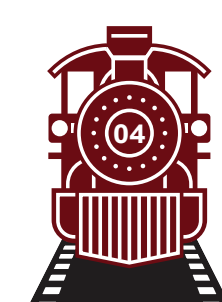


The Center for Indigenous Cancer Research, or CICR, is a part of the Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center. This subdivision focuses on cancer prevention and screenings, clinical trials, and Indigenous cancer research locally and around the world. With only 0.1% of clinical trials including Native Americans, CICR seeks to provide better representation and understanding of cancer in Indigenous people while honoring cultural values. Scan the QR code to learn more about their efforts and research.

Find out more about the  
Roswell Park Cancer Center for  
Indigenous Cancer Research:



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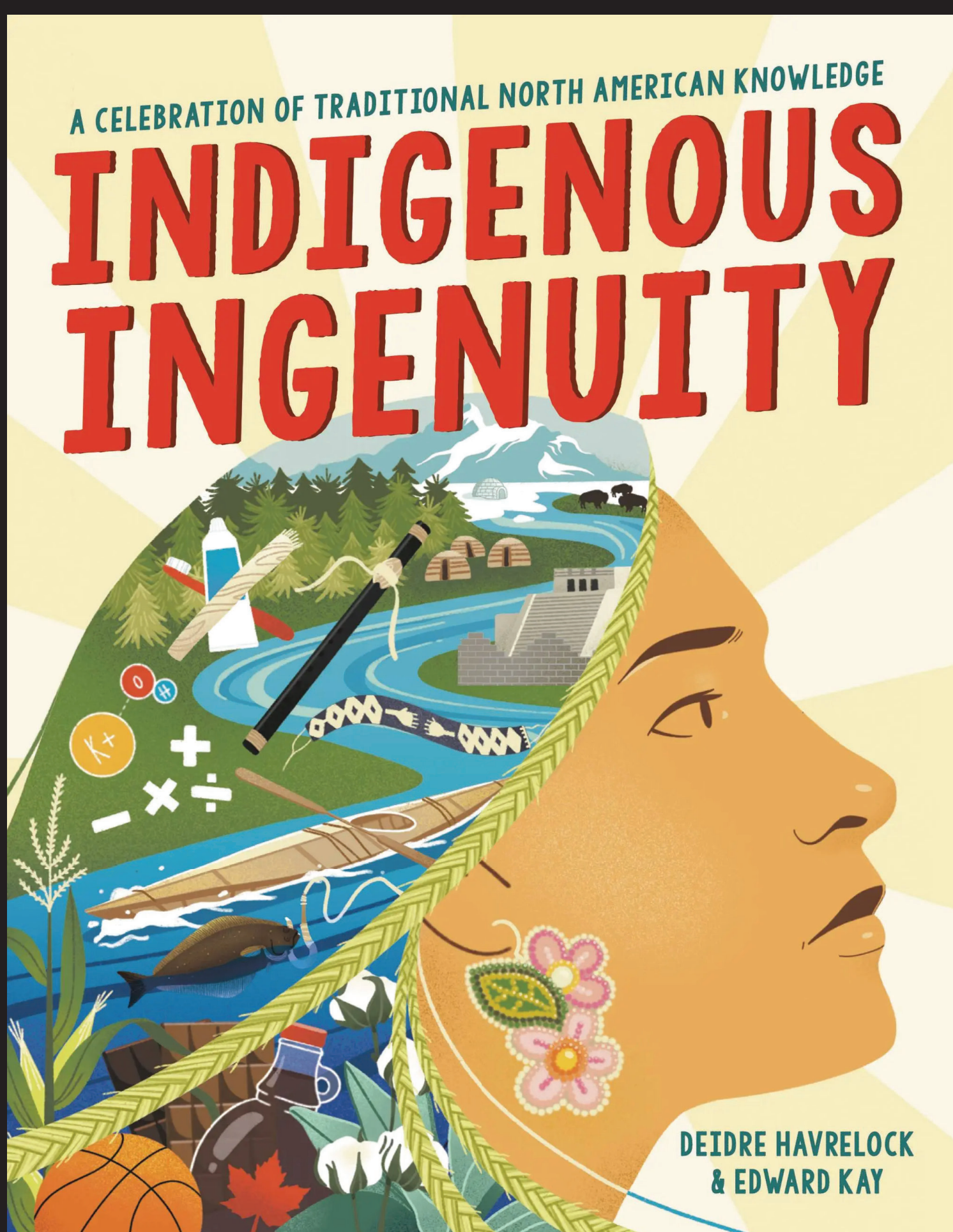


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# INDIGENOUS INNOVATIONS SHOWCASE



## INDIGENOUS INGENUITY: A CELEBRATION OF TRADITIONAL NORTH AMERICAN KNOWLEDGE



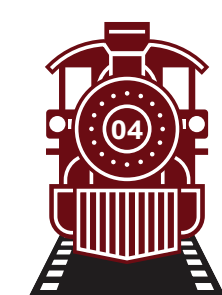
*Indigenous Ingenuity: A Celebration of Traditional North American Knowledge* is an interactive, nonfiction book about North American Indigenous innovations.

Recommended for ages 8-12, but suitable for older ages as well, this book combines history with activities and experiments that work to further our understanding of the inventors' thought processes. Enjoy hands-on STEM through the lens of North American Indigenous people in history!

Find out more about  
the book here:



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## DR. MARY JO ONDRECHEN

MOHAWK NATION, HAUDENOSAUNEE CONFEDERACY: TURTLE CLAN  
CHEMIST & CHEMICAL BIOLOGIST



JANUARY 1953 -

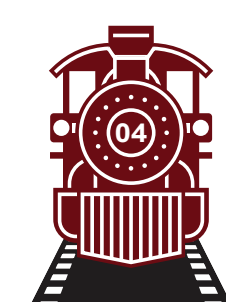
Growing up, Dr. Mary Jo Ondrechen had very supportive parents who always reminded her that she could do anything if she worked hard enough. When her mother noticed her strong interest in science, she took her to a weekend course that covered everything from animals to rocks. While this experience was an excellent catalyst for her career in science, she also believes that her culture sets people up for success in STEM fields; the strong connection with nature and its systems provided a foundation for her interest in the sciences.

Dr. Ondrechen is now a professor of chemistry and chemical biology at Northeastern University in Boston, where she enjoys the balance between teaching and researching. Her research focuses on enzyme processes, and also works on the computational side of drug discoveries, such as ones that could target the virus that causes Covid-19. She leads research groups for students, is an active member of both the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) and American Chemical Society (ACS), and supports organizations that promote inclusion and diversity in STEM education and research. Unsurprisingly, she is also an advocate for the environment.

Find out more about  
Dr. Mary Jo Ondrechen here:



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## DR. SUSAN LA FLESCHE PICOTTE

OMAHA TRIBE  
PHYSICIAN



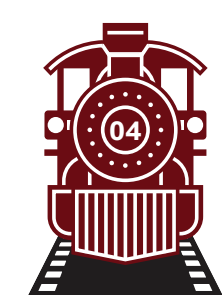
1865-1915

Born in 1865, Dr. Susan Picotte grew up in turbulent times for both the Omaha Tribe and the United States. Her father, who was the chief of their tribe, encouraged her to seek an education outside their reservation and sent her to schools to learn English and further her education. This encouragement, as well as a childhood memory of an elderly tribe member passing away because of discrimination, led to her decision to go to medical school. This was something that had never been done by a Native American woman, and was still heavily discouraged for white women. While facing these challenges, she graduated from the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania a year early and at the top of her class.

Despite being unable to legally vote and not being considered a United States citizen, Dr. Picotte became the sole doctor of the Omaha reservation, stretching more than 400 square miles and serving more than 1,300 people. Day or night, Dr. Picotte would travel for hours on foot, horseback, or later by buggy just to reach her patients.

Dr. Picotte spent the rest of her life caring for the Omaha tribe. She made efforts to help many of her people overcome everything from illnesses to domestic troubles, and fulfilled her dream of building the first hospital on their reservation before passing away in 1915.

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