



Women's and Gender Studies

Photograph by acclaimed Crow Nation artist Wendy Red Star

Nov/Dec

Editor: Gabriela Puyo Muñoz

The last issue of the year will combine November and December. November is recognized as Native American Heritage Month. In addition to the celebration of Native American culture, we discuss the difference between cultural appropriation and cultural appreciation. Given Election Day is held in November, Georgia voter demographics are compared in 2018 and 2022. The month of December recognizes HIV/AIDS Awareness. We provide informational sources about HIV/AIDS and the benefits of testing. Lastly, a list of movie, TV-series, book, and podcast recommendations are provided.

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Native American Heritage Month



Native American Heritage Month gives the opportunity for people who do not identify with the community to learn about Native American culture. During the month of November, Powwows and festivals are held to celebrate the vivid culture through dances, traditional garments, and music. It is important to respect the customs and apparel of any culture to prevent cultural appropriation and practice cultural appreciation.



**Cultural
Appropriation**

vs.

**Cultural
Appreciation**

Cultural appropriation of a racial or ethnic group perpetuates misconceptions, injustice, racism, and disrespect to the culture's origin and heritage. For these reasons, it's important to understand the difference between cultural appropriation and appreciation.

Cultural appropriation is “taking one aspect of a culture that is not their own, such as culturally distinct items, aesthetics, or spiritual practices, and mimics it — without consent, permission, or any cultural context or relationship to that item or practice — solely for personal interest, make money, gain popularity, or because they like the way it looks.”



[NPR article on Cultural Appropriation](#)

Cultural appreciation is “appreciating another culture in an effort to broaden their perspective and connect with others cross-culturally.”

Native American Heritage Month

More on Cultural Appreciation



Filmmaker, Keeley Gould, captures contemporary Native American culture at the 31st annual Gathering of Nations in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Over 700 tribes attend this three-day cultural heritage celebration.

For more information, read the video description on [YouTube](#).

The Gathering of Nations Powwow is the largest North American Powwow. The 2022 celebration was April 28, 29 & 30th. Tribes from all regions of the United States and tribes from Canada participated.

For more information, read the video description on [YouTube](#).



HIV/AIDS Awareness Month

The 2022 theme: “Putting Ourselves to the Test: Achieving Equity to End HIV”

December 1st is World's AIDS Day

- [HIV.gov](https://www.hiv.gov) describes the day to encourage “people to unite globally to eliminate the disparities and inequities that create barriers to HIV testing, prevention, and access to HIV care.”
- The mission of HIV programs and organizations like Veteran’s Affairs is to spread awareness and expand resources for HIV treatment.
- The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs leads the country in HIV care and services in the United States.

What is HIV and what are the stages?

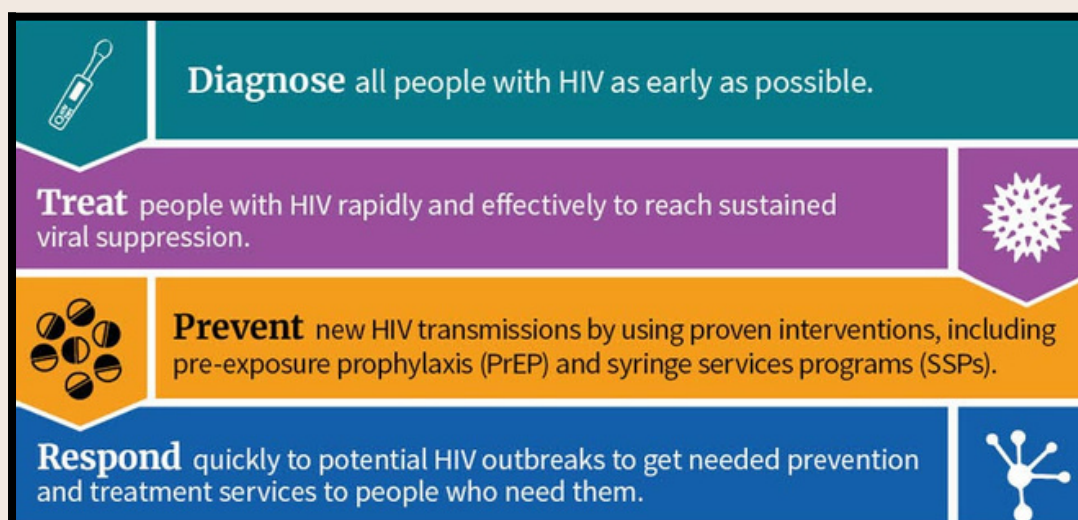
HIV or Human Immunodeficiency Virus attacks the body’s immune system. When not treated within its early stages, HIV becomes AIDS.

There are three stages to HIV: Acute HIV Infection, Chronic HIV Infection, and Acquired Immunodeficiency Disorder (AIDS).

Why is testing important?

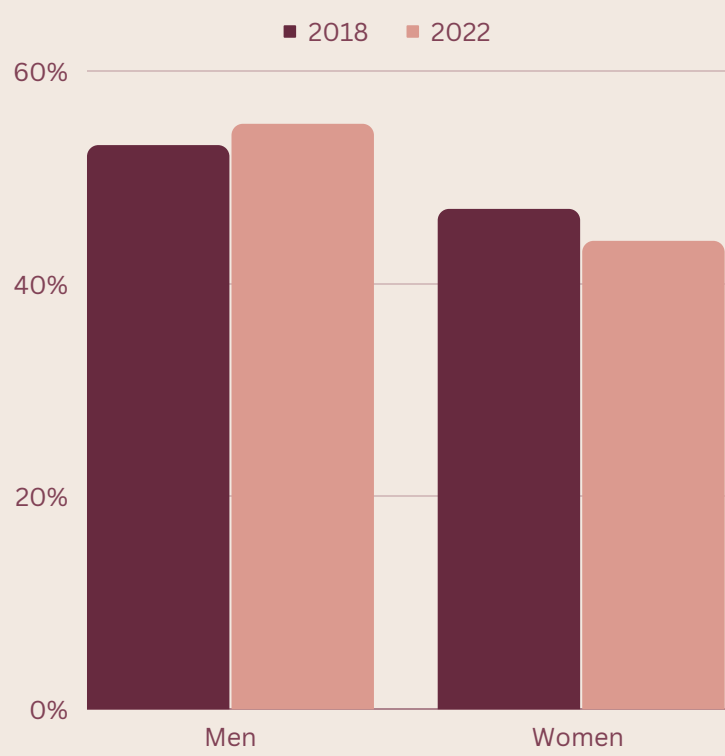
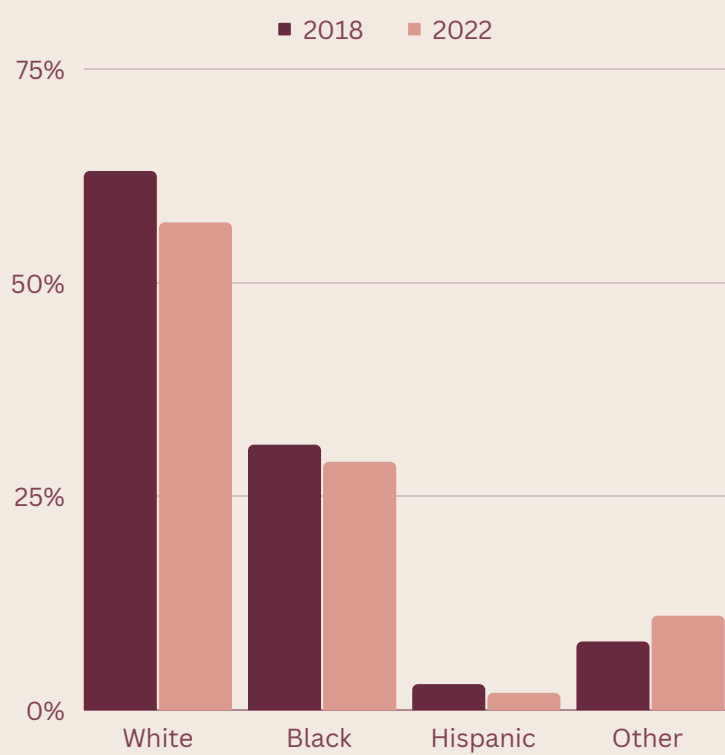
Testing allows for the detection of HIV in earlier stages to then prevent its spread through treatment.

The *Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S.* initiative aims to reduce HIV infection by 75% by 2025 using the **Diagnose, Treat, Prevent, and Respond** strategy.



Georgia Midterm Voter Demographics

by Chloe Vereen



Race	2018	2022
White	63%	57%
Black	31%	29%
Hispanic	3%	2%
Other	4%	11%

Gender	2018	2022
Men	47%	44%
Women	53%	55%

The 2022 midterm elections had historical numbers for new voters and Gen Z voters, yet the demographics show a decrease in diversity from 2018. The number of black voters decreased by 3% and Hispanic voters by 1%. The "Others" category for 2022 was combined with Asian voters and others due to the lack of data in the 2018 election on Asian voters. There was an increase of Women voters by 2%.

Work Cited:
[New York Times article- 2018 Georgia Voter Poll Results](#)
[Georgia Votes](#)



Movies, books, and podcasts

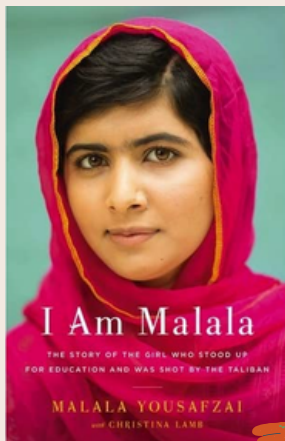
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Nonfiction Books:



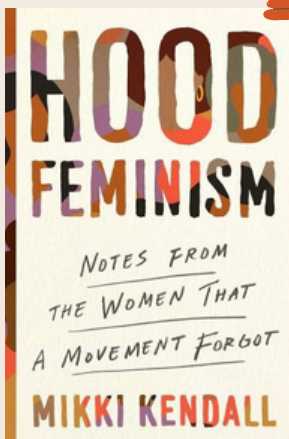
Becoming by Michelle Obama; Memoir

In this memoir by our former first lady, Michelle Obama talks about how she made it to the White House and the moments that lead her there from childhood to adulthood. She talks about what it was like to be raised as a black girl in Chicago along with what it was like as the first black first lady of the United States of America. This book has a lot of the wit and charm we have come to love from her.



I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban by Malala Yousafzai; Biography

On the way to school on October 9, 2012, Malala Yousafzai thought she was about to go and have a normal day at school. That was until a member of the Taliban invaded her bus and shot her in the head. This book is a riveting story about how one girl survived and decided to change the world by fighting for women's education.



Hood Feminism by Mikki Kendall; Nonfiction

In this five-star book, Mikki Kendall dives into the intersectionality of feminism. Here she argues that while many feminist issues are often forgotten such as quality education, food insecurity, and living wages the accessibility of these issues has become harder. She points out the complexity of intersectionality and how it can lead to the oppression of others.

Movies, books, and podcasts

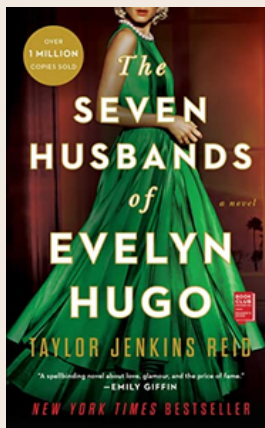
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Fiction Books:



The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett; fiction

New York Times bestseller, *The Vanishing Half*, explores the story of two identical twin sisters whose paths diverge after childhood. One sister lives her life in her hometown with her black daughter, while the other sister passes as white with no knowledge of her family history. She is married to a white man and has a white daughter. Will the next generation change the family history? Find out in this captivating story by Brit Bennett



The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo by Taylor Jenkins Reid; fiction

This viral book by Taylor Jenkin Reid tells the story of a Latina woman that made her dreams of fame come true no matter what it took. She is now ready to tell the world what it took to achieve this dream and what she had to give up on her way to making it to stardom.

Podcasts:

Archetypes by Meghan Markle



A podcast hosted by Meghan Markle talks about the different labels that prevent women from their goals.

Womanica by Wonder Media Network



This daily 5-minute podcast gives you a quick yet informative glance into a historical woman's life that was left out of history.

Movies, books, and podcasts

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Documentaries:



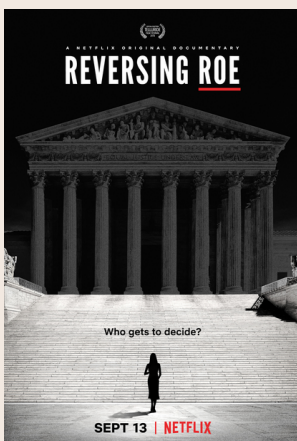
Becoming: A documentary, 2021

As a companion to her book, *Becoming*, this Netflix original is a visual look into this former first lady's life.



Feminist, What were they Thinking?, 2018

In this visual guide to the women's movements, women from different backgrounds gather to share their stories of how the Women's Movements impacted them.



Reversing Roe, 2018

This documentary on Roe v Wade shows the different points of view on this controversial law through interviews and historical documents.

