

Ramaytush Ohlone Statement of Support for Alcatraz Canoe Journey

Canoes will circle Alcatraz Island starting at dawn on Indigenous Peoples' Day to commemorate and carry forward the legacy of the Alcatraz Occupation in an era of climate crisis.

**Monday, October 14,
6 AM – 1 PM
San Francisco Aquatic Park**

Ramaytush Ohlone Territory (San Francisco, California) - On Indigenous Peoples' Day (Monday, October 14) canoes representing communities from up and down the West Coast and beyond will take to the waters of San Francisco Bay and circle Alcatraz Island to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the 1969 occupation. Jonathan Cordero, Chairperson of the Ramaytush Ohlone, gave the following statement of support.

“San Francisco is in the ancestral homeland of my people, the Ramaytush Ohlone. Our history—and indeed our current presence—is little known or understood in our own homeland.”

“Alcatraz Canoe Journey honors the 50th anniversary of the Occupation of Alcatraz and will make plain to the residents of San Francisco that we are still here, and these lands and waters must be preserved and protected for future generations.”

“I have been proud to support this event from the early days of its inception and am excited to see the good that comes out of it for Indigenous peoples everywhere.”

The Alcatraz Canoe Journey committee thanks Chairperson Cordero for his support and looks forward to welcoming Indigenous peoples of all nations to Ramaytush Ohlone territory in San Francisco, California.

***Alcatraz Canoe Journey* is scheduled to launch at 6 a.m. from Aquatic Park in San Francisco.** Cultural protocol will begin at 7 a.m. and conclude at 1 p.m. This event is free, open to the public and inclusive. All are welcome to attend.

In addition to the first-ever paddle around Alcatraz, the *Alcatraz Canoe Journey* will co-host *Alcatraz: An Unfinished Occupation* speaker series and *Alcatraz is Not an Island*, a special issue of SF MOMA's *Open Space* magazine focused on the 50th anniversary of the occupation. The speaker series, co-hosted by California Historical Society, Exploratorium, Natural History Museum, Presidio, SF MOMA and SF Public Library will be moderated by Julian Brave NoiseCat.

Alongside occupation veteran Dr. Lanada War Jack, NoiseCat will also guest edit, *Alcatraz is Not an Island*.

Links:

<https://www.canoejourney2019.com/>

<https://www.canoejourney2019.com/talks>

[https://openspace.sfmoma.org/2019/09/save the dates/](https://openspace.sfmoma.org/2019/09/save_the_dates/)

<https://www.instagram.com/alcatrazcanoe19/>

<https://twitter.com/alcatrazcanoe19>

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