



BAR  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Date: September 24, 2025**

**Presenting: *In the Roundhouse: A Celebration of Indigenous Culture & Community***

**Belmont, MA** — In celebration and observance of Indigenous Peoples' Day, **Belmont Against Racism (BAR)** and **The Opening Doors Project**, in collaboration with the Belmont Public Schools Department of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Well-Being (**DEIW**), are proud to present *In the Roundhouse: A Celebration of Indigenous Culture & Community*—a free community concert and conversation honoring Indigenous voices and traditions.

This special event will take place on **Monday, October 13, 2025, at 7 PM** in the **Black Box Theater** at **Belmont High School** (221 Concord Ave, Belmont, MA 02478).

*In the Roundhouse* will feature a unique musical conversation with two Indigenous voices: **Thea Hopkins**, singer-songwriter and member of the Aquinnah Wampanoag Tribe, and **Linda Coombs**, historian, author, and also a member of the Aquinnah Wampanoag Tribe. This event promises an enriching evening of music, storytelling, and dialogue about the experiences and cultural heritage of Indigenous communities today.

### Event Highlights

**Thea Hopkins** is a singer-songwriter acclaimed for her unique "Red Roots Americana" style. Described by *The Washington Post* as a "standout writer," Thea has earned widespread recognition for her emotionally resonant music. Her powerful song "The Ghost of Emmett Till" won the Grand Prize at the Great American Song Contest in 2021. A seasoned performer, she has graced prestigious stages such as globalFEST at Lincoln Center and the Kennedy Center. Thea's evocative voice and poignant storytelling continue to captivate audiences and solidify her place as one of today's most respected artists.

**Linda Coombs** is a historian and the author of *Colonization and the Wampanoag Story* (Penguin Random House, 2023). With decades of experience, Linda is a leading expert on Wampanoag history and culture. Her work at Plimoth Plantation's Indigenous Program has played a pivotal role in educating the public and preserving the rich heritage of the Wampanoag people. As a respected voice in the field, Linda brings invaluable perspectives on both the historical and contemporary experiences of the Wampanoag Nation.

The evening will feature a combination of traditional and contemporary Indigenous music, including Thea's original compositions and timeless tribal artistry. Following the musical performance, Thea, Linda, and host **Alastair Mooock** will engage in a conversation with the audience, reflecting on the role of Indigenous artists and their influence in the 21st century.



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This event is made possible by the generous support of the Mass Cultural Council, Belmont Public Schools – Department of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Well-Being, Somebody Else's Child Foundation, and Filmmakers Collaborative.

**Admission is FREE** and open to all members of the community. We invite everyone to join us for an evening of reflection, celebration, and meaningful engagement with Indigenous culture and history.

#### **Event Details**

- **Date:** Monday, October 13, 2025
- **Time:** 7 PM
- **Location:** Black Box Theater, Belmont High School (221 Concord Ave, Belmont, MA 02478)

#### **About Belmont Against Racism**

Founded in May 1992, Belmont Against Racism (BAR) is a community-action, all-volunteer nonprofit organization that addresses issues of racism and bigotry under the slogan: *Think globally. Act locally!* Its mission is to foster dialogue, awareness, and understanding of institutional racism; to address the problems of injustice, however manifested; and to promote equity and inclusion. BAR is dedicated to supporting efforts, organizations, and individuals that raise awareness, create positive change, and build a stronger, more inclusive community.

#### **About The Opening Doors Project**

The Opening Doors Project is a nonprofit organization focused on creating space for dialogue, education, and cultural exchange between diverse communities. Through its events and programs, it strives to bring communities together to share stories, music, and art that foster understanding and connection.

#### **Press Inquiries**

For press inquiries, please contact:

##### **Belmont Against Racism (BAR)**

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