



NATIONAL
ART EDUCATION
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Platform: Relationships

Position Statement Regarding the Use of American Indian, Alaskan Native, and Native Hawaiian Mascots in Educational Settings [Adopted April 2010; Reviewed March 2013; Reviewed March 2016; Reviewed and Revised February 2021]

NAEA considers Native Mascots in educational institutions to be representations that can be seen as derogatory. Visual art educators are encouraged to support their communities in addressing how such images impact all lives. Native Mascots offer teachable moments for art classrooms; opportunities to explore the complex and problematic ways that Native Mascots and similar visual representations convey information about people, communities, cultures, and civilizations. Visual art educators working in non-Native American schools with Native Mascots are encouraged to ask their school to consult with and be informed by Native American Tribal Councils, and to participate in identifying images to represent their school and communities.

(Note: This Position Statements was formerly entitled “Position Statement Regarding the Use of Race-Based Mascots in Educational Settings.”)

Resource Document: The Committee that prepared this Position Statement has also developed a resource document that is available for download by clicking [here](#).