## TEACHING THANKSGIVING

## Citation & Desciption of Used Pictures

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In the elementary-school curriculum, the holiday traditionally meant a pageant, with students in construction-paper headdresses and Pilgrim hats reenacting the original celebration. If today's teachers aim for less pageantry and a slightly more complicated history, many students still complete an American education unsure about the place of Native people in the nation's past — or in its present.

- Philip J. Deloria | historian, author, member of the Dakota Nation

Fig. 1: Quote from the New Yorker article "The Invention of Thanksgiving" (Deloria) on a transparent white box placed on a photograph of a blue and white textured wall (Czerwinski).

This November, most Americans will sit down with their families and eat a Thanksgiving meal. Some still will be recovering from the night before, [...] [o]thers will have their children tell the story about the Indians and the Pilgrims. And plenty of people will feel genuine gratitude. Most won't think about the history of the meal before, during or after digesting their turkey.

- Tommy Orange | author, member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma

Fig. 2: Quote from the LA Times article "Op-Ed: Thanksgiving Is a Tradition. It's also a Lie" (Orange) on a transparent white box placed on a photograph of a blue and white textured wall (Czerwinski).

When teaching about Thanksgiving, it is important not to misrepresent Native American cultures. Native traditions have developed over thousands of years and are distinct and complex. They are also specific to each individual tribe. Projects and crafts that attempt to adapt or copy Native traditions tend to perpetuate stereotypes of Native Americans.

- Native Knowledge 360° Education Initiative

Fig. 3: Quote from the Native Knowledge 360° Education Initiative of the NMAI ("Rethinking Thanksgiving Celebrations: Native Perspectives on Thanksgiving") on a transparent white box placed on a photograph of a blue and white textured wall (Czerwinski).



Fig. 4: The first Thanksgiving 1621. Painting by Jean Leon Gerome Ferris. Oil on canvas, 1912-1915. Private Collection (Ferris).

## Description:

The oil painting "The first Thanksgiving 1621" by Jean Leon Gerome Ferris shows Native and English people gathering or feasting. The majority of the English is standing while the Natives are sitting on the ground. A woman is offering food to a Native person. On the left, a group of people is having a conversation. On the right, people are standing around a table with dishes.



Fig. 5: Photograph of a turkey (Marzzarella) double-exposed with a photograph of a blue and white textured wall (Czerwinski).



Fig. 6: Photograph of the Union Jack (Marzzarella) double-exposed with a photograph of a blue and white textured wall (Czerwinski).



Fig. 7: Photograph of front edges of old books (Wachs) double-exposed with a photograph of a blue and white textured wall (Czerwinski).

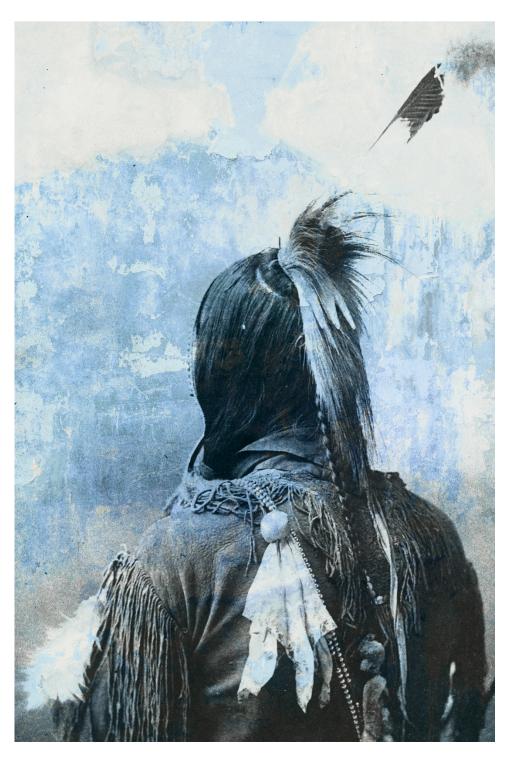


Fig. 8: Photograph of a Native American from behind (Boston Public Library) double-exposed with a photograph of a blue and white textured wall (Czerwinski).



Fig. 9: Photograph of a Feather (Krutova) double-exposed with a photograph of a blue and white textured wall (Czerwinski).



Fig. 10: Photograph of Corn in a Basket (Meritt) double-exposed with a photograph of a blue and white textured wall (Czerwinski).



Fig. 11: Photograph of a Mural on Alcatraz Island (Quentinec) double-exposed with a photograph of a blue and white textured wall (Czerwinski).

## **Used Pictures**

Boston Public Library. Native American from behind. 2020. *Unsplash*, https://unsplash.com/de/fotos/2IZqitIeY58.

Czerwinski, Pawel. Abstract photograph of a textured wall. 2018. *Unsplash*, https://unsplash.com/de/fotos/KGn59JIYRB8.

Ferris, Jean Leon Gerome. *The first Thanksgiving 1621*. 1912-1915. *Wikimedia Commons*, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The\_First\_Thanksgiving\_cph.3g04961.jpg.

Krutova, Irina. Feather. 2020. *Unsplash*, https://unsplash.com/de/fotos/Fd3venp8kIU.

Marzzarella, Meelika. Turkey. 2019. Unsplash, https://unsplash.com/de/fotos/1dkPi4dmiw0.

Meritt, Thomas. Indian Corn. 2019. Unsplash, https://unsplash.com/de/fotos/xOZTb11DLa0.

Morrison, Jacob. Union Jack. 2016. Unsplash, https://unsplash.com/de/fotos/-RO2DFPl7wE.

Wachs, Syd. Front Edges of Old Books. 2016. *Unsplash*, https://unsplash.com/de/fotos/slItfWbhijc.

Quentincc. Mural on Alcatraz Island, San Francisco, CA, USA. 2021. *Unsplash*, https://unsplash.com/de/fotos/ybT-kUqIhwE.

The respective date of the Unsplash images corresponds to the publication date on the platform and thus is not necessarily the year of creation.