

Zitkala-Ša (Red Bird): A View into Two Worlds

By Michelle Delaney

More than fifty years ago, the Smithsonian received a dozen 1898 photographic portraits of Zitkala-Ša (Red Bird), an accomplished Yankton Sioux writer, violinist, and composer who was also an outspoken advocate for Indigenous rights and women's suffrage. The images of the twenty-two-year-old Zitkala-Ša were created by Gertrude Käsebier, a prominent American portrait photographer in New York City. Käsebier's granddaughter, Mina Turner, donated the images to the Smithsonian in 1969. The collaborative session captured a lasting, beautiful depiction of a life lived in two very different cultures.

Zitkala-Ša, whose English name was Gertrude Simmons Bonnin, was born in 1876 to a German father and Native American mother, who raised her on the Yankton Indian Reservation in South Dakota. As a youth, she attended a Quaker boarding school in Wabash, Indiana, called the White's Manual Labor Institute. She would later attend Earlham College in Indiana until 1897, when

her natural musical talents drew her to the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston for two years. Although more than two decades apart in age, the women became friends and Käsebier encouraged Zitkala-Ša to continue her music training. Zitkala-Ša became a concert violinist and composer. In 1913, she collaborated on "The Sun Dance Opera," one of the first operas about an American Indian topic. Throughout her life, Zitkala-Ša worked tirelessly for American Indian citizenship rights, independence, and sovereignty. While at Earlham College, she became known as a scholar and celebrated orator who firmly opposed the "Americanization" of Indigenous people. She later penned articles for publications such as *Atlantic Monthly* and *Harper's Weekly* as well as short stories and books that reflected upon the duality of living in two different cultures. In 1902, she married Raymond Talephouse Bonnin, who was of Yankton-European ancestry. After relocating with her husband and son to the Washington, DC, region in 1917, she joined the



Society of American Indians to help influence the United States Congress to pass the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924 and the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934. She created the Indian Welfare Committee within the General Federation of Women's Clubs

Small Business Exchange • Voice of Small, Emerging, Diversity-Owned Businesses Since 1984 [Click to read more](#)

Opportunities

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Public notices and participation activities
[Click for details](#)

Doreen's Jazz New Orleans

- Private lessons from Queen Clarinet
- Band performances at your venue
- Master classes for groups

504-908-7119
doreenja@bellsouth.net
www.doreensjazz.org



Small Business Exchange Louisiana DEI

- Advertise
- ITB to Targeted (NAICS/SIC/UNSPSC) Certified Businesses
- Telephone Follow-Up (Live)
- Agency/Organization Letters
- Computer Generated Dated and Timed Documentation
- Customized Reports Available

For more info contact
Valerie Voorhies at
vfv@sbeinc.com



LOUISIANA BUSINESS JOURNAL
PUBLIC LEGAL NOTICES
With a database of over 1.6 million notices, SBE assists agencies with public legal notices

Advertisements
Placed in various Louisiana Business Journal digital publications every month and at www.louisianabusinessjournal.com

Special Follow-Up Services
Custom design and development of services that you need for particular situations such as small business marketing, diversity goal completion, and agency capacity building

Call for more information: 800-800-8534

1984 **41** Years 2025

Advertise in our digital LBJ

weekly or whenever wherever to whomever you need to reach among agencies contractors diversity firms

Balthazar Electric
WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTORS

We deliver a wide range of products and services to proudly serve construction, industrial, utility, and commercial businesses

ELECTRICAL Wire, Distribution, Wiring Devices, Installation Material	LIGHTING Bulbs, Ballasts, Exits/Emergency Lights, Installation Options	SECURITY Smoke, Carbon Monoxide and Metal Detectors, Surveillance Equipment, and Batteries	COMMUNICATIONS Fiber Optic Cable, Telecommunication Systems, and Office Equipment
--	--	--	---

Contact info: 3623 D'Hemecourt Street • New Orleans, LA 70119
504-891-5504-o • 504-891-5580-f • Beletriks@balthazarinc.com • www.Balthazarinc.com

LAGNIAPPE BAKEHOUSE

Lagniappe Baking is a neighborhood bakehouse owned by pastry chef Kaitlin Guerin, a 2025 James Beard Award nominee. The one-of-a-kind assorted pastry boxes highlight the local, seasonal bounty of the Crescent City's agriculture. Each box challenges your taste buds with flavor combinations and leaves you anticipating the next.

www.lagniappebaking.com

NMSDC
National Minority Supplier Development Council

[Learn More](#)

VIRTUAL EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS 2026

small businesses. This event will cover the basics of navigating the federal contracting process, as well as the various certifications available to help your small business succeed in the government marketplace. Certifications include: 8(a) Business Development Program, HUBZone Certification, Woman Owned Small Business (WOSB/EDWOSB), and Veteran Owned Small Business (VOSB). Don't miss this opportunity to gain valuable insights and resources to help your small business. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/federal-contracting-basics-and-certifications-for-small-businesses-tickets-1977729719831>

SBA 101: Introduction to SBA Programs Webinar
Monday, April 6, 2026, 9:00 am–10:00 am CDT Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration, Rhode Island District Office
Contact: Brian Hopkins, 401-528-4575, brian.hopkins@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required

This free workshop, presented by the Rhode Island District Office, is designed to help entrepreneurs understand the various SBA programs and services available to help them as they start, expand, grow, and recover their businesses. This overview presentation covers: Introduction to the SBA; SBA Resource Partner Network—Business Training and One-on-One Counseling; Selling to the Federal Government—SBA Contracting Certification Programs; Access to Capital—Loan and Surety Bond Programs; International Trade Assistance; Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Assistance Loans. Register online for the free workshop webinar at <https://www.sba.gov/event/80666>

Federal Contracting for Small Businesses Webinar
Tuesday, April 14, 2026, 11:00 am–12:30 pm CDT Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: Irene Gonzalez, 208-334-1673, irene.gonzalez@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required

Learn the essentials of federal contracting for

Federal Contracting: Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Certification Program Webinar
Tuesday, April 21, 2026, 1:00 pm–3:00 pm CDT Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: Patrice Dozier, patrice.dozier@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required

SBA is creating a space for Woman-Owned Small Businesses, via WOSB certification! Are you a woman owner of a small business? The federal government's goal is to award at least five percent of all federal contracting dollars to woman-owned small businesses each year. Join us for training on how to register for SBA's Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) program, which helps eligible small businesses to qualify for federal contracting opportunities. The monthly sessions include an overview of the self-certification process, and a discussion of the NAICS codes that qualify as WOSB or EDWOSB. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/woman-owned-small-business-wosb-certification-program-tickets-1978328240021>

CERTIFICATION

Small Business Exchange, Inc.
is **DBE certified** by the Louisiana UCP.

Certificate of Proclamation
Louisiana Business Journal
In recognition of the 38th publication since Hurricane Katrina and to the rebuilding of business in your community.

Mitch Landrieu
MAYOR MITCHELL J. LANDRIEU • CITY OF NEW ORLEANS
June 15, 2010
DATE

