

We Tell Groups/Collectives/Community Media Centers

Outta Your Backpack Media

Since 2004, Outta Your Backpack Media (OYBMedia) has empowered Indigenous youth through free filmmaking workshops and resource distribution, a response to Indigenous communities needs for media justice. From corporate media bias to lack of coverage of Indigenous issues, media injustices are rampant. Media literacy empowers young people to be creative in working to overcome these critical issues. Interviewing elders and telling Indigenous stories, OYBMedia creates intergenerational bridges for cultural survival and to challenge corporate media. Through youth empowerment, it creates community ownership of media. OYBMedia emphasizes resource access for youth and focuses on media literacy through mentorship projects, community film screenings and festivals, a youth media arts center in Flagstaff, Arizona, and distribution of fully equipped decentralized media centers in backpacks. Started as a project of Indigenous Action Media in partnership with Native Movement, OYBmedia is a collective that provides independent media skills and resources to youth. All administrative and organizing work is volunteer.