



# MILWAUKEE ETHNIC NEWS

PUBLISHED BY URBAN ANTHROPOLOGY, INC.

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2024

## Local ethnic events in September & October

### *About Milwaukee Ethnic News*

*Milwaukee Ethnic News* is published bimonthly by Urban Anthropology Inc. and is managed by volunteer anthropologists. The purpose of the newsletter is to offer ethnic organizations and individuals the opportunities to share news and information about their cultures. The newsletter does not receive funds from any external source. See more information on last page.

*Most \$10 and under; many free*

## Oral history of Milwaukee's ethnic groups *10-part series on study findings*



Over a period of 12 years, anthropologists from Urban Anthropology, Inc. conducted 435 in-depth interviews with key informants from 65 Milwaukee area ethnic

groups. In a 10-part series, *Milwaukee Ethnic News* presents the findings.

### **Part eight: Political activity**

Much of the attention to ethnicity over the century has related to competition for power and resources. In the United States,



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*Continued on page two*

# Ethnic events in September and October

Continued from page one

## African American

### AMERICA'S BLACK HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

*When?* Tue.s through Sat.s, 10am-5pm; Sat.s noon to 5pm.  
*Where?* 401 W. North Ave. *Description:* Seven history galleries that tell the story of the Black Holocaust in chronological order from life in Africa before captivity to African American life today. *Admission:* Free to \$5.

### GROUP TOUR WISCONSIN BLACK HISTORICAL CENTER

*When?* Mornings beginning at 9am, reserve at website. *Where?* Wisconsin Black Historical Center, 2620 W. Center St. *Description:* Opportunity to see exhibits on African American history in Wisconsin. [www.wbhm.org/Home.htm](http://www.wbhm.org/Home.htm). *Admission:* 0-\$5.

## German

### OKTOBERFEST—GERMANTOWN

*When?* Sep. 28, Sep. 29. *Where?* Dheinsville Historic Park. *Description:* Fest with specialty beers, dachshund dash, children's activities, classic car display, music, food. <http://www.funtober.com/oktoberfest/wisconsin/> *Admission:* Free.

### OKTOBERFEST ARTISAN FAIR (MILWAUKEE)

*When?* Oct. 11 to 13, *Where?* Our Lady of Lourdes, 3722 S. 58<sup>th</sup> St. *Description:* A celebration of creativity, community, and harvest including music, art, dancing, artisan shopping. *Admission:* Free.

### OKTOBERFEST—MILWAUKEE

*When?* Oct. 4 to Oct. 6. *Where?* War Memorial Center. *Description:* Fest with specialty beers, dog racing, Miss Oktoberfest contest, brat-eating contest; polka music, food. <http://www.funtober.com/oktoberfest/wisconsin/> *Admission:* Free.

### OKTOBERFEST—WAUKESHA

*When?* Sep. 20, Sep. 21. *Where?* Frame Park. *Description:* Fest with specialty beers, Children's parade, tapping of the Firkin, contests; music, food. <http://www.funtober.com/oktoberfest/wisconsin/> *Admission:* Free.

### OKTOBERFEST—GREENDALE

*When?* Sep. 28. *Where?* Greendale Lions Club. *Description:* Fest with specialty beers, biergarten, pony rides, hay rides; music, food. <http://www.funtober.com/oktoberfest/wisconsin/> *Admission:* Free.

## Jewish

### VIRTUAL WALK-THROUGH OF JEWISH MUSEUM MILWAUKEE

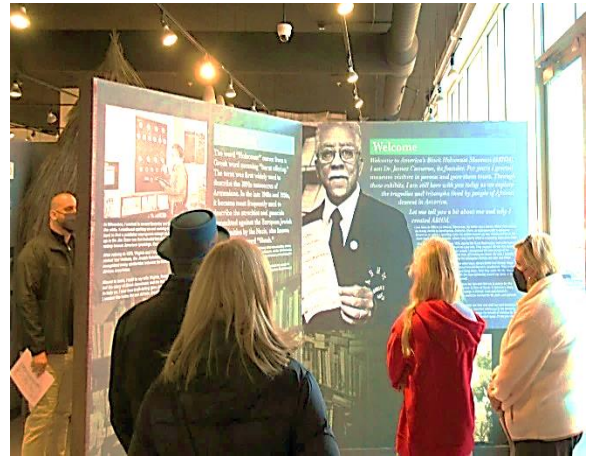
*When?* Anytime. *Where?* Click on [Virtual Exhibits | Jewish Museum Milwaukee](#). *Description:* Opportunity to visit the museum and its permanent exhibits from one's desk. *Admission:* Free.

## Latino

### WALK THROUGH MILWAUKEE'S LATINO HISTORY

*When?* Daily, 10 to 4pm. *Where?* United Community Center,

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## Ethnic events in September and October

Continued from page two

1028 S. 9<sup>th</sup> St. *Description:* Opportunity to learn about Latino history by visiting tannery and foundry exhibits, photos, and art inside the UCC building, and historical murals on two sides of Bruce Guadalupe School next door (see photos to left). *Admission:* Free.

### ALLUDING TO REALITIES—ALLUDIENDO REALIDADES

*When?* Aug. 23 to Oct. 9, Mon. through Fri. 10:30am to 7:30pm  
*Where?* United Community Center, 1028 S. 9<sup>th</sup> St. *Description:* A solo exhibit by Guatemalan-born Ernesto Atkinson. *Admission:* \$1 donation.

### UMOS MEXICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY FESTIVAL

*When?* Sep. 15, 12-8pm, *Where?* UMOS Center, 2701 S. Chase  
*Description:* Festival of food vendors, beer, live music, craft vendors, everything authentically Mexican. *Admission:* Free.

### UMOS MEXICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

*When?* Sun., Sep. 15, begins 10am. *Where?* Starts at 20<sup>th</sup> & Oklahoma Ave. *Description:* Southside parade of arts, floats, local organizations honoring Mexican Independence Day. *Admission:* Free.

### DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

*When?* Oct. 25, unknown time, but in the past, it was held 6 to 9pm. *Where?* Mitchell Park Domes. *Description:* Day of celebration, costumes, games, mariachi band, food, entertainment, other events. <https://milwaukeedomes.org/day-of-the-dead>  
*Admission:* See website.

### Scottish

#### SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES--WISCONSIN

*When?* Labor Day weekend, see website for exact times. *Where?* Waukesha Expo Center, 1000 Northview Rd., Waukesha. *Description:* Event with live music, a parade of Tartans, highland dancing, piping, sheepdog demonstrations, haggis taco-eating contests, horse exhibitions, and axe throwing competitions. <http://www.wisconsinsscottish.org/info>. *Admission:* check website.

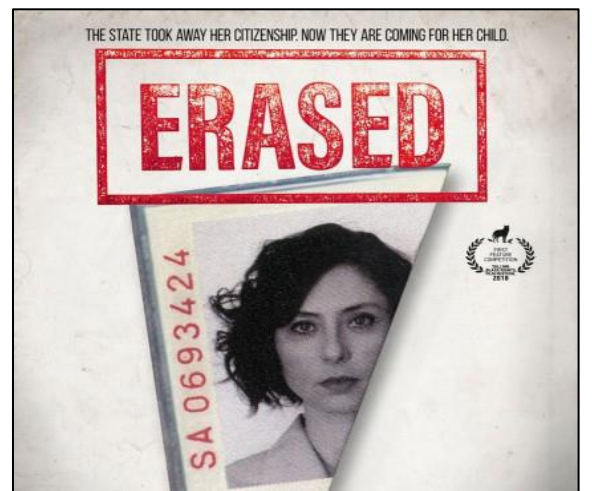
### Slovenian

#### SLOVENIAN FILM FESTIVAL

*When?* Oct. 5. *Where?* UW-M Mitchell Hall in the 85-seat Fine Arts Cinema. *Description:* 3:00 pm Bucket Full of Crabs (*Vrč Rakov*) - short film; 3:05 pm Tempest (*Nevihita*) - short film; 3:20 pm ERASED (*Izbrisana*) - full-length feature film; 5:15 pm Water (*Voda*) - short film; 5:20 pm Paradise (*Raj*) - short film; 5:45 pm The Invisible Hand of Adam Smith (*Nevidna Roka A Smitha*) - short film; 6:15 pm Grandpa Goes South (*Dedek gre na jug*) - full-length feature film; *Admission:* Free.

#### SLOVENIAN FILM FESTIVAL

*When?* Oct. 6. *Where?* UW-M Mitchell Hall in the 85-seat Fine Arts Cinema. *Description:* 1:00 pm Tempest (*Nevihita*) - short film; 1:05 pm Paradise (*Raj*) - short film; 1:30 pm ERASED (*Izbrisana*) - full-length feature film; 3:00 pm The Invisible Hand of Adam Smith (*Nevidna roka A Smitha*) - short; *Admission:* Free.



# Oral history of Milwaukee ethnic groups

Continued from page one

some of the potential for ethnic power was lessened by the passage of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 which created the US Merit Systems Protection Board. This agency was established to ensure protection for federal employees against abuses by agency management. In the past, an agency that was managed by a member of one ethnic group could specifically commit promotions and important positions to members of the same group. While the practice of ethnic political patronage slowed, some groups remained more successful than others in achieving political success.

## Achieving Access to Political Power



As in many American cities, the Milwaukee Irish created opportunities for political power. In the Milwaukee study, a number of Irish informants discussed the strategies involved in this practice.

*Irish:* The Irish really voted, and often as a block. Politicians would have to cater to us to get our vote. We also had the highest number of people in office.

*Irish:* The unions were very powerful and we hung out in certain bars. We used to decide everything in the bar—who would get this job and that job, who would run for this or that office, how we would get people jobs at the county.

*Irish:* In one neighborhood where so many of us Irish had grown up, there ended up in one fifty-year span [being] over one hundred government department heads, judges, and agency heads. Three of four heads of county government came from this neighborhood.

*Irish:* Children were involved with politics. My father would get us involved. He'd pick a candidate and give us a reason for wanting this candidate to win the election. We'd work for the candidate, handing out literature, whatever was needed.

*Irish:* Because we had so many people in office, a lot of people in [name of former Irish neighborhood] relied on public jobs. The news would get passed around on jobs and contracts and what vending lists to get on.

For other groups, accessing the political process was more difficult. Ethnic organizing to combat exploitation and address inequality was particularly challenging for groups living in poverty. In the Milwaukee study, informants of less prosperous groups were more likely than others to complain about problems getting out the vote and organizing around issues.

*African American:* I am disappointed by this. The percentage that vote is low. Our school board races are embarrassingly low. You can get elected with four hundred votes. I'd like to see more education done in schools on citizenship.

*North American Indian Ojibwe:* [There's] not enough political activity. It's a personal disappointment. We tried to get voter registration but there was so much disenchantment with government.

*Hmong:* But our needs are still underserved. Hmong still have to learn how to use [the] system to their advantage—we don't know how. If they do know about it, they are intimidated and don't know how to advocate for themselves. They have been passive.

*North American Indian Stockbridge Munsee:* Years ago, there used to be some efforts to court politicians. The mayor was willing to make a commitment to turn over the campus to us, and then wrote a memo against it. I know all my representatives and none of them are aware of Native American issues. We need an educational move that will go and work with these people with a packet of info. They have no idea there's Indians in an urban environment.

*Puerto Rican:* In Puerto Rico, they are very involved in politics. Around election time, it looks like a parade, because the political parties are so organized. There are rallies in every single *pueblo*, and so there is a lot of involvement. Here, we don't vote. Latinos are one of the lowest voting groups. Well, with some Mexicans and the rest of Latin America, they don't have the legal status to vote, but Puerto Ricans can, and still don't. We have to change the apathy. It's a self-fulfilling prophecy—the system is not working for me, so there is no use voting. Without realizing it's not working for you because you aren't voting.

In the following example from field notes—taken about three years after most

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# Oral history of Milwaukee ethnic groups

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Hmong were interviewed—the Hmong were starting to make progress making their issues (and their presence) more public.

*Field Notes: April, 2008*

As many as two hundred Hmong were rallying on the plaza at City Hall this morning. The demonstration had been announced days earlier, and it was in response to a police-beating of a Hmong man who had been confronted by police. The police claimed the man was stopped for suspicion of drunken driving and tried to flee, but the Hmong community had been insisting this was an issue of lack of interpreters and knowledge of Hmong culture at the Milwaukee Police Department. A TV camera was present and a Hmong leader was being interviewed.

A crowd of onlookers had gathered. A man to my left leaned in my direction. "I don't get it," he mumbled.

"It's about a man being beaten by police," I offered.

"Well, I can read the signs. But who are *they*?"

"The Hmong."

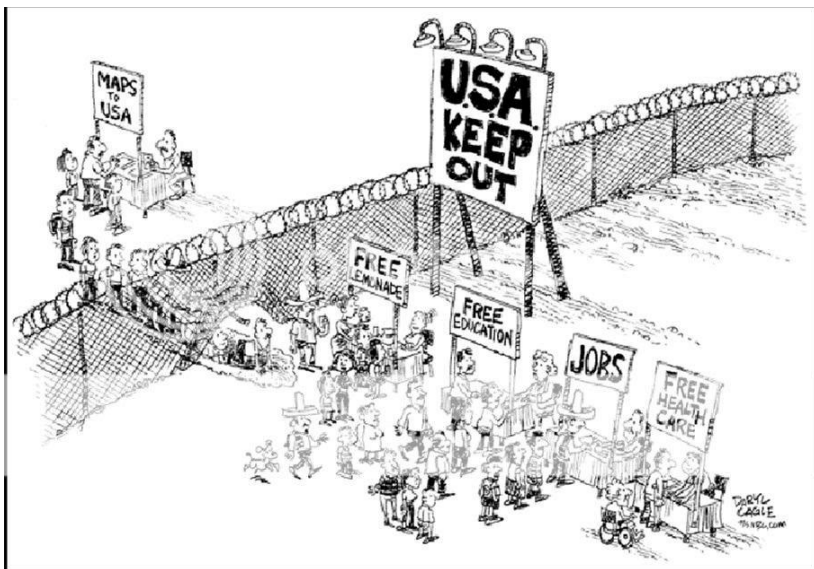
"Spell it."

"H-m-o-n-g. They're Southeast Asians."

"Oh, I've seen that name before, but I thought it was pronounced with an H. I didn't know what they were." He hesitated. "Okay. So, I learned something."

## Issues Involving Former Homelands

A common concern among many Milwaukee groups was advocating for policies that would favor past homelands and diminish immigration constraints from these areas.



*Mexican:* We always have the same trouble. Immigration is the most important reason keeping us together. We have people living in this country with no documents and no rights, and yet have all the responsibilities of paying taxes, and making this country rich . . . In-state tuition fees are another issue. It is difficult for an undocumented child, having no social security number, to pay for school. Instead of 3,000 dollars per year, it will be 13,000 dollars. It makes it impossible.

You are being denied. Then after all the years of going to high school without any documents, they know that they will not be able to go to college. If you see how bad Latinos are doing in the education area, it is because of that. They are smart and they know there is no way they can go to college. They drop out of high school more than any other group—more than African Americans, Native Americans. Why? Because they know they are not going to college . . . having lived in this country for many years, with their parents paying taxes all these years. We need the legislature to stop this.

*Arab:* Politics? That's all we talk about . . . International politics is always a topic of discussion among Arabs. You can't go into any gathering and have someone not talking about international politics. I think that has to do with the conflicts in the Middle East and United States foreign policy. So that's always a discussion. In terms of national politics, I think more and more over the years, the Arab community has gotten more involved and more active. I think there's been a realization that in order for there to be a change, or for an individual or group to influence their elected official, they need to get involved and have a voice. You'll see many individuals in the community hosting fundraisers for the elected officials.

*African Somali:* Most of the citizens of African origin vote, you know, and their concerns are not different than that of average American, who are concerned about war, healthcare, you know, economy, and they also like to see a close tie with Africa. They'd like to see United States having close ties with Africa.

*Jewish:* You see extreme views among Jews, I think. You have the founders of socialism and communism, and their backbone parties, being Jewish. Then you had some rabbis that joined the Moral Majority in the late eighties. I think that many, perhaps most, will vote based on Israeli issues.

*African Kenya Mbere:* At the same time, we follow the American politics—especially the controversial issue about immigration reform. That is something that we are talking about. Of course, we express our own political opinions about what is going on in American politics. Not just immigration but in general who we see as being more migrant friendly, the Republicans or the Democrats. We follow both the politics of here and Kenya.

## Next edition

The next issue of *Milwaukee Ethnic News* will feature part nine of this series on the findings from the ethnic oral history project—working.

## Poetry book on Milwaukee is on the horizon

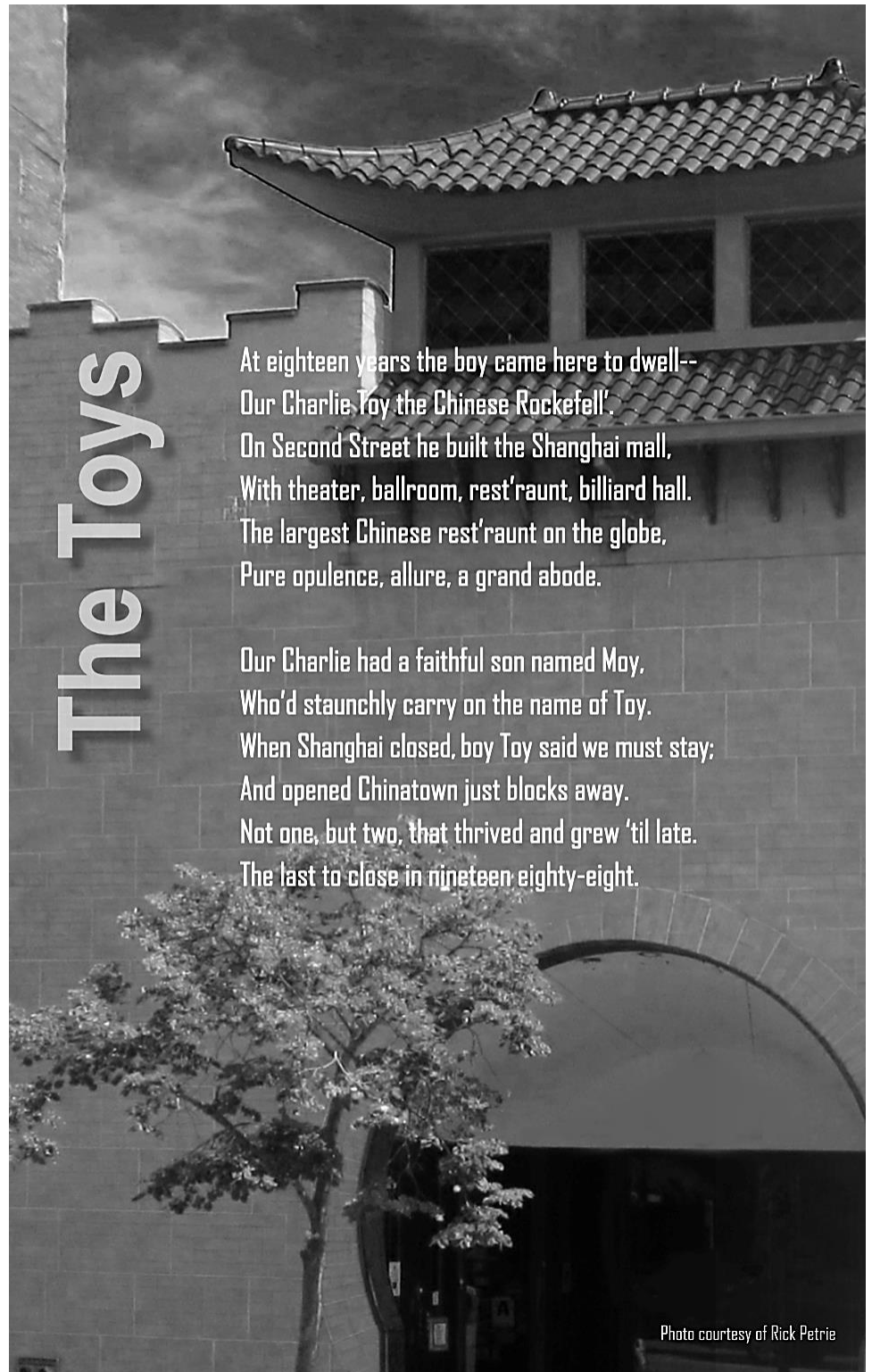
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*Work expected to be out in late 2024*

The work will include poetry on topics such as:

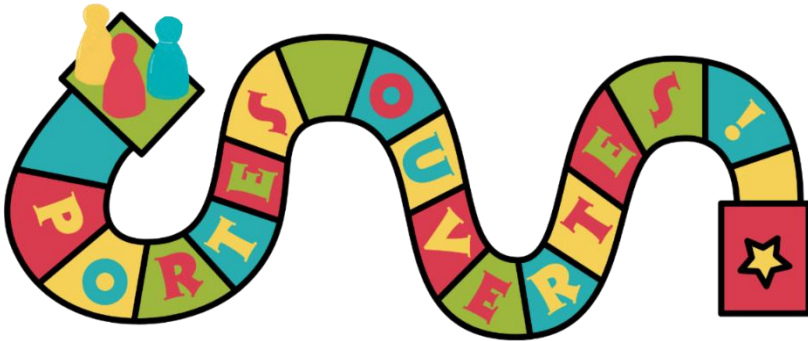
- Milwaukee neighborhoods
- Major historical events
- City streets and parks
- Milwaukee heroes and villains
- City “characters”
- Milwaukee special events
- Lost communities
- City businesses, churches, organizations, past and present
- Major sports
- Area ethnic groups

See sample page to the right



*Portes Ouvertes et Soirée  
Jeux de Société*

**Open House and Board  
Game Night**



Interested in French classes but want to know more? Considering becoming a member?

Stop by our open house to learn about l'Alliance, meet other students and members, and play a board game!

**September 4 from 4-6 PM**

RSVP to [Annika@AFMilwaukee.org](mailto:Annika@AFMilwaukee.org)

*AF address: 1800 E. Capitol Drive, 414 964-3855*

## Ongoing Events

Casse-croûte: Meets every Wednesday on Zoom and in person at the AF on the first Wednesday of the month from 12 p.m. - 2 p.m. Contact [AnneL@AFMilwaukee.org](mailto:AnneL@AFMilwaukee.org) for link and information.

Catholic Mass in French: Sundays at 12:30pm at Holy Family Parish in Whitefish Bay. For more information, visit <http://frenchmass-mke.wordpress.com>

French Conversation Group in Mequon: Meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at Panera in Mequon from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Contact [Kathy.nieman@frommfamily.com](mailto:Kathy.nieman@frommfamily.com) for more information.

Rive Gauche Radio Show: The Alliance's own radio show every Tuesday from 6 - 6:30 p.m. on 104.1 FM or online at: [www.riverwestradio.com/show/rive-gauche](http://www.riverwestradio.com/show/rive-gauche).

# Against the Grain: The Remarkable Life of Artist Bernard Perlin

Jewish  
Museum Milwaukee



**September 27, 2024 – January 26, 2025**



Bernard Perlin was a minority, outsider, gay man, and pursuer of truth, beauty, and justice. Born to Russian Jewish immigrants in 1918, artist-activist Perlin was a talented painter, illustrator, war artist-correspondent, and photographer, who tackled stylistic genres, the horrors of WWII, issues of social justice, and homosexuality with conviction and bravery.

Perlin's life, in his own words, was a direct path to making art and seeking human connection. He ran in circles that included celebrities like Tennessee Williams, Truman Capote, Gore Vidal, Leonard Bernstein, Liz Smith, Grace Hartigan, David Hockney, and Jerome Robbins. His first commission was created for the legendary movie actor Vincent Price.



Throughout his long, richly varied, well-traveled career, Perlin moved from Social Realism to Magical Realism and worked with the WPA (Works Progress Administration), OWI (Office of War Information), and *Life* and *Fortune* magazines among countless others. His art has been collected by major institutions including the Smithsonian American Art Museum, Museum of Modern Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, Art Institute of Chicago, Pritzker Military Museum & Library, and the Tate.

This exhibit celebrates and brings deserved visibility to an artist who lived passionately and unapologetically *against the grain*. It explores the benefits and challenges of multi-faceted identities, immigration, and assimilation. Add-

itionally, it delves into historical experiences of persecution and discrimination against minority groups that reflect similar attitudes that are still prevalent today.

**Get tickets at [Jewish Museum Milwaukee Online Registration System](#)**

## Jewish Museum Milwaukee

1316 N. Prospect Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

**HOURS:**  
Monday through Thursday,  
10am to 5pm  
Closed Saturday

Sunday 12pm to 4pm

Doors Open, Sunday, September 29



# Ethnic activities for families to do at home

## *Ethnic stories/games/meals*

This featured website delivers stories for the entire family on ethnic groups across space and time. Spend a day (or ten) with any of the offerings summarized in the following pages. Each story (appropriate for children 8 to 14), is accompanied by a recipe of the featured group and a game and art project associated with the story. The narratives were created over a 20-year period by the cultural anthropologists at Urban Anthropology Inc. and are based on scholarly research. Families can learn while being entertained.

Go to <http://teacheraidforkidsmilwaukee.com/> then click on Kids Across Time & Space or Holidays Across the Globe

### The Stories: Summaries

#### Africa

**Berbers of Morocco:** A tale of a Berber girl living in the Atlas Mountains of Morocco, how her family members worked to support the household, and the near crisis that developed when her brother wanted to move permanently to Spain.

**South Africa:** A fictionalized account of the decade when the segregated system of apartheid ended in South Africa and how the time is commemorated by the nation's Day of Reconciliation (story presents much food for discussion and is designed for more mature children).

**African Turkana:** The tribulations of an African boy reaching manhood who needed to acquire sufficient bride wealth in order to marry in the future, the pastoralist society he lived in, and the unexpected ways that his education came to his aid. A story about the benefits of learning.

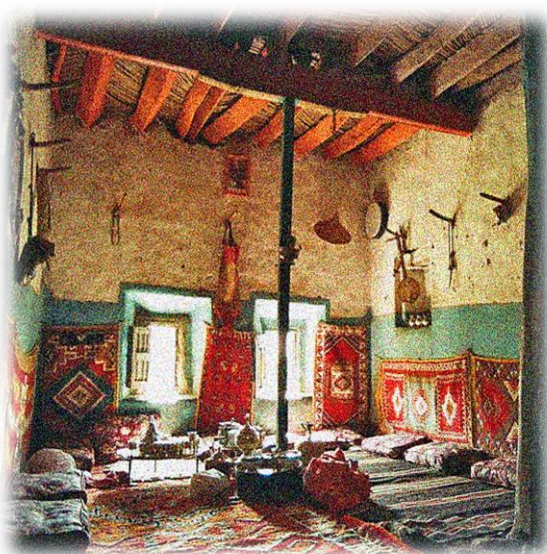
**African Ibo:** A story of a ten-year-old boy living in Africa around 1800, his vibrant village life, his age grade activity, and the constant threat he faced of being kidnapped into slavery.

**Nubia/Kush:** The tale of a fifteen-year-old girl living in the black African Kingdom of Kush in the 8<sup>th</sup> century BC, her trip into Egypt, her cultural shock in seeing the Egyptian transformation of an old friend, and her eventual acceptance of difference.

#### Europe

**Greece:** A story of a spoiled teenage boy living in Greece in ancient times, his Olympian experiences, and how a performance of the great Greek drama *Antigone* helped him come to his senses.

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# Ethnic stories (summaries)

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**Wales:** A fictionalized account of a self-involved American youth who goes to witness the youth national cultural festival in Wales and comes away thinking he might be able to use his gifts in more community-serving ways.

**Germany:** A tale of a German family struggling to keep the Christmas spirit and German Christmas customs while the family children misbehave. German Christmas customs solve the family problem. A good story for the very young.

**Spain:** A fictionalized account of a Romani (“gypsy”) girl living in Madrid, Spain, the cultural values and problems she faced, and her secret life as a criminal with her older brothers. A story that asks when or if the ends justify the means.

**Rome:** The experience of a teenage boy living in a Roman province in 64 AD, his ancestors’ enslavement, the introduction of Christianity to the area, and the deeds of Emperor Nero.

**Jews of Poland:** The account of a young Jewish girl on the eve of the Holocaust, her daily life in the shtetl, the family’s religious traditions, and their eventual demise.

**England:** The tribulations of a young boy in Medieval England from a mixed ethnic family who must leave his home at an early age to be trained for the knighthood.

**Italy:** A story of a teenage orphan girl living in Florence Italy at the height of the Renaissance, her experiences growing up in a humane orphanage, and the choice (among three options) she must make for her future. (Very interactive.)

## Eurasia

**Soviet:** A fictionalized account of a teenage girl living under Communism in the USSR in the 1930s, her daily life, and the conflict she faced over loyalty to her family vis-a-vis loyalty to the Communist government.

**Ottoman:** A tale a teenage boy living in the Ottoman Empire in the late seventeenth century, his cultural environment, his opportunities, his yearnings, and how he achieved balance between his own desires and helping his family.

## Asia/Oceania

**Hmong:** A story about a young Hmong boy in a refugee camp in the 1970s, his people’s involvement in the Vietnam War and its aftermath, how he and his people recorded their history on story cloths, and his eventual immigration to the US.

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# Ethnic stories (summaries)

Continued from page ten

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**Siberia:** A tale of a college-bound girl living in a reindeer-herding family in Siberia, the changes that took place when her environment was no longer under Soviet control, the options that the girl was considering for her future career, and the ways that each of these options might impact her traditional people.

**Burma/Myanmar:** A fictionalized account of a young boy of the Mon ethnic group living in war-torn Burma (now Myanmar) in the late 1940s, the school that villagers organized to teach Mon culture, ethnic strife, the boy's attempts to convince his uncle to return from his refugee status in Thailand, and what eventually happened to his village and school. A story about ethnic intolerance.

**China:** A poignant story about the life of a young girl in China in the early Middle Ages, Confucian values, and the role of filial piety in the household.

**India:** A tale of an eight-year-old girl living in India in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, her world under the Mughals, her family's involvement with the British East India Company, and her dread of being married off at a very young age.

**Iran:** A fictionalized account of a young Iranian man in a Shi'a Muslim family who is about to learn the spirit of Ramadan.

**Japan:** The story of a Japanese teenager in the 1920s whose life is charted out for him as a family heir within his lineage—an "other-oriented" role that creates a family link between the past and the future. He experiences culture shock when he visits the United States with his father and makes friends with an American sailor who takes him out for a night of 1920s frolicking and questions the young man's Japanese values.

**Bali:** A fictionalized account of a Balinese boy in the early 1950s, his struggle with hyperactivity, the Balinese culture of performance, and the way the boy's mother helped her son by involving him in performance art.

**Trobriand Islands:** The tale of a teenage girl living in the Trobriand Islands in 1918, her islands' culture, and how she attempted to attract the man of her dreams through "beauty magic."

## Latin America

**Brazil:** A story of a Brazilian teenager, his slave ancestry, life in a Rio *favela*, and the sacrifices he made to restore his mother's pride. A story about poverty, pride, and family love.

**Costa Rica:** A fictionalized account of a young boy in the 1820s whose family had immigrated to Costa Rica from Spain, the



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# Ethnic stories (summaries)

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family's adoption of a young Indian/African orphan, the boys' adventures visiting the rainforest, and their ultimate adventure in search of purported treasures left behind by (now extinct) indigenous people.

**Maya:** The story of a Maya boy living in the seventh century, his trip into a forbidden cave, the myth of the Hero Twins, and the boy's eventual rite of passage into manhood.

**Mexico:** A tale of a teenage Nahua Indian girl living in Tepoztlan, Mexico in 1948, the expectations placed on her by her culture, her dreams of living in the United States, and how all this changed when she was befriended by young woman archaeologist from the Great Plains of America. This is a story of "the grass is always greener" turned on its head.

**Puerto Rico:** A fictionalized account of twin girls living in Puerto Rico, the circular migration of their family between their village in Puerto Rico and New York City, and the ultimate decision the family would have to make about permanent residence in New York or their home village. A story of tension between upward mobility and home and family.

## North America

**Muskogee Creeks:** A tale of a teenage Muskogee Creek girl living through the era of Indian Removal, her village life and matrilineage, Creek spirituality, and her family's decision to avoid the Trail of Tears by emigrating to Texas.

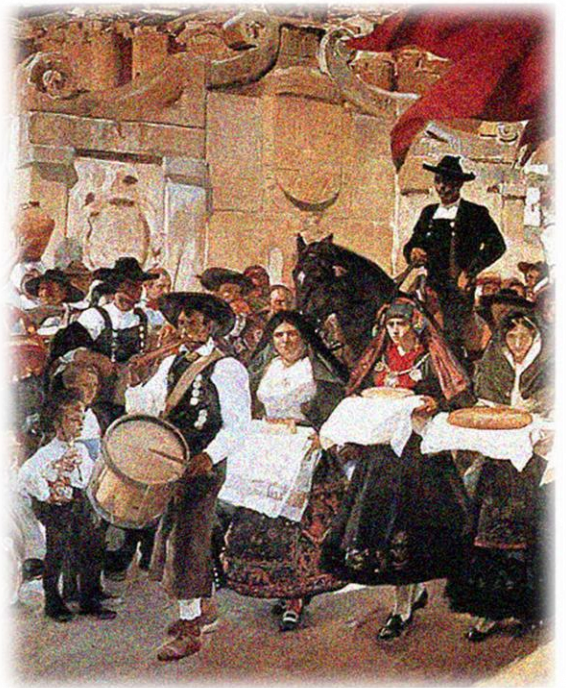
**Appalachia:** The story of a ten-year-old girl living in the Appalachian Mountains in 1790, the migration of populations following the Revolutionary War, the plight of mixed-race populations, and a look back at the colonial experience.

**U.S. Slavery:** The fictional account of a young girl born into slavery, how she and her family members made themselves too valuable to their slave overseers to be separated by a slave auction, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the girl's later career as a free woman.

**Acadia:** A tale of a teenage Metis girl living in Acadia, her community's expulsion from their land, and her family's second home.

**Inuit:** A fictionalized account of a young Inuit girl living a nomadic life with her family in the Arctic Circle in the 1970s, her life at seasonal sites, the cultural expectations she lived with, and how she overcame jealousy of a younger sibling.

Continued on page thirteen



# Ethnic stories (summaries)

*Continued from page twelve*

**U.S. Great Depression:** A story of a young girl living in Nebraska during the dust bowl years of the Great Depression, her steadfast support for her poor family, her daily work load, and an older brother who'd left home for world travel in the abundant 1920s and his reaction to finding his family in dire circumstances.

**Hopi:** A fictionalized account of a Hopi boy who welcomes his ancestral spirits back to his reservation town.

**American Puritans:** A story of a boy living in a strict 17<sup>th</sup> century Puritan household, how he overcame his idleness in order to use Puritan reason to fight slavery in the Colonies.

**Northwest Coast:** The tale of a twelve-year-old Native boy living in the Northwest Coast of North America in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, his world of art, the cultural tradition of the potlatch, and his antics trying to outsmart his ceremonial roles.

## Milwaukee

**African America Milwaukee:** A fictionalized account of an African American girl living in Milwaukee, the loss of her Bronzeville community, her migration to and from Milwaukee, her movement into the Civil Rights Movement and local fair housing marches, and her struggles to keep her new home in Sherman Park.

**Irish in Milwaukee:** A fictionalized account of a young Irish boy whose family settled in the Third Ward in the late 1800s, his aspirations to become a fireman, the scorn he faced from friends for setting his hopes too low, and his ultimate redemption when a fireman from the Ward saves the city of Milwaukee from burning down.

**1950s Milwaukee:** A story of a girl living in Milwaukee in the prosperous 1950s and how she and her age mates were influenced by the growing material culture of the day. A story about the influences of popular culture on gender roles.

**Polish Milwaukee:** A fictionalized account of a young Polish boy living on Milwaukee's south side in the early 1940s, his daily life in a Polish flat, his faith community at the Basilica of St. Josaphat, and what he learned one month about how his meals were prepared.



Go to <http://teacheraidsforkidsmilwaukee.com/> then click on Kids Across Time & Space or Holidays Across the Globe

*Kids across Time & Space (KaTS)*  
**Online cultural stories for  
 youth**



Over 30 stories, written by cultural anthropologists, of less than 15 minutes each in length, are featured in the KaTS program, and are written for children aged 8 to 14. The stories take place between 700 BC to current times and span all global areas. Each story includes notes for parents or teachers, a game, art projects, recipes, and pre/post test questions. The free website is at [www.teacheraidsforkidsmilwaukee.com/KaTS\\_main.html](http://www.teacheraidsforkidsmilwaukee.com/KaTS_main.html)

**List of stories (presented chronologically)**

Nubia/Kush: The cultural pride of Khikhy. **Greece: Kyros' love of power.** Roman Empire (Lazicum): Rufus and world of change. **China: The dilemma of Pang.** Maya classical: Can Pacal become a man? **England Medieval: The tribulations of William.** North-west Coast: The foolishness of Sa'laLEla. **India: The dread of Elina.** Italy Renaissance: Francesca's difficult decision. **American Puritans: The reason of Jeremiah.** Ottoman Empire: The Yearning of Yusuf. Acadians: **The relocation of Alma.** Appalachian Me-lungeons: Martha's family secret. **African Igbo: The dangerous life of Ngozi.** Costa Rica: The great adventure of Tomas. **Creek Indians: Sehoy's fate.** US slaves: The education of Dori. **Milwaukee Irish: Patrick's dream.** Trobriand Islands: Ilabova's transformation. **Japan: The culture shock of Ichiro.** Soviet Union: Natasha's predicament. **US Depression: The devotion of Barbara.** Poland Jews: Rachel's last days. **Milwaukee Polish America: Stefan's goose.** Mexico (Tepoztlan): The dissatisfaction of Zaniyah. **Bali: The hyperactivity of Nyoman.** US Milwaukee: Beverly, the first "material girl." **Burmese Mon: Zeya's school.** Inuit: Allaq's jealousy. **Milwaukee African American: Ruby's lost childhood.** Hmong: Moua Lia's assignment. **Brazil: The dignity of Manoel.** Siberia: Tonya's future. **Gitanos/Spain: Nina's secret life.** Puerto Rico: The twins must decide. **Moroccan Berbers: Aisha's household.** African Turkana: Ekwee's transaction.

*Milwaukee's Cultural Connect online*  
**Ethnic education for  
 youth**



The Cultural Connect program (CC) began as a series of documentaries based on the 12-year ethnic study conducted by 70 cultural anthropologists in Milwaukee. The documentaries appeared locally on television on PBS and/or on the MATA channel.

Later these documentaries were included in an 8-unit youth program in over 20 schools and each unit was conducted by anthropologists of the same ethnic background as the unit being presented. Over the years, more components of this program were developed.

Now the program is available at no charge at [www.teacheraidsforkidsmilwaukee.com/CC\\_main.html](http://www.teacheraidsforkidsmilwaukee.com/CC_main.html)

**Program description**

Cultural Connect is designed for middle and high school age youth and their teachers (or program coordinators) who want to learn more about Milwaukee ethnic groups. The units include documentaries of approximately a half-hour in duration, teachers' guides, games, pre/post surveys, and talking point resources. Groups featured include Milwaukee (1) African Americans, (2) Puerto Ricans, (3) Irish, (4) Germans, (5) Hmong, (6) American Indians, (7) Mexicans, and (8) Poles. Each video documentary is hosted by an anthropologist of the ethnic group featured and includes the voices of key informants of each group.

A bonus unit is provided on the Milwaukee homeless population.

**Now live**  
**Website on 190 Milwaukee neighborhoods**



**Links on each neighborhood include:**

- 6 to 35 pages of information
- Brief neighborhood description
- Population-focused history (including ethnic roots)
- Snapshots of commercial districts of the past
- Quotes from residents
- Quotes from oral histories (where available)
- Low cost nearby outings for families
- Demographics of current neighborhood
- Photos of neighborhood

The website currently includes ALL 191 of the neighborhoods. Each week two new information will be added.  
<http://neighborhoodsinmilwaukee.org/>

**The website is participatory inviting you to add more information on your own neighborhood**

**Website on over 50 Milwaukee ethnic groups has launched**



Between 2000 and 2012, anthropologists at Urban Anthropology Inc. conducted a rigorous study of over 65 ethnic groups in the Greater Milwaukee area. This study resulted in two books—one academic and one for lay audiences. Now it has become a website.

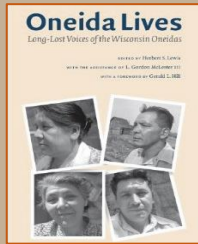
**Links on most ethnic groups includes:**

- Local history in the Greater Milwaukee area
- Major practices
- Quotes from the 2012 ethnic study
- “Meet your ethnic neighbors” feature
- Ethnic businesses
- Ethnic events and holidays

[www.ethnicmilwaukee.com](http://www.ethnicmilwaukee.com)

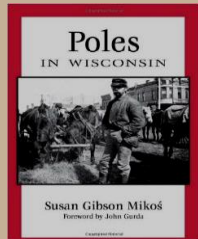
# Ethnic Wisconsin in books

## NON-FICTION



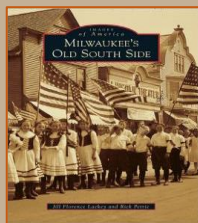
In this intimate volume edited by Herbert Lewis, the long-lost voices of Wisconsin Oneida men and women speak of all aspects of life: growing up, work and economic struggles, family relations, belief and religious practice, boarding-school life, love, sex, sports, and politics. These voices are drawn from a collection of handwritten accounts recently rediscovered after more than fifty years, the result of a WPA Federal Writers' Project undertaking called the Oneida Ethnological Study (1940–42) in which a dozen Oneida men and women were hired to interview their families and friends and record their own experiences and observations.

[www.nebraskapress.unl.edu](http://www.nebraskapress.unl.edu)



In this all-new addition to the People of Wisconsin series, author Susan Mikos traces the history of Polish immigrants as they settled in America's northern heartland. The second largest immigrant population after Germans, Poles put down roots in all corners of the state, from the industrial center of Milwaukee to the farmland around Stevens Point, in the Cutover, and beyond. In each locale, they brought with them a hunger to own land, a willingness to work hard, and a passion for building churches.

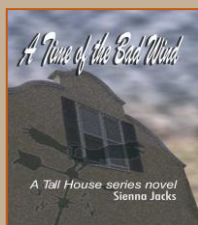
[www.wisconsinhistory.org/whspress](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/whspress)



The Old South Side has always welcomed ethnic groups. In the late 1800s, the area was developed by immigrant Poles who became the dominant population for over 100 years. While other Milwaukee ethnic neighborhoods gradually dissipated in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century because of assimilation pressures, freeway building, or urban renewal, the Old South Side remained solidly Polish. A survey nearly a half century later revealed that people of 110 national backgrounds now lived in the area.

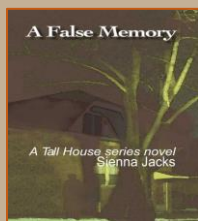
[www.arcadiapublishing.com](http://www.arcadiapublishing.com)

## FICTION

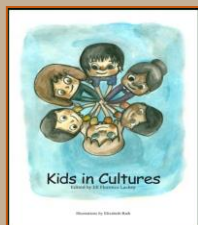


"My dear Meyer," chided the old historian, "why should anyone be surprised by shootings at the Tall House? Have you looked into its past?"

The young anthropology intern was more than willing to look. Meyer Hoffmann's voracious curiosity led him on a course of inquiry about the Tall House, those who'd lived there, and the neighborhood itself. As zealous Meyer uncovered information about the Tall House's history, he blundered to false conclusions as often as he stumbled onto correct ones. The only thing Meyer knew for certain was that everything about these shootings connected to forced ethnic migrations of the past. Yet no one—not the guests, not the neighbors—acted very concerned about these shootings. After all, weren't they designed to be victimless? Perhaps, initially. But that changed. [www.MECAHmilwaukee.com](http://www.MECAHmilwaukee.com)



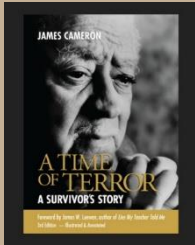
When the family of Leroy Cyrus decided to board him at the sumptuous Tall House, the resident social justice workers didn't know how to respond. Cyrus, now demented, was once a person of interest in the murder of the best friend of the Tall House's proprietor, Sherilyn Riddle. She questioned whether it was ethical to interrogate a man with Alzheimer's disease. One boarder that had no problems with the ethics of this investigation was anthropology student, Meyer Hoffmann. He'd do whatever was necessary to solve this and possibly related murders. But the question was—how can he know if the information he gleaned from Cyrus was true, fabricated, or based on false memories? [www.MECAHmilwaukee.com](http://www.MECAHmilwaukee.com)



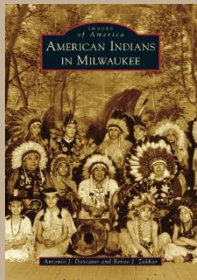
*Kids in Cultures* educates (while entertaining) children on key concepts of diversity, including culture, ethnicity, and multicultural societies. Kids learn about these concepts through stories of children in various eras and cultural settings in SE Wisconsin. The authors are authorities in their fields. Stories include "Mammoth meat," "Barbara Smith is German?" "Showing up is important: A Hmong virtue," "Firefly nights: An urban Oneida story," "Snow falls in Bronzeville," and "The Braves take the World Series: A Polish and Mexican story." [www.MECAHmilwaukee.com](http://www.MECAHmilwaukee.com)



## Ethnic Wisconsin in books, continued

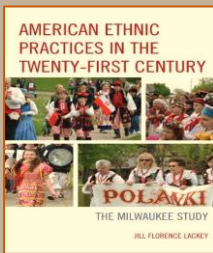


*A Time of Terror: A Survivor's Story* by James Cameron is the *only* account ever written by a survivor of a lynching. Thanks to America's Black Holocaust Museum and its parent organization, the Dr. James Cameron Legacy Foundation, the book is now available again to a general audience. This new edition includes five never-before-published chapters, photographs, and information for students and teachers. The Foundation will also properly preserve and store Dr. Cameron's original manuscript. [www.timeofterror.info](http://www.timeofterror.info); get book at <https://tinyurl.com/timeofterror>



*American Indians in Milwaukee* tells the story of tribes in Milwaukee from the time of its 'founding mother' through Indian removal in the 1830s through Indian return through years of activism and the development of the Indian Community School, Potawatomi Bingo and Casino, and Indian Summer Festival. *American Indians in Milwaukee* by Antonio J. Doxtator and Renee J. Zakhar | Arcadia Publishing Books

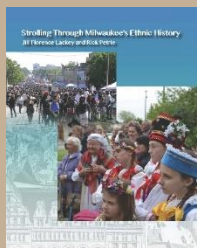
RECOMMENDED BY CHOICE JOURNAL!



*American Ethnic Practices in the Early Twenty-first Century: The Milwaukee Study* is a work based on a twelve-year research project conducted by Urban Anthropology, Inc. The qualitative study examined current strength of ethnicity and the contributions that ethnic practices have made to the wider society. The work takes a new approach by focusing on ethnic practices. The most prominent findings in the book were the ways that community-building activities of ethnic groups contributed to the wider society, and how this, in turn can help restore a needed balance between individualism and collectivism in the United States. [www.lexingtonbooks.com](http://www.lexingtonbooks.com)

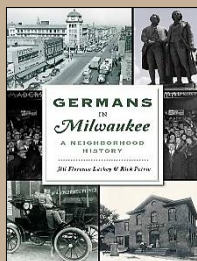
[ingtonbooks.com](http://www.lexingtonbooks.com)

### NEWEST



*Strolling Through Milwaukee's Ethnic History* is the follow-up book to the academic text above, but is written for a lay audience. The book takes readers on actual "strolls" through Milwaukee streets and neighborhoods where each ethnic group left their marks. They are fun and educational tours for families and classrooms.

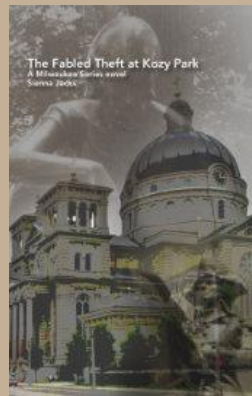
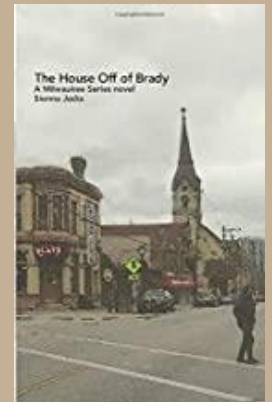
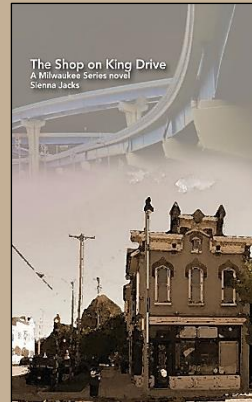
<http://mecamilwaukee.com/>



*Germans in Milwaukee: A neighborhood history*, by Jill Florence Lackey and Rick Petrie documents the German presence that still exists in Milwaukee neighborhoods, including place names to parklands to statuary, and through the memories of local residents—some 1,200 who contributed interviews to the authors' organization, Urban Anthropology, Inc.

[www.arcadiapublishing.com/Products/9781467147286](http://www.arcadiapublishing.com/Products/9781467147286)

## Mystery novels to support ongoing work of Urban Anthropology Inc.



The author of the Tall House mystery series, Sienna Jacks, has created a series of novels that take place in Milwaukee neighborhoods. The first offering takes place on Brady Street, the second in the original Bronzeville neighborhood, and the third in Lincoln Village.

As a former resident in numerous Milwaukee neighborhoods, Dr. Jacks will be donating most of her royalties for the ongoing work of Urban Anthropology Inc.

Order at

<http://mecamilwaukee.com/Fiction.html>

*Work of Urban Anthropology (UrbAn):*

Milwaukee neighborhood website  
Milwaukee ethnic website  
Milwaukee educational website  
*Milwaukee Ethnic News*  
*Milwaukee Neighborhood Forum*  
15 Milwaukee documentaries

*UrbAn is an all-volunteer organization*

# Publisher focuses on ethnic Milwaukee

*Presents opportunities for local writers*



*Milwaukee Ethnic Collection of Arts and Humanities (MECAH Publishing) recently opened in Milwaukee. Its goals are to:*

- Interest readers in the cultural diversity of Milwaukee and its surrounding communities.
- Produce products that fit one or more of these arts and humanities: history, anthropology/archaeology, folk art, art history, museums, literature (including poetry and fiction), language, architecture, and religion.
- Target the products to lay audiences of all ages (e.g., non academic).

*Products that relate to urban centers of southeast Wisconsin and highlight cultural diversity will be considered, and can include any of the following:*

- Nonfiction books (e.g., small museums in southeastern Wisconsin, the history of Pentecostal churches in Milwaukee).
- Fiction books (e.g., a mystery set in Milwaukee, a book for young people with a local immigration theme).
- Documentaries (e.g., the Irish of southeastern Wisconsin; a reproduction of a play with a Milwaukee theme).

## MECAH Publishing

*Milwaukee Ethnic Collection of  
Arts and Humanities*

[MECAHMilwaukee.com](http://MECAHMilwaukee.com)

## The work of Urban Anthropology



Urban Anthropology Inc. (UrbAn), the publisher of this newsletter, is an organization of cultural anthropologists dedicated to the celebration of cultural diversity and developing assets in Milwaukee neighborhoods. Among its accomplishments in the past two decades are the following:

- 12-year study of 65 ethnic groups in the Greater Milwaukee area, resulting in multiple youth and adult programs and two books.
- Oral history of 29 Milwaukee neighborhoods, resulting in website, multiple programs, and two books.
- 15 documentaries, based on the above studies.
- 100 life histories of the Milwaukee homeless, resulting in Marquette curriculum and documentaries
- Over 30 programs to beautify and improve Milwaukee neighborhoods
- Training of over 120 anthropology interns in grassroots research
- Publication of bimonthly, *Milwaukee Ethnic News*.
- Website of 191 Milwaukee neighborhoods (see page 11).
- Website of aids for teaching cultural diversity to students, based on past UrbAn youth programs (see page 7).
- Currently working with three neighborhoods to develop block museums
- Three plays on Milwaukee history
- Study on immigration and work ethics.

# Milwaukee Ethnic News

*Milwaukee Ethnic News* is published bimonthly by Urban Anthropology Inc. and is managed by volunteer anthropologists. The purpose of the newsletter is to offer ethnic organizations and individuals opportunities to share news and information about their cultures. The newsletter does not receive funds from any external source. The editor is Dr. Jill Florence Lackey.

## Subscriptions

The newsletter is emailed to anyone wishing to receive it. People subscribing themselves and their friends went from 48 in June, 2012 to over 1,000 currently. If you wish your email or that of a friend to be added to the subscriber list, send the email addresses to [JFLanthropologist@currently.com](mailto:JFLanthropologist@currently.com).

## Submitting stories

*Milwaukee Ethnic News* is interested in stories from individuals, businesses, and organizations that have an ethnic appeal. These can be stories about an immigrant family, special ethnic events, or ethnic issues that need to be aired as guest editorials. Stories that show interethnic cooperation are most welcome.

Stories must be between 100 and 400 words. Some editing will be done to match our style guidelines and spatial constraints. We will write the stories for you if you simply send us a list of the information that you want included. A photo of less than 2 MBs is always required for a story to be published. Please do not refer us to websites to collect information or photos. If we write your story from the general information you send, we do not send proofs for approval.

Stories are always due on the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding a publication month. At times later submissions may be allowed (ask first). Publication months are July, September, November, January, March, and May. Please send your stories to [JFLanthropologist@currently.com](mailto:JFLanthropologist@currently.com).

## Editorials

*Milwaukee Ethnic News* occasionally prints editorials or opinion pieces that deal with ethnic topics. Guest editorials are also welcome, but need prior approval to be published.



## Ethnic Documentaries from Urban Anthropology Inc.

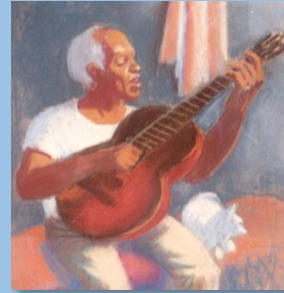
### The Kaszubs of Jones Island: The People That Nobody Knew

*Story of a fishing community that once thrived in the middle of an urban center, and then disappeared.*

### Urban Indians and the Culture of Collective Action

*The cultural practices and local contributions of North American Indians in Milwaukee.*

### African Americans and the Culture of Contribution



*The fall of Bronzeville and the contributions of African Americans in the city of Milwaukee.*

### The Amazing Adaptation of the Urban Hmong

*When thousands of Hmong came to the United States, they made an incredible adaptation to a complex society, while keeping their own cultural practices alive.*

### The Varieties of Latino Experience



*This documentary focuses on the diversity (as well as similarities) among various Latino groups in Milwaukee.*

DVDs are \$25.00 each. All are based on studies done by cultural anthropologists. To order go to [www.urban-anthropology.org/Paypalorders.html](http://www.urban-anthropology.org/Paypalorders.html)