

## Vocabulary from the audio clips in the *Stories from the Circle* app

*The purpose of this vocabulary list is to explain terms in the clips that might be unfamiliar to listeners.*

bas relief: sculpture that projects only slightly from the surface surrounding it (French).

cede: to give something up, or grant it to someone else, generally through a treaty. Unceded: not given up or signed over to anyone else.

Clanmothers (in the Haudenosaunee Confederacy): female matriarchs of a clan family. Give counsel to the members of their clan; select clan leaders; and distribute resources within the clan family.

commission: (1) instruction or task given to a person or group; (2) group of people charged with completing a task; (3) to give a task or request the production of something (e.g. a building or artwork).

Doctrine of Discovery: doctrine that stemmed from fifteenth century papal bulls (decrees by the Catholic Pope), allowing explorers to claim ownership of lands and goods and to enslave people in any place not inhabited by Christians.

dominion: (1) control or rule; (2) a territory belonging to a ruler or government.

E Pluribus Unum: Out of many, one (Latin). The motto on the Great Seal of the United States.

ecclesial: relating to a church.

encyclical: a letter sent by the Pope to all the bishops in the Catholic Church.

Firekeepers: see Onondaga Nation.

Grand Council: governing body of the leaders within the Haudenosaunee Confederacy; meets on a regular basis on the Onondaga Nation.

Great Law of Peace: principle of peace and consensus that brought together the nations of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy; underlies the confederacy's constitution and philosophy of non-violence.

Haudenosaunee: confederacy of six Indigenous nations: the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas, Senecas, and Tuscaroras. “Haudenosaunee” means “Peoples of the Longhouse.” More information is available at [Who We Are - Haudenosaunee Confederacy](#).

manifest destiny: term originating in the 19th century United States implying that expanding the borders of the country across the continent was inevitable and necessary.

NOON (Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation): Central New York grassroots organization that supports Indigenous land rights.

North Side: area of Syracuse with strong Italian American community; nicknamed “Little Italy.”

Onondaga Nation: one of the six nations in the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. “The Onondaga Nation lies in the middle of the Haudenosaunee territory and is also known as the Central Fire. The Central Fire is a term used to describe Onondaga as a place where the Hoyá•neh (Chiefs) meet in a Grand Council. Because of this, the Onondaga Nation is also referred to as Ganakdagweñni•yo’geh, or the Capital” ([Onondaga Nation website](#)).

Papal bull: a decree issued by the Catholic Pope.

Peacemaker: united the nations of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy.

sanctuary city: there are many definitions. In general, a North American city that limits its cooperation or resources provided to federal immigration enforcement agencies.

Six Nations: the six nations of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy: the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas, Senecas, and Tuscaroras.

sovereignty: the right to self-government. Sovereign (adj.): self-governing.

Tadodaho: a chief of the Onondaga Nation who serves as spiritual and political leader to the Haudenosaunee Confederacy.

Tree of Peace: Great White Pine planted at the creation of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy; symbol of peace for the Haudenosaunee.

Turtle Island: name used by some Indigenous people and Indigenous rights activists for the North American continent.