

NATIVE WISCONSIN PLANTS

Indian Community School, WI (2018)



Indian Community School Native Wisconsin Plants, 2018

Linocut

Integral to life in the sky, on the ground, and in the sea, we share a life force through the nature around us. These three pieces produced by the Indian Community School as part of Franklin Public Library's Community Stories art series give reverence to the earth that provides for all living beings and connects us to each other. The plants depicted are native to Wisconsin and its peoples, tied to generations of history. They have played central roles in ceremony, construction, and celebration and connect us to the original land upon which we live.

As they have sustained us, we must sustain them. Many of these plants are under threat from invasive plant and insect species, causing irreparable harm to the world in which we and others live. Current and future generations can reverse these changes by sowing native Wisconsin seeds and choosing native varieties for their gardens.

- **Target Audience:** Adult patrons, Milwaukee County
- **Purpose of the label:** Interpretive, action-oriented
- **Communication challenge or message the label was intended to address:** A call to action around the loss of native plant life and connecting us back to the Earth, which provides for us.
- **Number of drafts required to complete:** 7. It needed to be reviewed by multiple persons within the Indian Community School as well as their tribal offices in Milwaukee and northern Wisconsin.
- **Notes:** I wrote the copy for this label with continued guidance and direction from the Potawatomi Nation and Indian Community School. It required numerous ideation sessions with their staff and students and iteration reviews to ensure that their voice and message were captured accurately.