

Our Sacred Heart Story with the Potawatomi People in Kansas, 1841-79

My dear Family of the Sacred Heart,

I am deeply grateful to Maureen Chicoine who is guiding us into the center of our Society's mission and charism. I feel that Maureen is offering us, the Sacred Heart Family, a foundation from which to discern with an open heart our complexities and contradictions, our truths and myths, enabling us to better explore who we are and where we have come from, and where we are now today, within our contemporary context.

My beloved friends -Julia Arce- teacher at Broadway, San Francisco, Jenny Morfin-partner in mission, Mary Kay Hunyady, rscj, and Kristi Laughlin, Associate, offered us profound and deep responses that broke open my heart and my tears. Besides it being a privilege to collaborate, receive companionship and inspiration from each of them, I better grasp the depth and generosity of their gifts and capabilities within their roles in the Sacred Heart.

I must quote Julia:

“Jerilyn’s historical and personal account of inherited trauma calls me to look at the concentric processions of wounds; I also see the sap of survivalist strength that still holds these wounds, even though the injustices cannot be undone. The embers of Debwewin (Heart Knowledge/Truth) and Zaagidiwin (Inter-relational Love) amongst others, are part of the alchemy my colleagues and I need to understand.”

We will continue on our journey with Dr. Kelli Mosteller on March 2, I know we will be broadly expanded to our edges. Sr. Maria Cimperman will start us with prayer. Dr Mosteller will offer us a land acknowledgement and her paradigm-shifting narrative and end with prayer and blessings.

It is not to be missed.

I echo Julia’s parting words: *I am blessed to be a colleague to all of you... who model lifelong learning, personal accountability, justice work, and healing. These trajectories are flames of the Sacred Heart, a heart broken and open.*

Until March 2,

Your loving child,

Molly McGettigan Arthur
Broadway, ES '63, HS '67, Society of the Sacred Heart Associate
With love to my Reverend Mother, Mary Mardel