



Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

Charlotte Roller Derby hosts practices and games on the traditional territory of the **Catawba** (kuh-taa-buh) **Nation**, which has stewarded this land for more than 6,000 years. In that time, Catawbas and other Indigenous communities, including the **Waxhaw, Sugaree, and Cheraw nations**, learned to live with the land in a good way, cultivating it into an abundant landscape that provided for all their needs. Today, we appreciate that this land provides opportunities for us to come together as a league, to share experiences, and to build community – we understand that we owe much to the land in return.

We also acknowledge that the story told about the history of the land we steward has been incomplete. In 1763 much of the land was ceded to the British Crown through the Treaty of Augusta. The remaining land was illegally ceded to the state of South Carolina in 1840 through the Treaty of Nation Ford. Recognizing, acknowledging, and honoring the history of the land and Catawba Nation is only the first step.

We must support and listen to Indigenous voices while continuing to address the policies and practices that prevent us from being good stewards of the land and good neighbors with the Catawba Nation.

We urge everyone to learn about this history, support Native artists, entrepreneurs, and organizations advocating for American Indian communities (such as the Catawba Cultural Center, the UNC American Indian Center, and the Metrolina Native American Association), stand in solidarity with land protectors, advocate for missing and murdered Indigenous women, and return the land to its original stewards.

We also urge you to donate to and support Team Indigenous Rising Roller Derby, which is showing other athletes and community members what is possible for Indigenous sports across tribes, borders, and nations.

How to Get Involved:

- Visit the Catawba Cultural Center. Monday – Saturday from 9 am-5 pm at 1536 Tom Steven Road, Rock Hill, SC 29730. Admission is free.
 - Follow the Catawba Cultural Center and Team Indigenous Rising Roller Derby on social media. @catawbaculture @teamindigenusrising
 - Donate to the Catawba Cultural Center (mail check to 1536 Tom Steven Road, Rock Hill, SC 29730) and Team Indigenous Rising Roller Derby (through their website: <https://www.teamindigenous.org/donate>)
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Resources:

www.catawbaculture.org

catawba.com

native-land.ca

landback.org

[Team Indigenous Rising Roller Derby](#)

[Land Reparations and Indigenous Solidarity Toolkit](#)

The [Metrolina Native American Association](#) (MNAA) is a Native American Community Association in Charlotte (Mecklenburg County), North Carolina. MNAA is a North Carolina State-Recognized Urban Indian Center Incorporated in January 1976 by local Native Americans as a non-profit education advocacy group. The organization serves over 10,000 Native Americans in Mecklenburg and the surrounding counties. Since its inception in 1976, the organization has hosted an annual Pow Wow and Golf Tournament in September along with many other activities throughout the year.

Learn more about [The Sumter Tribe Of Cheraw Indians](#).

The NC Department of Administration has developed a [map](#) of NC Tribal and Urban Communities. To learn more about South Carolina's Native Communities [here](#).

[Native Land Digital](#) is a Native-led not-for-profit organization that maintains an app that helps map Indigenous territories, treaties, and languages.

Read about Dr. R. P. Stephen Davis's contributions to the [Catawba Project and Siouan Project](#), discussing the history of Native Americans in the American South and the impact of European colonization on native peoples in Virginia and the Carolinas during the seventeenth, eighteenth, and early nineteenth centuries.

The UNC American Indian Center has an article [About NC Native Communities](#).

[Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women USA](#)

Explore indigenous history through the [Native Knowledge 360°](#) Educational Resources developed by the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian

Pronunciation Guide:

Catawba (kuh-taa-buh)