

KULCHA SYMPOSIUM

REPORT



Table of Contents

01

Overview

02

Message from
the Board of
Directors

03

Important Links &
Outcomes

04

Conclusions

05

Contact



Overview

On September 1st-3rd, 2021, the first annual Belize KULCHA Symposium was held virtually and broadcasted through several media outlets.

Organized by Heritage Education Network Belize (HENB), the Belize KULCHA Symposium is a virtual, inclusive, and interdisciplinary space for academics and public persons to share knowledge, bridge boundaries, and create meaningful discourse on language, culture, heritage, and the arts. HENB is a non-governmental, non-profit organization that aims to encourage and create resilient and sustainable approaches to environmental, economic, and social issues through heritage education and advocacy. **The symposium reached over 29,800 individuals on Facebook and was also streamed live on YouTube and local cable channels in Belize such as The National Channel and Color Blind Multimedia Productions.** The presentations will continue to be accessed freely on HENB's social media pages and their website.

The thematic sessions included Maya Archaeology, post-contact Belize, collaborative heritage research, public archaeology, museum and heritage spaces, creative industries, literature and folklore, traditional knowledge and sustainability, decolonizing Belizean identity, modern realities and urbanism, presented by a cross-section of citizen scientists, community leaders, researchers and educators.

The opening speech was given by Hon. Francis Fonseca, Belizean Minister of Education, Culture, Science and Technology and Keynote Speakers for Day 2 and 3 included Ritamay Hyde-Talla and Dr. Jim Taylor.

Message from the Board of Directors



In light of the many disruptions caused by COVID-19, our goal was to create a virtual space for scholars and interested persons to present their ideas for lay and academic audiences, alike.

Our main goal was to bring researchers and citizen historians together and initiate intercultural and interdisciplinary dialogue in these challenging times. In line with our organizational mission, we were welcoming holistic approaches to culture and heritage such as the Arts, wellbeing, natural heritage research, food and culinary arts, literature and more.

We were humbled to see the engagement and the excitement of both participants and viewers throughout the three days of the Symposium and hope that this annual event will continue to bring much joy and knowledge to people in the coming years.

Regards,
HENB Directors

"Create a virtual space for scholars, citizen researchers and interested persons."

- Interdisciplinary approach
- Intercultural dialogue
- Community engagement

Important Links

Website: www.heritagebelize.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HeritageEducationNetwork>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/heritagebelize/>

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGyytbwWPLONVA7JuZalqKg>

Symposium: <https://www.heritagebelize.org/symposium>

Outcomes

Kulcha symposium Days 1 - 3 (September 1-3, 2021)

Facebook

- Facebook Page Impressions 18,087
- Facebook Page Reach 18,547.
- Facebook Content Reach 29,847
- Facebook Likes and Reactions 895
- Facebook Comments 450
- Facebook Content Shares 159

YouTube Channel

- Youtube Total Watch time 279 hours
- Youtube Total views 1086 (Unique viewers 348)
- YouTube Impressions 3591

Other

- Open source accessibility of 39 research presentations.
- Networking opportunities, intercultural and transcultural dialogue.
- Countries of presenters:
 - Belize 23
 - The United States 9
 - Other world-wide 7

Conclusions



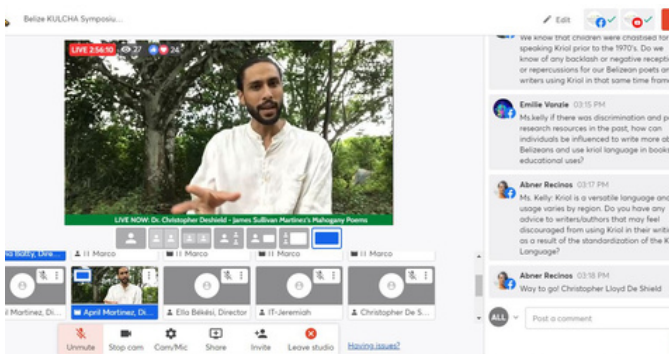
Interdisciplinary Approach to Culture and Heritage

- 13 thematic session
- Academic and citizen researcher presentations




Intercultural Dialogue

- 39 Belizean and international presenters
- Over 450 international comments
- 21,678 Total Global Impressions



Community Engagement

- Facebook Content Reach 29,847
- Networking opportunities



Our board of directors would like to acknowledge the contributions of the people who worked tirelessly on the the 2021 Belize KULCHA Symposium. Below, are the names of those committed to these projects, such as:

Marco Vasquez responsible for **IT and event coordination**

Lynmara Rosado for **event coordination and hosting**

Jeremiah Chiac for **IT and event coordination**

Alessandra Villarreal for **event coordination**

Angelia Villar for **Social Media management**

All presenters for their contribution to the Symposium

We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to safeguard culture and heritage.

Contact

Heritage Education Network Belize

www.heritagebelize.org 

info@heritagebelize.org 

[@HeritageEducationNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/HeritageEducationNetwork) 