

TREASURE LANGUAGE STORYTELLING

The New Parkway Theater, 6-8pm Sunday 13 December

Welcome

Vince Medina (Chochenyo)

Introduction

Nadia Chaney

One Word With No Words

Payyanhitkanakše – *Blood Monster, Chochenyo*

Vince Medina and Louis Trevino

The Chochenyo are one of the divisions of the Ohlone people of Northern California. They lived on the land that we call the East Bay.

Greeting: *hórše túuxi* – *good day*

Response: *hórše túuxi*

Listen: *mayyan* – *coyote*, *Kiš Horše* ‘*Ék-Hinnan* – *thank-you*

Hieh Mienh Gouv – *Wild Mien Story, lu Mien*

Leiz Yauz-Cing and Lai Saephan

lu Mien is a language of the Yao people of China, Laos, Vietnam, and Thailand. Many relocated to California in the late 1970s following the Vietnam War, mainly to Oakland and Sacramento.

Greeting: *baengh orn bun taux yietc zuangx* – *peace for everybody*

Response: *baengh orn*

Listen: *hieh mienh gouv* – *wild male*, *hieh mienh nyeiz* – *wild female*
da’normh – *mien, human*

laengz zingh – *thank-you*

Proverbs from Treasure Languages

The Aikuma Project

Steven Bird and Robyn Perry

Aikuma – *meeting place* (Usarufa, an endangered language of New Guinea with just 1,000 speakers remaining)

Travel in a Lawless Land, Tigrigna

Teklemariam Tekeste Kahsu and Ephrem Naizghi

Tigrigna is a Semitic language of Eritrea and Ethiopia. Many Eritreans settled in California following the Eritrean-Ethiopian war in the late 1990s.

Speaker's greeting: kema'alkum – *welcome*

Audience response: yemesgn – *thank you*

selam – *hello*

ooooooooooy – *help! oh my god!*

qew a'i – *harvest*

higi albo – *lawless*

moyte – *I am dead*

meKan – *barren woman*

Everything for my Own Kind, or, Our Donkey is for Our Hyenas, እናሰጾ ወደ ስጦት እናረኣዮ ቅበሮ, Tigrigna

Memhr Le'ake Ocbai and Ephrem Naizghi

zib'e – *hyena*

mbla'a – *eat*

Language Champions Panel

Vince Medina, Lai Saephan, and Tigisti Weldeab

Close

What You Can Do Next

1. **Save the date** – International Mother Language Day (Sun 21 Feb)

- Join us for an evening of storytelling by women; tell your friends

2. **Follow the Aikuma Project** – learn more, and receive updates

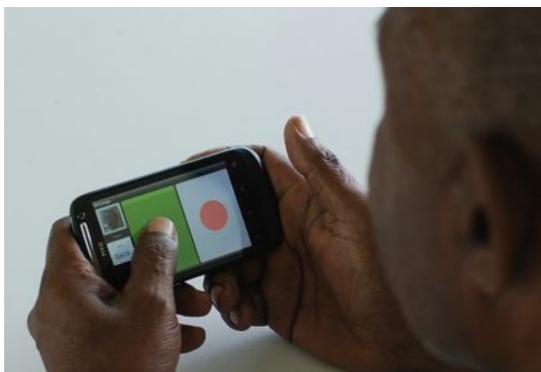
- Facebook: facebook.com/AikumaProject
- Twitter: [@AikumaProject](https://twitter.com/AikumaProject)

3. **Learn some words** – say hello and thank-you in a treasure language

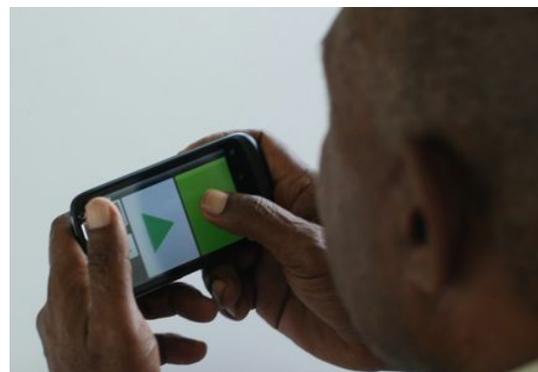
- Do you live or work near a treasure language speaker? Say hello and thank-you in their language, and see what effect it has!
- Do you work with children? What languages do they have at home? Each day, or each week, pick one of the languages, and have the group use these words for hello and thank-you for a whole day.

4. **Hold your own storytelling event** – perhaps we can support you

5. **Record and translate a story** – use Aikuma, a free Android app



Press and hold to listen to a sentence or paragraph.



Press and hold to record your translation. It's easy and fun.

Kiš Horše 'Ék-Hinnan ~ Laengz zingh ~ Yemesgn ~ Thank-you

Thank you for coming to an evening of storytelling in treasure languages, just three of the thousands of small languages still spoken in the world today.

We are grateful to tonight's emcee Nadia Chaney; the storytellers Vince Medina, Leiz Yauz-Cing, Teklemariam Tekeste Kahsu, and Memhr Le'ake Ocbai; the translators Louis Trevino, Lai Saephan, and Ephrem Naizghi; and the language champions Vince, Lai, and Tigisti Weldeab. What fun we have had together, preparing for tonight!

Thanks to Koy Saephan, Woldeyesus Andemariam, Isayas Sium, and Senai Kidane for their contributions. Thanks to Geoff Bacon, Emily Clem, Jake Drake, Anna Jurgensen, Hannah Sande, Andrew Cheng, Ally Bird, and Alexandra Sangmeister for logistical support. Thanks also to the Language Conservancy, the Department of Linguistics at UC Berkeley, and the International Computer Science Institute. A very special thanks to Manuel Maqueda from Kumu for mentoring us.

Lastly, we remember our grandparents who filled our childhoods with stories.

– *Steven Bird and Robyn Perry*
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