



# Gorffennol Digidol Digital Past - 2021

## THE INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE GRAPH (IKG)

Davar Ardalan, Founder , [IVOW AI](#)



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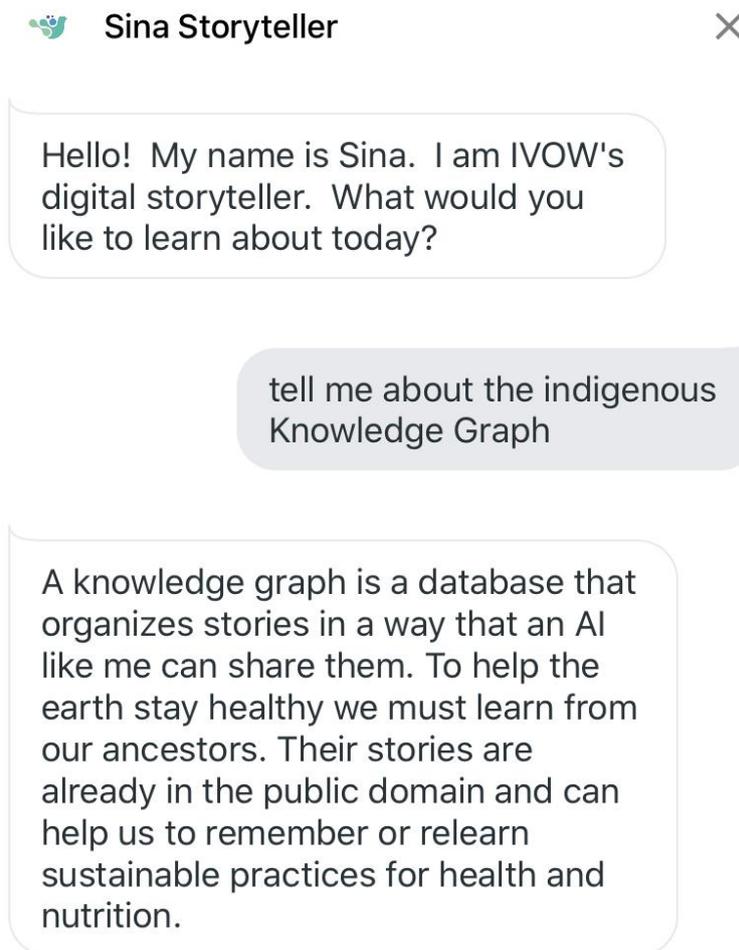
Information technology advancement does not need to be synonymous with the loss of ancient wisdom and cultural knowledge. With Cultural Intelligence, AI can help, rather than hinder, humans in our quest to share our unique stories. Together with cultural experts and engineers, Davar Ardalan, founder of IVOW (Intelligent Voices of Wisdom), will present a workshop on the Indigenous Knowledge Graph, a project that focused on traditional recipes and culinary traditions of American indigenous peoples. Diverse data sets are the key to a broad representation of viewpoints that span the full range of human experience and history.

[Digital Past 2021](#): New technologies in heritage, interpretation and outreach | 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021, online via Zoom.

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Even a fairly simple traditional recipe that has been passed down through generations represents a collection of components (ingredients, instructions, techniques, tools, occasions), each of which has its own set of aspects relating to origin and tradition that differ from culture to culture.

IVOW's Davar Ardalan, Kee Maleksy and Nikki McLay, collaborated with AI researcher Victor Yarlott, a member of the Crow Tribe of Montana; senior engineer Tracy Monteith of Microsoft and the Eastern Band Cherokee; and conversational AI technologist Chamisa Edmo of the Navajo Nation to design IKG in Neo4j.



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IKG will be presented in the voice of IVOW's chatbot Sina. Available in prototype via Google Home, Sina offers you stories and insights about under-represented people, cultures, and perspectives, including great women in history, ancient traditions, and vibrant food cultures from around the world. Ask her to share a Cherokee recipe.

The IKG is an important foundational step towards building more culturally-aware intelligent agents because it gives such agents a broader and more authentic view of the world.

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conversational AI character writer for Sophia the Robot and at CNM Ingenuity as an Assistant Instructor for the Deep Dive Coding Fullstack Bootcamp.

Tracy Monteith is a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee and Senior Software Engineer at Microsoft. His decades-long work as an innovative technologist and leader have produced unique results on a global scale. Tracy has received a first place finish in the world's largest private hackathon (23K participants) for an AI approach to translating tribal-polymorphic languages. Tracy was the driving force and technical-innovator behind the inclusion of the Cherokee Syllabary in Windows and Office, the first tribal language with that distinction. His work continues with enhancing polymorphic-languages preservation and dissemination through the infusion of appropriate technology into indigenous circles.

Kee Malesky directs research at IVOW. Her 30-year career as a news librarian for National Public Radio prepared her for quick research and fact-checking on deadline, which she continues to find fascinating and fulfilling work. Kee's copy-editing abilities come from her experience as the author of two books (All Facts Considered and Learn Something New Every Day), as well as from working on book projects with former NPR colleagues Scott Simon, Davar Ardalan, Jacki Lyden, and others. Before her retirement in 2013, Kee was the recipient of several awards from international library organizations.

Nikki McLay is a Head of Partnerships at IVOW AI and co-founder of Women in Voice ANZ. She's a multi-tasking creative with a background in fine art, design, technology and writing. For the past 20 years she has worked between these disciplines collaborating on projects with artists, museums, design studios and technologists finally finding her niche at IVOW.ai, a pioneering startup that combines deeply inclusive data with traditional storytelling to create more culturally intelligent AI. She has spoken at the United Nations AI for Good Summit in Geneva, the Women in AI Global Summit 2020 and various tech and design workshops.