Hugh Burnam
Ph.D. Candidate, Cultural Foundations of Education

A Haudenosaunee Thought Project: “In order for me to believe in our teachings, I need to know that we can use them to discuss our differences”

A Haudenosaunee Thought Project encourages ongoing discussions of traditional Haudenosaunee teachings, languages, stories, and perspectives about Native identity from Haudenosaunee community members. In his presentation, Hugh will discuss the collaborative process of bringing this project to fruition: roots, planning stages, implementation, specific challenges, self-worth, and perseverance. Striving towards peace, equity, and friendship, this project values the words of the Great Peacemaker: “When you sit and counsel for the welfare of the people, think not of yourself, nor of your family, nor even of your generation – but on behalf of the faces yet to come, who look up to us from the earth, awaiting their time.”

Matthew Stewart
Ph.D. Candidate, History

The Onondaga Earth Corps Community in Conversation

Matt Stewart will discuss his work with Onondaga Earth Corps, a Syracuse organization that hires youth and young adults from Syracuse to work in community development, urban forestry, green infrastructure, and urban agriculture projects over the course of six weeks in the summer. Matt’s project collects short texts on place, community, and environmental issues for and from the group and uses them as a springboard for engagement and reflection over the course of the summer, culminating in a Community Conversation sponsored by Humanities New York.