

# ***Ryan Dial-Stanley***

Native American storytelling | Native American performing



Chapel Hill, Orange County, NC

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"Native American Storyteller: Ryan Dial-Stanley"

<https://youtu.be/DEbRqrVE8kU>

## PIEDMONT

Originally from the Winston-Salem area and a member of the Lumbee tribe, **RYAN DIAL-STANLEY** grew up attending powwows across North Carolina. He participated first as a dancer and later as a storyteller, once his mother, a storyteller herself, was satisfied that he knew traditional Lumbee narratives well enough to deliver their messages not through verbatim memorization, but in his own unique style. Today he is dedicated to sharing Lumbee arts and culture across many genres including storytelling, dancing, flute playing, and deer hide painting, as well as organizing and emceeding powwows and other events.

Through his performances, Dial-Stanley honors the role of storytelling in North Carolina Native American communities as an educational method. Not only does he teach about history and culture, but he also conveys the joys and struggles of being Lumbee in the modern world. "I'm trying to create allies everywhere I go," he explains, "and I think that begins with people just knowing about Native people's lives... I view it kind of like puzzle pieces, like every piece I give them just helps them get a clearer picture of how Native Americans lived historically, but also, more importantly, how Native Americans live now."

Dial-Stanley has extensive experience performing for audiences of many sizes and age groups, including school groups. He has been a featured artist at Tryon Palace in New Bern, coordinator of the Lexington Multicultural Festival's Native American Village, and Chair of the powwow committee for the Carolina Indian Circle in Chapel Hill. While working as a Medical Laboratory Scientist at UNC Medical Center and completing a Masters degree in clinical lab science, he remains involved in Native American community-building and advocacy in the Chapel Hill area.

### AVAILABILITY

Ryan Dial-Stanley will consider invitations to demonstrate and teach about Lumbee storytelling, music, dance, and visual arts, as well as opportunities to coordinate and emcee events and multicultural festivals.