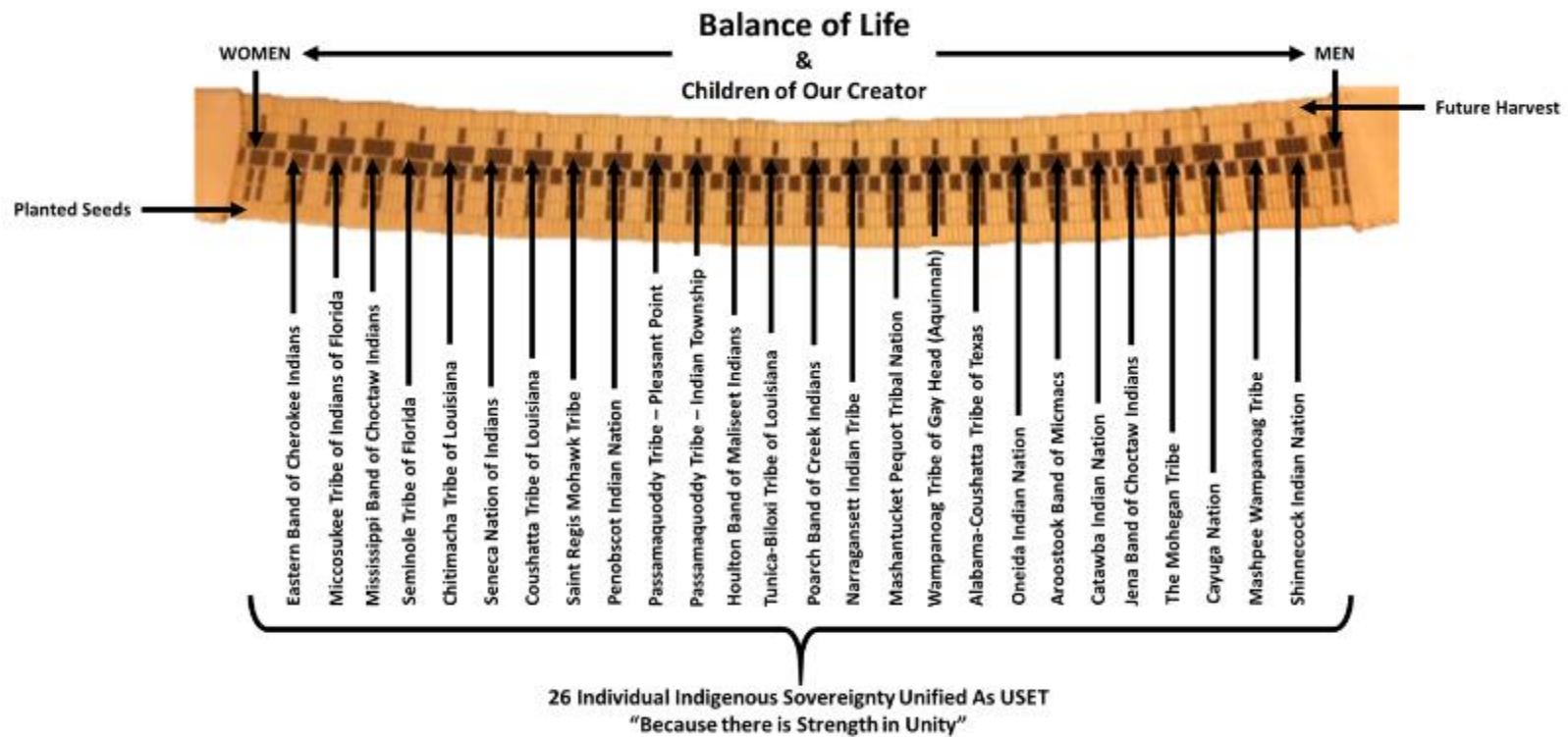


The "**BALANCE OF LIFE**" Wampum Belt of USET was gifted to USET by Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Councilor Daniel Menihan Jr. on behalf of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation. The belt is an offering to seek permission for the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Family, Community, Youth/Teen Council and other forms of leadership to enter the communities of all Sister Sovereignties within the USET Family. The request is to come together within the different communities in effort to plant seeds of unity and healing through the use of cultural exchange, ceremony, community prevention, family functions and other acts of unity. The belt is a record of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Council's commitment to our extended family within Indian Country.



Below is a diagram of the "Balance of Life" Wampum Belt of USET which shows the meaning of each symbol represented within the belt's basic design. Individual Sovereignties are displayed on the wampum belt in the same order as they are listed on the USET website.



**Name of Wampum Belt:** Balance of Life – Wampum Belt of USET

**Women & Men:** The Balance of Life and the Children of Our Creator

**Women:** Life Providers and Life Nurturers; the Reflection in which Birth & Cultivate the Seeds of Our Creator

**Men:** Life Protectors and Life Takers; the Reflection in which Sustains the Love & Light which is Birthed & Nurtured by Women  
(Examples of Taking Life are Fishing, Hunting & the Gathering of Berries, Mushrooms and Plants)

**26 Individual People Within Women & Men:** The 26 Individual Indigenous Sovereignities which make up Our USET Family

**2 Solid White Rows of Wampum:** The Strength of Planting Seeds of Unity & the Harvest of a Unified Heartbeat

**Bottom:** White Row of Wampum (Building Our Foundation; the Planting & Cultivation of Seeds)

**Top:** White Row of Wampum (Future Blessings; the Harvest of Today's Planted Seeds)

**The Holding of Hands:** The 26 Individual Indigenous Sovereignities Coming Together as Women and Men

We hold hands.... *"Because there is Strength in Unity"*

**Handmade By:** Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Member, Kim Reels (Descendant of Pequot, Mohegan, Narragansett, Niantic)

**Gifted By:** Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Councilor Menihan on Behalf of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation on February 11, 2016 at USET