Ofelia Zepeda

A member of the Tohono O'odham (formerly Papago) Nation, Ofelia Zepeda grew up in Stanfield, Arizona. She earned a BA, an MA, and a PhD in linguistics from the University of Arizona. Zepeda's poetry touches on linguistics, O'odham traditions, the natural world, and the experience of contemporary O'odham life. Her work is influenced by traditional Papago themes and songs. Zepeda has been a professor of linguistics and director of the American Indian Studies Program at the University of Arizona, as well as director of the American Indian Language Development Institute. She edits Sun Tracks, a book series devoted to publishing work by Native American artists and writers, at the University of Arizona Press.