



United National Indian Tribal Youth  
Angelina Y. Serna  
Midwest Regional Representative  
National UNITY Council  
midwest@unityinc.org

Greetings Midwest Region,

My name is Angelina Serna, I'm Turtle Mountain Chippewa and Oneida, and I'm currently the Midwest Region representative for UNITY. I'm also president of Chicago's Indigenous Tribal Youth (C.I.T.Y) Council, which was just awarded Youth Council of the Year at this year's UNITY National conference in Dallas, Texas. After a tough year, it was so refreshing to be able to connect with other Native youth from across the country. It was great to see a lot of you in our Midwest Caucus meetings, and I'm so excited to see what our region does in the next year.

For those who aren't familiar with this organization, UNITY stands for United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc. This is a national organization whose mission is to foster the spiritual, mental, physical, and social development of American Indian and Alaska Native youth, and to help build a strong, unified, and self-reliant Native America through greater youth involvement. This year's conference was in Dallas, TX. My youth council and I had an amazing time. We attended great workshops and made so many new friends. One of my personal highlights from the conference was the cultural night. It was truly a beautiful experience to be able witness and share our culture and dances from so many different tribes from across Turtle Island. Each year they host a national conference in a new location, the 2022 conference will be held in the midwest region in Minneapolis, Minnesota! You don't need to be an official UNITY Youth Council to attend, any youth are welcome. If you would like to establish your own UNITY Youth Council, please don't be afraid to reachout to me as your representative or anyone on the UNITY team.

My goal as Midwest Representative is to not only continue building and supporting our region, but to also bring our region together as a whole. I want us all to strengthen our connections to one another, and I don't want the only time we see each other just to be at UNITY. With that being said, I would like to invite you all to join us at the American Indian Center's 68th Annual Chicago Powwow. This year's powwow will take place October 8th, 9th, and 10th at Schiller Woods. Our youth council will be hosting a ceremonial fire that will take place over the weekend. We would love for you to join us to help fire keep throughout the weekend, hang out, and enjoy a great powwow. We are also currently working on an art

project that we can all partake in as a region. A campsite will be available and meals will be provided, and we would love to see as many youth from our region partake as possible. This is a youth-led fire with help and teachings from elders from across the region. For more information about the powwow and fire, please don't hesitate to reachout to me.

I would love to stay up to date on everything your youth council or community is up to. If you have any cool updates or photos please email them to me at [midwest@unityinc.org](mailto:midwest@unityinc.org). I can't wait to share what our region is up to with my fellow Executive Committee!

Miigwetch,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angelina Serna". The ink is a light grey or blue color. The signature is fluid and elegant, with the first name "Angelina" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Serna".

Angelina Serna  
Ojibwe/Oneida Nation  
President - Chicago's Indigenous Tribal Youth (C.I.T.Y)  
Midwest Representative - UNITY, Inc.