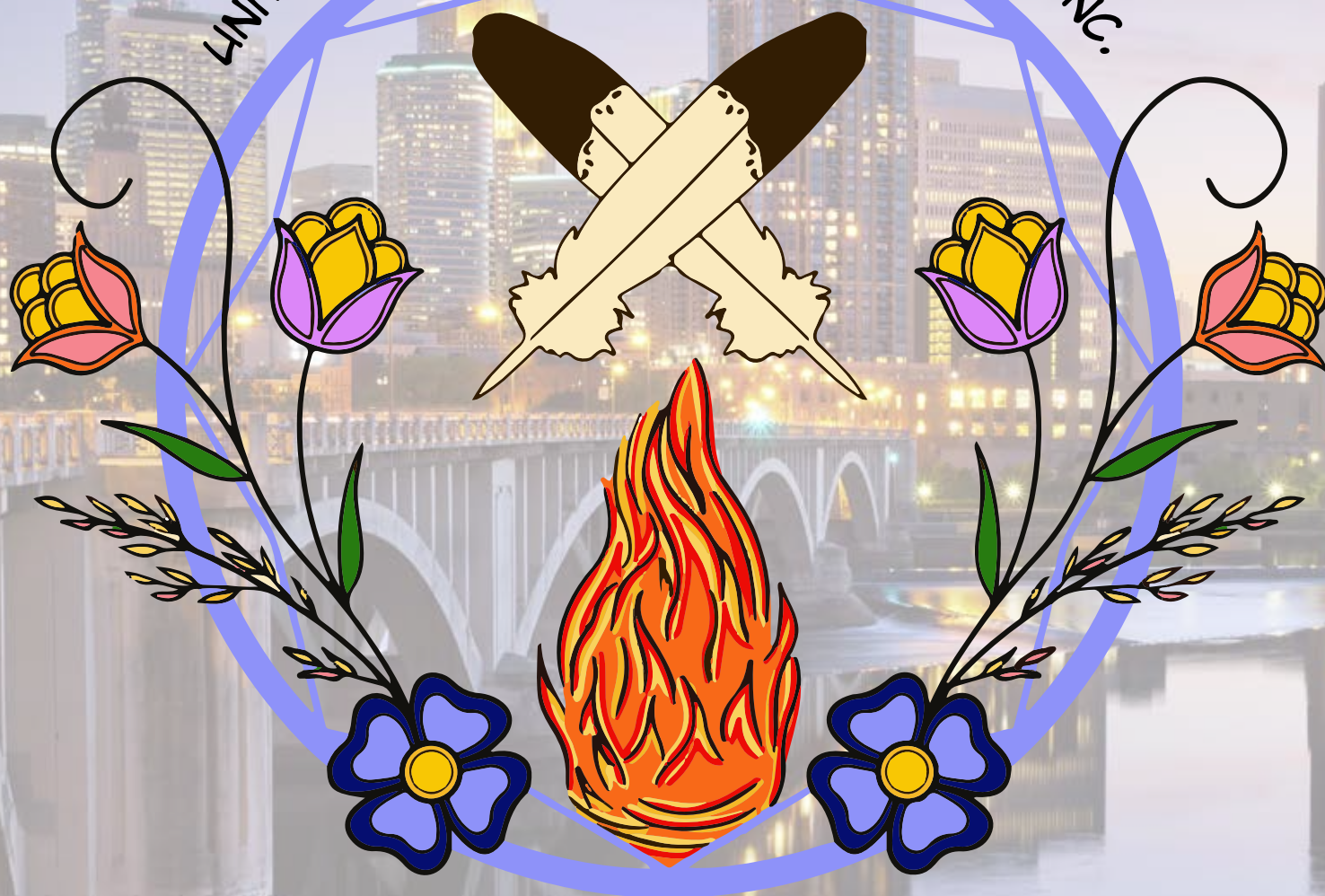




UNITED NATIONAL INDIAN TRIBAL YOUTH, INC.



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HONORING THE LEGACY OF UNITY FOUNDER, JR COOK

He lived his life dedicated to serving the needs of Native American and Alaska Native youth. James "J.R." Roscoe Cook of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, who founded United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc. (UNITY), passed away with his sister by his side in her home in Edna, Kansas earlier this year at the age of 83 after a long battle with heart disease.

J. R. was born on January 31, 1939 to James T. "Tex" and Goldie (Harrison) Cook in rural So. Coffeyville, Oklahoma. He graduated from Lenapah High School, attended Coffeyville Community Jr. College and completing his education at the University of Oklahoma with his master's degree.

J.R. started his career in education in the 1970's as a Cherokee math teacher and basketball coach in Weatherford, Oklahoma. Because of his love and passion for his Native American heritage and seeing a great need to help Cherokee youth he also worked as the director of one of the nation's largest Upward Bound programs at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford. He saw a lot of potential in American Indian youth, but knew that in order to combat critical issues facing youth he needed to take his passion further. On April 16, 1976 under his leadership United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc. was born. In 1978 J.R. joined forces to kick off the first of many national conferences.

J.R. felt so strongly about UNITY that he took no salary for seven years but worked in other part-time jobs to survive. In 1980 famed country and western star Willie Nelson hosted a fundraising concert for UNITY, which raised \$45,000 for the organization to support its youth programs. In 1980 JR established the first youth cohort of leaders called the Council of Eagles. Under his leadership, JR pushed for tribal groups to create youth councils, with the first tribal youth council being created in 1985 on the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming. The National UNITY Council and its first elected Executive Committee was established in 1992 in St. Paul, Minnesota. In the 1990s, JR also created the Earth Ambassadors program and coached the UNITY men's basketball team, which won many NIAA Championships and teamed up with the Atlanta Hawks to conduct basketball clinics around the country. Also, under his leadership, UNITY Native youth participated in Senate hearings in 1985, 1996 and 2002 to testify about substance abuse and other issues affecting Indian Country. JR retired in 2013.

J.R. was a member of the St. Luke's Methodist Church in Oklahoma, City. He enjoyed in sharing a good meal with family and friends, especially with his friends at the Bedlam BBQ in Oklahoma City. Supporting education in Oklahoma was always very important to J.R. and he continued to find ways to still be active even in failing health.

J.R. is survived by his sister, JoAnn Carney who cared for him until his passing, his faithful dog, Jake who he so loved and countless UNITY alumni who meant the world to him.





CONFERENCE AGENDA

Thursday, July 7 | Pre-Conference

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
6:00 - 7:30 PM	National UNITY Conference Welcome Reception	Host Hotel Hilton Ballroom
8:00 - 9:30 PM	Youth Leaders Training & Prep (NUC Male and Female Reps, EC, Earth Ambassadors, Peer Guides, 25 Under 25)	Exhibit Hall A
12:00 AM	Curfew/Lights Out! (Daily)	

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Friday, July 8 | Theme: Spiritual Development

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
7:30 AM - 5:00 PM	Conference Registration	Lobby Mezzanine
8:30 AM	Youth Leaders Training & Prep - Continued (NUC Male and Female Reps, EC, Earth Ambassadors, Peer Guides, 25 Under 25)	Exhibit Hall A
9:00 AM	UNITY 101 - Learn about UNITY, NUC, Constitution & Bylaws, find out how you can get more involved	Exhibit Hall A
11:00 AM	Lighting of the UNITY Fire -Meaning of the UNITY Fire -Sleeyeye LaFromboise, Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux/Tonawanda Seneca -Channah Walker, Sac & Fox Nation/Absentee Shawnee -Eshtakaba and Elonna LaFromboise, Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate/Tonawanda Seneca/Sac & Fox/Absentee Shawnee -Hunter Genia, Saginaw, Swan Creek, Black River Bands of Chippewa and Grand River Band Ottawa -Sheldon Smith, Navajo -Introduction of Special Guest	Outdoor Plaza
12:00 PM	Lunch Break	On Your Own
1:30 PM	Ballroom Doors Open -DJ Emcee One (Marcus Guinn), Osage Potawatomi	Exhibit Hall A
1:45 PM	Grand Entry Line Up - Male & Female Reps (Wear your regalia!)	Exhibit Hall A
2:00 PM	Opening Ceremony -Video Welcome -Grand Entry! Parade of Nations by Region - Chance Rush, Three Affiliated Tribes (Hidatsa) -Color Guard - UNITY Drum/ Junior Sierra and Michael Killer, Cherokee	Exhibit Hall A
	#UNITYMN2022	

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Friday, July 8 | Continued



TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
2:30 PM	<p>Welcome/Call to Order - NUC Co-Presidents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Presentation of the Flags -Blessing Host Tribe - Kordae Kingbird, Red Lake Nation -Welcome by Minnesota Lt. Governor, Penny Flanagan, White Earth Band of Ojibwe -Cultural Presentation - Reuben Kitto Stately, Santee Sioux & Red Lake Nations -UNITY NEWS! 	Exhibit Hall A
3:00 PM	<p>Welcome Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Loretta Tuell, Nez Perce, Chairman, UNITY Council of Trustees -Introductions of Council of Trustees 	Exhibit Hall A
3:05 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ice Breaker -Introductions of the National UNITY Council Executive Committee 	Exhibit Hall A
3:15 PM	<p>Roll Call of Regions–</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Great Plains: Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota -Midwest: Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin -Northeast: Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont -Northwest: Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Alaska -Pacific: California, Hawaii -Rocky Mountains: Montana, Wyoming -Southeast: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia -Southern Plains: Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas -Southwest: Colorado, New Mexico -Western: Arizona, Nevada, Utah 	Exhibit Hall A
3:25 PM	<p>Video Messages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Secretary Deb Haaland, U.S. Department of the Interior, Pueblo of Laguna -Rep. Sharice Davids (D) Kansas, Ho-Chunk 	Exhibit Hall A
3:30 PM	<p>Panel "Indigenous actors in film"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Kiowa Gordon, Hualapai (Dark Wind TV Series AMC+) -Stormee Lee Kipp, Shoshone-Bannock and Blackfeet (Predator 5 'Prey' Hulu) -Mato Wayuhi, Oglala Lakota, composer, FX/Hulu series Reservation Dogs 	Exhibit Hall A
4:15 PM	<p>Special Announcement - Healing Indigenous Lives Initiative Video</p>	Exhibit Hall A
4:30 PM	<p>Special Announcement/Presentation UNITY 25 Under 25 Leaders</p>	Exhibit Hall A



CONFERENCE AGENDA

Friday, July 8 | Continued

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
5:00 PM	Dinner Break Meet and Greet	On Your Own
6:30 PM	General Assembly - Explain purpose of caucus/announce tentative election procedures Input of youth issues	Exhibit Hall A
6:45 PM	Area Caucuses - Session #1	
	Great Plains: Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota	M100 / A-J
	Midwest: Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin	M100 / B-I
	Northeast: Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont	L100 / C
	Northwest: Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Alaska	M100 / C-H
	Pacific: California, Hawaii	M100 / D-G
	Rocky Mountains: Montana, Wyoming	L100 / D
	Southeast: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia	M100 / E-F
	Southern Plains: Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas	L200 / A-B-I-J
	Southwest: Colorado, New Mexico	L100 / E
	Western: Arizona, Nevada, Utah	L200 / C-D-G-H
6:30 PM	Advisor & Chaperone Meet and Greet "Introductions and Safety Mitigation" and "How to have a safe and fun experience at UNITY."	L100 / A-B-I-J
8:15 PM	General Assembly - Clans/Fun and Games!	Exhibit Hall A
9:30 PM	Announcements/Adjourn (EC/Peer Leaders Debrief)	Exhibit Hall A
9:30 PM	UNITY Water Ceremony (Optional) (No instruments after 9 pm due to noise ordinance)	Exhibit Hall A
12:00 AM	Curfew/Lights Out! (Daily)	

CONFERENCE AGENDA
Saturday, July 9 | Theme: Physical Development



Traditional Skirt/Shirt Day!

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
7:00 AM	Wellness Warriors Fitness Activities (Optional) -Zumba with Eileen Crocker -1-mile walk with UNITY Executive Director Mary Kim Titla! Fun Run with a buddy!	Zumba: Exhibit Hall A Walk/Run: Hilton Hotel Entrance
8:00 AM	Conference Registration	Lobby Mezzanine
8:15 AM	UNITY Drum	Exhibit Hall A
8:30 AM	General Session -Blessing - Dawn Chase, -Cultural Presentation - Kalis Chase, Ebany Chase, Charlise Chase, Ava Jelks, Upper Sioux Dakota Community -UNITY NEWS! -Tribal Leader Welcome and Remarks - Melanie Benjamin, Chief Executive/Tribal Chairman, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe	Exhibit Hall A
9:00 AM	Keynote Speaker - Chef Pyet, Pottawatamie First winner of Gordon Ramsay's groundbreaking TV show Next Level Chef (Fox)	Exhibit Hall A
9:45 AM	Speeches - Candidates for Male and Female Co-President	Exhibit Hall A
9:50 AM	NUC Initiative "Restoring the Spirit of Native Youth" Special Presentation - NUCEC	Exhibit Hall A
10:20 AM	Haudenosaunee Nationals on their Road to the Olympics! Rory Wheeler, Seneca, NUCEC NE Regional Representative	Exhibit Hall A
10:45 AM	Area Caucuses - Session #2	
	Great Plains: Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota	M100 / A-J
	Midwest: Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin	M100 / B-I
	Northeast: Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont	L100 / C
	Northwest: Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Alaska	M100 / C-H
	Pacific: California, Hawaii	M100 / D-G
	Rocky Mountains: Montana, Wyoming	L100 / D
	Southeast: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia	M100 / E-F
	Southern Plains: Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas	L200 / A-B-I-J
	Southwest: Colorado, New Mexico	L100 / E
	Western: Arizona, Nevada, Utah	L200 / C-D-G-H
10:45 AM	Advisor and Chaperone Breakout	L100 / A-B-I-J



CONFERENCE AGENDA

Saturday, July 9 | Continued

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
12:00 PM	Lunch Break & FREE AFTERNOON! Autograph signing 3 -on-3 Tournament	Lunch: On Your Own 3-on-3 Basketball: North High School 1500 James Ave N Minneapolis 55411
7:00 PM	Talent Show (sign-up required)	Exhibit Hall A
9:00 PM	UNITY Water Ceremony (Optional) No instruments due to noise ordinance	Exhibit Hall A
12:00 AM	Curfew/Lights Out! (Daily)	

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Sunday, July 10 | Theme: Mental Development

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
7:00 AM	Wellness Warriors Fitness Activities (Optional) -Zumba with Eileen Crocker -1-mile walk with UNITY Executive Director Mary Kim Titla! Fun Run with a buddy!	Zumba: Exhibit Hall A Walk/Run: Hilton Hotel Entrance
8:15 AM	UNITY Drum	Exhibit Hall A
8:30 AM	General Session -Special Presentation by Rachel Evanchelisto, Miss Minnesota, Standing Rock Sioux, First Indigenous woman to win the title -UNITY NEWS!	Exhibit Hall A
9:00 AM	Panel Presentation "Native Youth Research is Good Medicine" Nicole Bowman, PhD., Bowman Performance Consulting, Lunaape/Mohican Gregory Phillips II, PhD, MS, Northwestern University, Chicago	Exhibit Hall A
9:45 AM	Visit Career & Education information booths - Pick up a raffle ticket to win prizes!	Exhibit Hall A
10:15 AM	Advisor and Chaperone Breakout	L100 / A-B-I-J

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Sunday, July 10 | Continued



TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
#1: 10:15 AM - 11:00 AM	WORKSHOPS! There are 2 morning workshop sessions that are 45-min long with a 15-min break in between each one. If the room is full, please find another workshop that has space! Remember to social distance when possible.	
#2: 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Life of a Diné Foster Child: Stuck in the system	M100 / A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of accurate native based education within public school curriculum	M100 / B
<input type="checkbox"/>	Things You Don't Want to Ask Your Parents- Sexual Health and Wellness	M100 / C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Plants: Our Sacred Medicines	M100 / D
<input type="checkbox"/>	Poetry Changes the World	M100 / E
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Sovereignty: The Value of Knowing Your Nation	M100 / F
<input type="checkbox"/>	Runaway Tool Kit and Must Know's	M100 / G
<input type="checkbox"/>	What is your Legacy?	M100 / H
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bringing Language and Culture into Your Youth Council	M100 / I
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legends of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe.	M100 / J
<input type="checkbox"/>	Native American Storytelling Through Live Performance	L200 / A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultivating Connections: The Importance of Nurturing Healthy Relationships	L200 / B
<input type="checkbox"/>	Food as Medicine	L200 / C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Culture and Language loss Awareness	L200 / D
<input type="checkbox"/>	Talking Circle: Centering 2-Spirit & LGBTQ+ Identity and Experiences	L200 / E
<input type="checkbox"/>	Drum Beats	L200 / F
<input type="checkbox"/>	Developing Positive environments and Healthy habits	L200 / G
<input type="checkbox"/>	Navigating Personalities Types	L200 / H
<input type="checkbox"/>	Decolonization in Gender Identity/ Supporting two spirit youth in tribal communities	L200 / I
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Importance of Honoring Our Pact with the Clans of Nature	L200 / J
12:00 PM	Lunch Break	On Your Own
1:30 PM	Visit Career & Education information booths - Pick up a raffle ticket to win prizes!	Exhibit Hall A



CONFERENCE AGENDA

Sunday, July 10 | Continued

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
2:30 PM	National UNITY Council Business Meeting - Mandatory for male and female reps	L100 / C-D-E
2:30 PM	Advisor and Chaperone Breakout	L100 / A-B-I-J
#3: 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM	WORKSHOPS! There are 2 afternoon workshop sessions that are 45-min long with a 15-min break in between each one. If the room is full, please find another workshop that has space! Remember to social distance when possible.	
#4: 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM	Snack Break in front of Exhibit Hall A at 3:15 PM Sponsored by WONDR NATION / Mashantucket Pequot	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Living Sustainable in an Unsustainable Society	M100 / A
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Power of Words	M100 / B
<input type="checkbox"/>	Future ancestors, Decolonize Today!	M100 / C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kitchen Table Talks: Presented by Urban Indian Health Institute For you created by youth	M100 / D
<input type="checkbox"/>	HeartMedicine: Through Food & Fellowship	M100 / E
<input type="checkbox"/>	MMIW AWARENESS AND PREVENTION	M100 / F
<input type="checkbox"/>	Habitual Wellness and Healthy Relationships	M100 / G
<input type="checkbox"/>	Food Security	M100 / H
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Blanket Exercise: Understanding Colonization	M100 / I
<input type="checkbox"/>	Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women	M100 / J
<input type="checkbox"/>	Covid-19 Impact on the Foster Care Community and Child Welfare Advocacy Opportunities.	L200 / A
<input type="checkbox"/>	I AM the Voice	L200 / B
<input type="checkbox"/>	Osages, the Osage Reign of Terror, and Hollywood	L200 / C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tap Into Your Warrior Wisdom	L200 / D
<input type="checkbox"/>	Putting Good Medicine and Youth Voices into Research	L200 / E
4:15 PM	Break - Get ready for the Gala!	
5:30 PM	Line-up for the UNITY Gala	Exhibit Hall A Foyer
6:00 PM	Pre-Gala Fashion Show - Red Berry Woman Designs Norma Baker Flying Horse, Hidatsa	Exhibit Hall A
6:30 PM	UNITY Gala	Exhibit Hall A
9:30 PM	DJ Dance	Exhibit Hall A
12:00 AM	Curfew/Lights Out! (Daily)	

CONFERENCE AGENDA
Monday, July 11 | Theme: Social Development



Career & Education Expo - Visit Additional Booths!

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
7:00 AM	Wellness Warriors Fitness Activities (Optional) -Zumba with Eileen Crocker -1-mile walk with UNITY Executive Director Mary Kim Titla! Fun Run with a buddy!	Zumba: Exhibit Hall A Walk/Run: Hilton Hotel Entrance
8:30 AM	General Session -Blessing - Sky Stratig, Lake Manitoba First Nations Ojibwe -Cultural Presentation -UNITY NEWS!	Exhibit Hall A
9:00 AM	Healing Indigenous Lives Initiative presentation by UNITY Peer Guides	Exhibit Hall A
9:30 AM	Education and Career Expo Kick-off -Panel Presentation "Native Activism Then and Now" Moderated by Evynn Richardson (Haliwa-Saponi) and P'áu:[gyá tóñ:áñ: (Lily Painter) Winnebago/Kiowa Featuring: -Winona LaDuke, Ojibwe -Madonna Thunder Hawk, Oohenumpa Band of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe -Judith LeBlanc, Caddo Tribe of Oklahoma	Exhibit Hall A
10:00 AM	Visit Exhibit booths - Pick up a raffle ticket to win prizes!	Exhibit Hall A
#1: 10:15 AM - 11:00 AM #2: 1:30 PM - 2:15 PM #3: 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM #4 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM	WORKSHOPS! There are 4 workshop sessions (#1 in the morning and #2 through #4 in the afternoon) that are 45-min long with a 15-min break in between each one. If the room is full, please find another workshop that has space! Remember to social distance when possible. Snack Break in front of Exhibit Hall A at 3:15 PM Sponsored by WONDR NATION / Mashantucket Pequot	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Awesiinyag (animals) are Loved & Anibiishaabooke Indigenous Teas/ Plants	M100 / A
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Roaming Buffalo	M100 / B
<input type="checkbox"/>	Changing Lives Through the Transformative Power of Art	M100 / C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Building Steps to Becoming a Successful Tribal Leader Starts Now! Note: This session will be held at 10:15 AM and 1:30 PM.	M100 / D



CONFERENCE AGENDA

Monday, July 11 | Continued

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
<input type="checkbox"/>	Better Money Habits Financial Literacy	M100 / E
<input type="checkbox"/>	I Support Lateral Kindness	M100 / F
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pursuing Your Dreams - College and Job Recruitment	M100 / G
<input type="checkbox"/>	The National Park Service (an Indigenous Ranger's Perspective)	M100 / H
<input type="checkbox"/>	You Matter: Inclusive Identity & Language	M100 / I
<input type="checkbox"/>	Smithsonian/NMAI Internship and Fellowship Opportunities	M100 / J
<input type="checkbox"/>	Building Your Circle	L200 / A
<input type="checkbox"/>	#1 at 10:15 AM: We Are the Original Storytellers: Poetry Workshop #2 at 1:30 PM: Indigenous Futurity and Representation: Marvel Indigenous Voices Project #3 at 2:30 PM: Healing through Art	L200 / B
<input type="checkbox"/>	Building Students One Robot At A Time	L200 / C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Native Scholarship Opportunities	L200 / D
<input type="checkbox"/>	Southern Plains Inter-Tribal Round Dance Song and Dance	L200 / E
<input type="checkbox"/>	I Got This!	L200 / F
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exploring Health Careers in High School	L200 / G
<input type="checkbox"/>	Creating Your Own Pathway: College and Career Goal Setting and Understanding Self-Identity	L200 / H
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cash Stuffing for the Future	L200 / I
<input type="checkbox"/>	Improv Workshop	L200 / J
<input type="checkbox"/>	Youth Led Service Learning	L100 / C
11:30 PM	Lunch Break	On Your Own
1:30 PM	Orientation Training for Newly elected NUC Executive Committee	L204 / A
1:30 PM	Workshops #2 - #4 Continue	
1:30 PM	Advisor and Chaperone Breakout	L100 / A-B-I-J
4:15 PM	Dinner Break	On Your Own
6:00 PM	Cultural Sharing (Sign-up required to share culture.)	Exhibit Hall A
9:00 PM	UNITY Water Ceremony (Optional)	Exhibit Hall A
12:00 AM	Curfew/Lights out! (Daily)	

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Tuesday, July 12 | Theme: Social Development



TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
9:00 AM	General Session -Blessing - Fred Dejarlait, Red Lake Nation -Cultural Presentation -Message from UNITY Peer Guides -UNITY News	Exhibit Hall A
9:30 AM	Special Presentation "Tribal Leadership - So you're 25?" -Chairman Nino Maltos, Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, Washington -Chairman Brian Weeden, Mashpee Wampanoag, Massachusetts	Exhibit Hall A
10:00 AM	Keynote Speaker - James Anderson, Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Ojibwe, Trainer, Speaker, Author Co-Founder of the Lifeskills Center for Leadership	Exhibit Hall A
10:30 AM	Get ready for 2023 in Washington, DC!	Exhibit Hall A
10:35 AM	Friendship Circle	Exhibit Hall A
11:00 AM	Commitment Ceremony at UNITY Fire	Outside Plaza
12:00 PM	Adjourn / Travel Day	On Your Own

HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME!

SEE YOU AT THE 2023 NATIONAL UNITY CONFERENCE
JUNE 30 - JULY 4, 2023 IN WASHINGTON, DC!





FEATURED GUESTS



James W. Anderson, an enrolled member of the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe, is one of the nation's leading authorities on peak performance and personal development. Over his 20 years of leadership development, he has worked with businesses, tribal organizations, universities, and high schools sharing the skills that it takes to be successful in today's world. James' Training company, LifeSkills Center, was featured on The Oprah Winfrey Show and he has been twice named one of the 40 Outstanding Native Americans in Business under age 40 by the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development. He owns and operates the award winning Old Southern BBQ restaurants located in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Old Southern BBQ has been named one of the 20 BEST BBQ Restaurants in the country by the BBQ News.



Melanie Benjamin was first elected to the four-year term of Chief Executive/Chairwoman of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe in 2000, and was re-elected in 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016 and 2020. Benjamin previously served as the Band's Commissioner of Administration and Sr. Vice President of Administration and Finance at Grand Casino Hinckley. As Chief Executive, Benjamin leads the Executive Branch of Band government and is responsible for conducting external relations with other governments.



Norma Baker-Flying Horse / Red Berry Woman Red Berry Woman is a fashion line that incorporates Native American traditional garment styles into contemporary couture garments and ready to wear for both women and men. RBW was created by Norma Baker-Flying Horse, an enrolled member of the Hidatsa tribe and a member of the Dakota Sioux and Assiniboine tribes as well as an adopted member of the Crow Nation. Giving her business her Native given name, Red Berry Woman, Norma strives to create pieces that honor and celebrate traditional bloodlines.



Nicole Bowman/Waapalaneexkweew (Lunaape/Mohican), PhD, is a traditional Ndulunaapeewi Kwe (Lunaape Woman) and a traditional community member and citizen of the Stockbridge-Munsee Band of the Mohican Nation in Wisconsin, USA (www.mohican.com). She is a curious, creative, and courageous innovator whose academic lodge sits at the place where traditional knowledge and Tribal sovereignty intersect with evaluation, policy, and research.

FEATURED GUESTS



Rachel Evangelisto is from the Húŋkpaŋa Standing Rock Sioux tribe and grew up in Rapid City, SD. Working under the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) as an ICWA Guardian ad litem, Rachel advocates for native youth and cultural preservation in Minnesota. She is committed to keeping Native Youth out of the child protection system and is working on obtaining her Juris Doctorate in Native American law to support this mission further. She is passionate about Indigenous sovereignty rights, racial justice, advocating for the Indian Child Welfare Act, and Indigenous representation. Additionally, Rachel earned the honor of becoming the first Indigenous Miss Minnesota and will be competing for the title of Miss America in December.



Peggy Flanagan is a mom, an advocate, a member of the White Earth Band of Ojibwe, and Minnesota's 50th Lieutenant Governor. Her career is built on standing up for children, working families, communities of color and Indigenous communities, and Minnesotans who have historically been underserved and underrepresented.

As a former State Representative, School Board Member, non-profit leader, and community advocate, she now brings her experiences of building coalitions and advocating for children and families to the Lieutenant Governor's Office as she works in partnership with Governor Walz to build One Minnesota.



Kiowa Gordon is a Hualapai actor with award winning film and television credits. He stars as "Jim Chee" in the series DARK WINDS for AMC, based on the book series from Tony Hillerman, and produced by George R. R. Martin and Robert Redford. Born in Berlin, Germany, Kiowa moved to the States shortly thereafter to live on the Hualapai Indian Reservation in Peach Springs, AZ and moved around quite a bit growing up until settling down in Phoenix, AZ where he landed the role of Embry Call in THE TWILIGHT SAGA. In 2013, Kiowa won Best Supporting Actor at the American Indian Film Festival in San Francisco for his role in the indie film, THE LESSER BLESSED. On the small screen, Kiowa had a Series Regular role in the Sundance original series, THE RED ROAD, starring Jason Momoa, Julianne Nicholson and Martin Henderson and Guest Starred on the Netflix series FRONTIER. In 2019, Kiowa starred in 2 features which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival – BLOOD QUANTUM (multiple festival nom and winner) from director Jeff Barnaby and CASTLE IN THE GROUND (TIFF nominated for best Canadian feature) from director Joey Klein. That year he also had roles in the Netflix comedy LADY DYNAMITE, a recurring in the technologically groundbreaking series THE LIBERATOR from A+E Studios for Netflix, and a recurring role on the CW series ROSWELL. More recent work includes a lead in the feature TWO EYES, directed by award winning filmmaker Travis Fine which was the closing film at Outfest 2020, and guest starred in Taika Waititi's RESERVATION DOGS (FX).



FEATURED GUESTS



Winona LaDuke is a Harvard-educated economist, environmental activist, author, hemp farmer, grandmother, and a two-time former Green Party Vice President candidate with Ralph Nader. LaDuke specializes in rural development, economic, food, and energy sovereignty and environmental justice. Living and working on the White Earth reservation in northern Minnesota, she leads several organizations including Honor the Earth (co-founded with The Indigo Girls 28 years ago), Anishinaabe Agriculture Institute, Akiing, and Winona's Hemp.



Judith LeBlanc, Executive Director of Native Organizers Alliance, is a member of the Caddo Tribe who has an endless appetite for fry bread, an inter-tribal culinary delight! As the executive director of Native Organizers Alliance (NOA), she has learned many intertribal secrets to good fry bread. She leads a national Native training and organizing network which supports tribes, traditional societies, and grassroots community groups in urban and tribal communities. Judith is part of a growing circle of Indian Country leaders who understand the necessity for an organized, durable ecosystem of Native leaders and organizers who lead with traditional values. NOA leads learning circles, training, and strategic planning sessions to support Native leaders in organizing the grassroots movements for structural reforms, leading to Native sovereignty and racial equity for all.



Stormee Lee Kipp, Shoshone-Bannock and Blackfeet, is a senior at the University of Montana majoring in history. This past year he won Actor of the Year by the Native American Film Festival for his first performance in the movie, *Sooyii*. Stormee is a featured cast member in the upcoming movie, *Prey, Predator 5*, that will be released on Hulu in August 2022.



Nino Maltos II is the Chairman of the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, located in Darrington, Washington. Chairman Maltos' priorities for his tribal nation include housing, economic development, and Tribal treaty rights.

FEATURED GUESTS



Madonna Thunder Hawk is a Native American civil rights activist best known as a leader in the American Indian Movement (AIM) and as an organizer against the Dakota Access Pipeline. She co-founded the American Indian organization Women of All Red Nations and serves as an organizer and tribal liaison for the Lakota People's Law Project.



Mato Wayuhi is an Oglala Lakota multidisciplinary artist originally from South Dakota. He works in film/TV both as a producer and musical composer, as well as writing his own music, garnering critical acclaim from NPR, Amazon Music, and Apple Music. Most notably, Mato is the composer for the award-winning FX/Hulu series *Reservation Dogs*. "Mato's music is everything that good Indigenous art is right now. We are in a Renaissance and his music speaks directly to that movement. It's unapologetic, it doesn't need permission to exist and it's made with an urgency — An urgency to move us into a new era" says Sterlin Harjo, creator and showrunner of *Reservation Dogs*. A recent graduate of the University of Southern California, Mato continues to work and play in Los Angeles, spending parts of his summers attending ceremonies and bumming around with family back home.



Brian Weeden, at 28-years old, was the youngest person elected to Chairman of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe. He is from the Eel Clan. Chairman Weeden serves as Co-Chairman of the Massachusetts State Seal Commission. On May 25, 2022 Chairman Weeden was officially recognized by the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development with the 40 Under 40 Award. Chairman Weeden also serves on numerous boards and committees in the community, including the town of Mashpee School Committee and Historical Commission. Chairman Weeden is the former Co-President/Trustee of the United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) INC., National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Youth Commission Co-Vice President. Chairman Weeden has and continues to be heavily involved in his Tribe working closely with the Tribe's Pow Wow Committee, Land Use and Planning Committee, Enrollment Committee and Youth Advisory Committee. Chairman Weeden is the Vice President of the WLRP Board of Directors and a certified Wôpanâak language teacher.



UNITY FIRE



*"A fire burns within us and has so since the beginning of time.
We must continue to strengthen it and keep it bright
for generations to come."*

- Warren Skye, Tonawanda Seneca Pine Tree Chief

Nearly all our ceremonial ways are centered around the use of air, water, plant life, animal life, and the use of fire. For this reason, a member of the 1995 Executive Committee of the National UNITY Council by the name of Sleepy Eye LaFromboise, Seneca/Dakota, asked one of his grandfathers, the late Warren Skye (pictured), Seneca, how UNITY could utilize these elements during the national conference. At the time, "Grandpa Skye" explained that whenever the Nations of the Haudenosaunee people meet to conduct business or have ceremonies they always utilize a fire with prayer. Since many Nations of Native youth come together during the national conference to better themselves, the concept of the fire was presented.

UNITY FIRE & WATER KEEPERS

Sleepy Eye LaFromboise has served as UNITY Fire Keeper along with his family. Sleepy Eye is Sisseton Wahpeton Dakota and Tonawanda Seneca. Sleepy Eye started taking care of the fire with the late Grandpa Warren Skye. Grandpa Warren was the original UNITY Fire Keeper from Tonawanda Seneca and a sacred elder. Sleepy Eye is also a UNITY National Executive Committee Alumni member. Outside of being with family his most cherished memories have included time spent learning from traditional elders in ceremonies and tribal teachings. Sleepy Eye has been working in Indian Country since his UNITY Youth days. His contributions include creating a nonprofit called Indigenous Nations Alliance (INA), created Indian Youth programs for tribes and inspiring grass roots organizations to become Native allies in North America and South America. Sleepy Eye is an outspoken advocate and educator regarding Native American history, rights, and tribal teachings.

Eshtakaba LaFromboise, Sisseton Wahpeton Dakota, Tonawanda Seneca, Shawnee and Sac & Fox is a fire keeper helper. Eshtakaba grew up attending ceremonies since childhood and has become a experienced fire keeper in different traditional ceremonies. Eshtakaba is a UNITY Alumni, created two different UNITY Youth Councils, and served as a UNITY Chapter officer. Currently Eshtakaba is a Tribal Cultural Advisor in the OKC Public Schools Indian Education.

Channah Walker, Shawnee and Sac & Fox, is from Oklahoma and a UNITY Alumni chapter president. Channah has served in Indian Country in Indian Gaming, Indian Education Volunteer, Rock The Native Vote Registration Advocate and assisting at the UNITY Fire as a female firekeeper with her family. Channah grew up attending ceremonies, church and was taught by family to advocate for Native people.

Hunter Genia is an Anishinabe from Michigan. He has been affiliated and a supporter of UNITY since 1991 and was a part of the very first Earth Ambassadors Circle. Hunter has devoted his life toward Native Wellness working with native youth and leadership development as well as addressing mental health disparities, substance misuse, historical trauma, among our youth, families, and communities while fostering healing and resilience through culture. Hunter addressed the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on mental health disparities in Indian Country and provides training and education to communities, institutions, and works with tribes to promote healing and resilience. Hunter received his Master's of Social Work from Grand Valley State University but acknowledges his first education and teacher was in our tribal culture. Hunter sits on the Council for the Saginaw, Swan Creek, and Black River Bands of Chippewa and is also a descendant of the Grand River Band of Ottawa Nations.

Sheldon Smith, Navajo, has been part of the UNITY organization for over 15 years. He's passionate as Native American advocate, speaker and artist. He's passionate to encourage, educate and empower young people. He shares more than stories of character, leadership, and being an entrepreneur. He's proud to share his work TSM-RISE with young people across the country.

UNITY TRAINERS



Marcus Guinn / emcee one

is a member of the Osage & Potawatomi Nations of Oklahoma. He is a national speaker, recording artist, DJ, conference consultant & youth advocate. Marcus has served many youth, and Tribal communities through his outreach along with

organizations nationally including One Chance Leadership, & White House Events for both the Bush & Obama administrations. He is an official DJ for Nike N7 events, international DJ /Tech Support for Taboo (Black Eyed Peas) & member of a newly formed group by Taboo called Mag 7. The group was featured in a video for Standing Rock that won a 2017 MTV Video Music Award.



Chance Rush is an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes (Hidatsa). He's also Dakota, Arapaho, Oneida, and Otoe. For more than 20 years he has served as a motivational speaker and trainer for tribal organizations and communities. He also serves as a Master of Ceremonies for

national events throughout the country. Chance is the founder and executive director of 501(c)3, Our Native Men, Inc. and owner of Cloudboy Consulting, LLC. Chance lives a healthy lifestyle and promotes fitness, education, and spirituality. Chance He's a graduate of Haskell Indian Nations University and received his Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from Oklahoma Baptist University. Chance serves as a Life and Health Coach, Personal Trainer and is a licensed ordained Pastor. He is an NAIA National Champion and 4 Time All American (Track & Field).



Juanita Toledo was born in Washington, D.C. and raised in the village of Walatowa in New Mexico, Juanita "Moonstar" Toledo invests her energy and time into her community as well as the lives of Native Youth throughout the United States of America. Juanita has served as an

advisor, facilitator, trainer, and an advocate for Native Youth through the Native American Youth Empowerment (NAYE) and United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) organizations. Juanita is a beautiful example of an inspiring mentor and contributes to progressive growth for the future. She is passionate about youth leadership development, art & creative expression, and holistic well-being. Juanita "Moonstar" Toledo is a Black Indigenous womxn of both African and Native American ancestry, enrolled in the Pueblo of Jemez.



Pearl Yellowman was appointed by Navajo Nation President Johnathan Nez and Vice-President Myron Lizer on January 15, 2019 as the Executive Director of the Division of Community Development. The Division of Community Development oversees Navajo Nation Capital Out-

lay and Infrastructure Management, Rural Addressing, Community Housing and Infrastructure, and the 110 Chapter Governances. Pearl earned a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work, a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership, a Master's Degree in Counseling Education and a Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership from University of Montana, in the Educational Leadership program focusing on the Contributing Factors of the Achievement Gap for Native American students. Pearl resides in Window Rock, AZ. Pearl's traditional teachings include the Ho'zho' which translates into the Navajo Beauty Way.

UNITY DRUM

The UNITY Drum, made up primarily of UNITY alumni singers, is a foundation of the UNITY Conferences, led by UNITY Drumkeepers, Junior Sierra, Cherokee Nation and Michael Sixkiller, Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma.



Junior Sierra



Michael Sixkiller



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS (In order by workshop title.)

TITLE	CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER	ORGANIZATION
Awesiinyag (animals) Are Loved & Anibiishaabooke Indigenous Teas/ Plants	Culture	"Day #1 Awesiinyag (animals) are Loved - RLN animal welfare non profit focused on cultural resurgence of Awesinyag (Animals) and Anishi-naabeg relationships. Day #2 aniibiishaabooke (he/she makes tea) - Anishinaabeg Indigenous environmental knowledge. Plant knowledge. Tea knowledge. Tea sampling. " " "	Awanookwe Veronica Kingbird- Bratvold	Aaloved.org
Better Money Habits Financial Literacy	Financial Education	Graduate to the next phase of life with help from resources - from paying for college to budgeting, bank accounts and credit scores. Learn how to set achievable financial goals at all stages in life.	Angel Villavelazquez	
Bringing Language and Culture into Your Youth Council	Culture	Do you want your youth council to make a difference in language and culture revitalization? In this workshop, we will demonstrate some easy ways to involve your council and community into culture and language. We will show you a few games and activities that you can use back home!	Elizabeth Bryant	Cow Creek Youth Council
Building Steps to Becoming a Successful Tribal Leader, Starts Now!	Career	If you are a tribal leader and or researching this option of becoming a tribal leader, it is or will be your responsibility to lead your Nation to a higher stage to ensure long-term success, all while protecting the Nation's inherent sovereignty. To build a growing and sustainable Nation, a leader must put effort into meeting with constituents/tribal employees/ government partners/corporate partners to get them involved, to establish roles and to define a "team" framework. Today's tribal leadership has evolved with many tribal leaders completing formal secondary and higher education steps before taking on the "service to people/Nation," is this the first step? Two very successful tribal leaders will share with you their journey in becoming a Tribal Leader.	Governor Stephen Lewis Council Member Albert Nelson	Gila River Indian Community Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS (In order by workshop title.)



TITLE	CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER	ORGANIZATION
Building Students One Robot At A Time	Career	The NMRC in concert with 30 teams from across the MN&ND works to further STEM opportunities for students, especially in under represented groups like women and Native American's. Our mission includes developing students STEM skills and soft skills needed in todays world through HS robotics.	Matthew Wendland	Northern Minnesota Robotics Conference: Cass Lake & Red Lake HS Robotics Teams
Building Your Circle	Career	Community, connection and college? Join us to learn how to maintain it all after high school!	Leslie Locklear & Lucas Lynch	North Carolina Native American Youth Organization
Cash Stuffing for the Future	Career	In this workshop we will discuss and demonstrate on taking the intimidation and confusion out of the practice of saving money. This workshop will cover how-to curate and personalize a budget, what is cash stuffing, curating an envelope system, and how to save for your goals at any age.	Terri Surveyor	Intertribal Youth Leaders
Changing Lives Through the Transformative Power of Art	Culture	In this workshop, we will present the Native American Arts Program, its history, its expansion and its bright future. At Idyllwild Arts, we acknowledge that the greatest teacher of humanity is the arts and Native Arts plays an important role in our mission.	Will Yarbrough	Idyllwild Arts Foundation
Covid-19 Impact on the Foster Care Community and Child Welfare Advocacy Opportunities.	Child welfare for indigenous youth	Present the impact the covid-19 impact had on the foster care community. Share internship opportunities that our native youth can join. Express the importance/power of their voices in these spaces. Many of these internship have the potential to elevate their voices in the U.S Government.	Shanell Lavallie	Unity 25 under 25
Creating Your Own Pathway: College and Career Goal Setting and Understanding Self-Identity	College & Career	This workshop was designed by a tribal education specialist, where participants create individual poster projects. Referencing an early college and career readiness curriculum designed by TEDNA, participants engage in college and career goal setting, along with components of self identity.	Tashina Tahdooahnipah	TEDNA-ACE, Tribal Education Departments National Assembly-Accessing Choices in Education



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS (In order by workshop title.)

TITLE	CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER	ORGANIZATION
Cultivating Connections: The Importance of Nurturing Healthy Relationships	Health	This workshop will provide youth leaders information on the importance of engaging in healthy relationships early in life. It will also include an overview on how to build and nurture healthy relationships, as well as the effects of unhealthy relationships on their personal and professional growth.	Jerry Crowshoe, MA	Ši?tús Society
Cultural Sovereignty: The Value of Knowing Your Nation	Culture & Leadership Development	Encouraging all, especially youth, to be actively engaged within one's culture is key to ensuring the perpetuation of our identities as Indigenous people for generations to come. Learn about the importance of cultural sovereignty and ways to contribute within your own culture(s).	Chelbie Turtle	Cherokee Nation
Culture and Language Loss Awareness	Culture	Culture and Language Loss Awareness session will inform the youth of the consequences that will take affect if Indigenous people's lose the ability to preserve their ancestral language and culture. The main purpose of the Culture and Language Loss Awareness session is to promote preservation of all Indigenous Cultures and Languages for generations to come. The session will provide possible solutions and engage with the youth through various activities that can be taken back to improve their communities.	Jovi Williams	UNITY 25 Under 25
Decolonization in Gender Identity/ Supporting Two Spirit Youth in Tribal Communities	Culture	This workshop will focus on how to build inclusivity in tribal youth programs and to build bylaws and platforms for lgbtqia, non binary and 2 spirit youth in their youth council. it will also feature a talking circle where youth can share their perspectives in a safe space	Layha Spoonhunter	Pretty Elk Consulting

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS
(In order by workshop title.)



TITLE	CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER	ORGANIZATION
Developing Positive Environments and Healthy habits	Health	Substance and Domestic abuse, unfortunately, are issues indigenous peoples face. Within my workshop, I would give the "run-down" on developing a positive environment and healthy habits such as dance, gardening, and how to incorporate culture into these things.	Kanyen Mousseaux Begay	Lakota Tech High School
Drum Beats	Culture	Michael Killer and Junior Sierra, Head singer and Drum keeper of the Unity Drum invites you to hear the drum that has bound us together for many years and also learn the history and significance of the Unity drum. We will also be teaching you how to sing and drum the Unity Song. All ages welcome.	Junior Sierra	UNITY Drum
Exploring Health Careers in High School	Career	This workshop will provide participants with tools on how to prepare for a health career in high school. Exploring allied health careers, advanced health careers and an introduction to the medical school application process. Learn about the Arizona Indians into Medicine program.	Tashina Machain	Arizona Indians into Medicine
Food as Medicine	Health	The group discussion will focus on the importance of food as medicine to prevent chronic diseases amongst the future generation. Much like we recognize plants as healers, this workshop will encourage the youth to create a positive relationship with their food to build healthier habits.	Jessica New Moon	Indigenously Nourished
Food Security	Culture	Food Security Impacts on cultural identity	Sam Schimmel	Center For Native American Youth



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS (In order by workshop title.)

TITLE	CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER	ORGANIZATION
Future Ancestors, Decolonize Today!	Culture Preservation	Lourdes Pereira, a student Aid at ASU's Labriola National American Indian Center and a Hia-Ced Hemjkam LLC archivist will be hosting a workshop on Community Driven-Archives. Sharing the importance of preservation and the protection of community memory, while also sharing her own experience of preserving her people's language and ancestral knowledge. This workshop is intended to provide knowledge on how to be a good future ancestor.	Lourdes Pereira	25 under 25
Habitual Wellness and Healthy Relationships	Health	In this workshop, Rudy Indigenous (Pina) and Abby Rush will dive into the basic principles and foundations of building healthy habits and relationships with oneself and the community around them, while keeping focus on the Six Areas of Wellness and how it relates to our lives culturally.	Rudy Pina	Tribal Unite
Healing through Art	Culture	All significant movements for positive change are accompanied by outpourings of some form of artistic expression that help open our eyes to injustice and convey powerful new visions and possibilities. In making art we may identify and solve problems we didn't set out to solve. In this workshop, participants will learn how to use art to invoke change and process the ways in which Native people begin the resilient healing process from years of struggle as a people.	Lily Painter	23 Under 25
HeartMedicine: Through Food & Fellowship	Mental Health	Exploring the importance of food and fellowship in indigenous teachings on gathering. Join the open discussion in how best to create safe places for Native youth to gather and share their collective voices.	Nathan Solorio	

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS (In order by workshop title.)



TITLE	CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER	ORGANIZATION
I am The Voice	Health	I am The Voice. I can Think, Speak, Move and RISE. I am a tool that can shape the path in all directions. I am Positive Self-Talk. In this session, we will be able to inspire one another by engaging one another exercises, as well as sharing stories to build confidence and motivation in ourselves.	Sheldon Smith	T.S.M.RISE
I Got This!	Career	Sometime the choices we make are big or not, we should never hold back. We should never be scared and doubt. We should have the confident to say, "I got this. "In this workshop, individuals will be encouraged and motivated to take chance, not hold back but to be bold to try be great.	Sheldon Smith	T.S.M.RISE
I Support Lateral Kindness	Culture	This workshop is to teach our youth how to combat lateral violence in our communities. We will discuss the many ways that to lead with a positive and changing the narrative to Lateral Kindness. This is a new campaign that the CITY council has collaborated with the American Indian Center to achieve.	Angelina Serna	American Indian Center of Chicago/ Chicago's Indigenous Tribal Youth Council
Improv Workshop	Culture	Interested in storytelling, performance, and/or comedy? If your answer is yes, come learn the basics of improvised performance comedy through improv games! No acting experience required, all experience levels welcome.	Truman Pipestem	25 Under 25
Indigenous Futurity and Representation: Marvel Indigenous Voices	Culture	Indigenous futurism is a genre that helps us rewrite and reimagine historical events, critique the exclusion of Native people in science fiction, media, and all forms of consumable content, as well as recognize the strength of Native cultural practices and beliefs. In this workshop, participants will be exposed to ways native culture and representation has evolved in media and get a sneak peak into the new Marvel Indigenous Voices Fan Film by 25 Under 25 recipient Lily Painter (P'áu:[gyá tóñ:áñ:] 22	Lily Painter	25 Under 25



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS (In order by workshop title.)

TITLE	CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER	ORGANIZATION
Kitchen Table Talks: Presented by Urban Indian Health Institute For you created by youth	Health	We are happy to introduce our Kitchen Table Talk series where Native relatives discuss important topics that impact our communities through candid conversations. These talks are streamed live via social media (facebook, instagram etc.) and are facilitated, hosted, and discussed by youth.	Maya Lopez	Seattle Indian Health Board
Lack of Accurate Native Based Education Within Public School Curriculum	Education	Within this work shop, we dive into the effects of inaccurate Native based curriculum on Native individuals, and society. We also describe how to repair said issue and its benefits.	Alexis Large-Cooley	Unity 25 under 25
Legends of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe.	Culture	The Inner Voice Youth Council is looking to share our tribe's legends with other youth council members. We would also like to have the ability to hear some legends from other tribes as well. It would be great to here some of the legends from various tribes to learn more about their culture.	Evan Williams	Inner Voice Youth Council
Life of a Diné Foster Child: Stuck in the System	Health	My presentation will focus on my experience as living in the navajo nation Foster care system. I will give insight to the structural faults and how the lack of resources impacts many of natives on the reservation. Moreover, I hope to find a reliable organization to donate money to give more support.	Ajahrain Yellowhair	25 under 25
Living Sustainably in an Unsustainable Society	Environment	Climate change has been on many of our minds in the recent years, which has often prompted celebrities and major corporations to put the pressure on the general public to make sustainable purchases and habits commonplace. Often times this can lead to burn out associated with obsessively tracking your habits and worrying about how expensive more "sustainable" products can be without being entirely sure of that green guarantee. However, by adopting a growth mindset when it comes to sustainability, living sustainably becomes easier as you can strive to be better by making small 1% changes in your daily routine.	Leticia Cervantes	Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS (In order by workshop title.)



TITLE	CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER	ORGANIZATION
Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women	Culture	The workshop will begin with background on the missing murdered indigenous women epidemic and youth will be provided some resources regarding where to find more information. Then I will share poems regarding MMIW from Indigenous poets. After a brief break to talk about the poems, the youth would be	Sareya Taylor	Young Women of Color 4 Reproductive Justice Collective
MMIW Awareness and Prevention	Prevention	We as MMIW INDIAN CAPITAL have been in the process of preventing our native communities from becoming a number, meaning another lost loved one. We are a group of empowered, Indigenous women coming together from all nations to create an outreach concerning the importance of our Murdered and Missing.	Rochelle Redbone	MMIW Indian Capital
Native American Storytelling Through Live Performance.	Culture	worksheet, Possibly show short YouTube clips of native movies / TV for inspiration. Create a short skit ,Brainstorm list of topics recreating a scene from a native movie, native humor, childhood native story, something that teaches a lesson, this is all about telling a story and performing it / acting	Jasmine Lamas	25 under 25 (Caesar Chavez Native American Youth Council)
Native Scholarship Opportunities	Career	With more than 30 scholarships and fellowships available for Native students through American Indian Graduate Center, navigating the application process may seem intimidating. Join us as we walk you through our online application process.	Michael Bates	Native Forward Scholars Fund
Navigating Personalities Types	Career	Attendees will be needing a smartphone or tablet to go take the Myers Briggs personality test. From the test results attendees will figure out life-skills, traits, and careers that they may suit them and their interest.	Karri Montero	



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS (In order by workshop title.)

TITLE	CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER	ORGANIZATION
Osages, the Osage Reign of Terror, and Hollywood	Culture	Today, 100 years after the Osage Reign of Terror, Martin Scorsese's "Killers of the Flower Moon" (starring Lily Gladstone, Leonardo DiCaprio, and Robert DeNiro) threatens to change how the world sees the Osage people. Come learn about the Reign of Terror, the movie production, and Osages' response.	Truman Pipestem	26 Under 25
Plants: Our Sacred Medicines	Culture	"Knowing your sacred medicines and uses. Foraging, harvesting and processing your medicine plants. Learn our Dakota translations of our medicine plants. "	Anpaowin-Dawn Chase	Pejihuatzizi
Poetry Changes the World	Health	I will present a poem that helped me get to State this year for speech. I will talk about native poets that inspired me. I'm still working on details. Later everyone will write a haiku. People who present will get a prize.	Bella Nayquonabe and Christina Nayquonabe	
Pursuing Your Dreams - College and Job Recruitment	Career	This speaker shares how you can visualize your dreams, set goals, and stick to them. He shares his journey to the Ivy League and into business consulting, and shares how important Native American perspectives are in these two places.	Elijah Cota	
Putting Good Medicine and Youth Voices into Research	Education	BPC, UNITY, and Northwestern have been successful partners on the RADx research grant and we would like to highlight what good research partnerships can be not only through the eyes of the adults, but through the participants in a safe and helpful way. Information from these sessions will be used for helping to co-create and inform future evaluation designs, program design, and activities with UNITY for year two of the RADx project (2022-2023+).	Nicky Bowman, Megan Ruprecht, Gregory Phillips II	Bowman Performance Consulting and Northwestern University

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS (In order by workshop title.)



TITLE	CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER	ORGANIZATION
Runaway Tool Kit and Must Know's	Wellness and Prevention	Interactive memory game that will spring into action when a teenager chooses to run away. The safety plan one can take when in a high-risk situation and awareness to bring teen to a safe place.	Cindy Famera, Carmen Harvie, Darci Scoon, Henrietta Nelson	Oklahoma State Chapter of Missing and Murdered Indigenous People
Smithsonian/NMAI Internship and Fellowship Opportunities	Career		Krishna Aniel	Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian
Southern Plains Inter-Tribal Round Dance Song and Dance	Culture	Southern Plains Inter-Tribal Round Dance Song. Learn to harmonize and the basic principles of Southern Plains singing.	Michael Tongkeamha	R.I.S.E. Youth Council
Talking Circle: Centering 2-Spirit & LGBTQ+ Identity and Experiences	Health	This will be a safe space for youth to discuss their experiences as LGBTQ+ youth. This is a supportive circle, covering topics of sexual identity and the journey many go on to understand the way we identify. Please be advised that discussion may include sensitive topics, including personal traumas.	Juanita Toledo & Brittany McKane	
Tap Into Your Warrior Wisdom	Career	We are descendants of warriors. We carry an incredible legacy and power within — and we are all leaders in our own right. Together in this session, we will take steps toward unleashing your leadership potential by tapping into your "Warrior Wisdom."	Willow Blythe-Carroll	
The Blanket Exercise: Understanding Colonization	Culture	The blanket exercise is an interactive and experiential teaching tool that explores the historic and contemporary relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.	Samantha Eldridge	University of Utah



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

(In order by workshop title.)

TITLE	CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER	ORGANIZATION
The Importance of Honoring our Pact with the Clans of Nature	Environment	Many tribes have lived within nature acting as the lands stewards, but as western assimilation spread many have been taught to separate themselves from nature and view all human interaction as unnatural and toxic. However, it has been found that interacting with and actively involving oneself with the cultivation and care of Earth's environment can be more beneficial than leaving it alone. Additionally, actively understanding our role as a part of nature and equal to other species can lead to feelings of higher responsibility and belonging.	Leticia Cervantes	Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma
The National Park Service (an Indigenous Ranger's Perspective)	Career	Learn about Gabe Yellowhawk (Biotech) and Gabby Drapeau (Park Ranger) and their experiences as Indigenous employees of the National Park Service. Explore the benefits of working for the NPS, the struggles we face as Indigenous employees, and what we have learned in our journey with the NPS.	Gabriel Yellowhawk and Gabby Drapeau	National Park Service
The Power of Words	Culture	The ability to bring life and culture happens when we foster it and provide inspiration. The ability and freedom to see things differently promotes hope and resources. Sometimes change is necessary, but we need inspiration or creative options to make it happen.	Lisa McFarland	The Roaming Buffalo Project
The Roaming Buffalo	Career	We need to create communities that promote hope. This workshop discusses strategic entrepreneurship and identifying your roaming buffalos or visionaries. Suicide and other issues stem from hopelessness and limited creative solutions. Be the change! 27	Lisa McFarland	The Roaming Buffalo Project

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS
(In order by workshop title.)



TITLE	CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER	ORGANIZATION
Things You Don't Want to Ask Your Parents- Sexual Health and Wellness	Health	Basics of sexual health- focusing on sex-positive pregnancy prevention and STIs. It can be awkward and scary to approach this topic, so I want to make this as easy and seamless as possible. Let's talk about sex in a safe, judgment-free space.	Ally Gee	25 under 25
We Are the Original Storytellers: Poetry	Culture	As native people, the ability to create and tell stories is innate. This talent is generational, everyone is capable of crafting work that reflects their communities, families, experiences, and feelings. In this workshop, participants of all skill levels will learn to create poetry and writings	Lily Painter	25 Under 25
What is your Legacy?	Health	"Discover your inherent abilities and cultivate your own Legacy, beginning TODAY Eileen will guide you in your journey as she shares her experiences in Life. You will walk away with a guide and a purpose, learn Skills that will take you to each new day with a sense of empowerment"	Eileen Crocker	White Mountain Apache Tribe JOM Program
You Matter: Inclusive Identity & Language	Culture	What is inclusive language? What can that look like in our communities and youth councils? We will look into exclusive and inclusive language, identity exploration, and appropriate ways to address people when talking to an audience or a group. We will also look into words or phrases in our own Indigenous tongue that use inclusive language. How can we create safe spaces where our youth feel belonged and loved.	Kiera Toya & Chenoa Scippio	UNITY
Youth Led Service Learning	Leadership	Developing a services learning project from inspiration to implementation.	Charles Mason	25 Under 25



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The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community is a federally recognized, sovereign Dakota tribal government located southwest of Minneapolis/St. Paul. With a focus on being a good neighbor, good steward of the earth, and good employer, the SMSC is committed to charitable donations, community partnerships, a healthy environment, and a strong economy.



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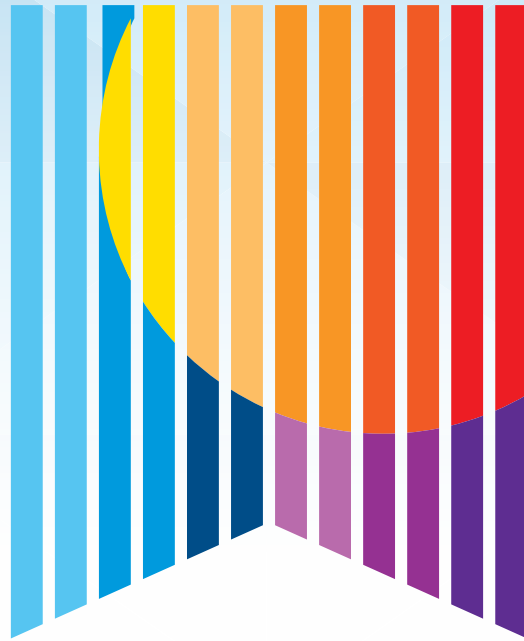




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2022-2023 Miss Gila River Royalty Court: (L to R) Gabrielle Garcia - 1st Attendant Miss Gila River, Kelsey Martinez - Miss Gila River, Cheyenne Johns - 2nd Attendant Miss Gila River, Eliana Rhodes - Jr. Miss Gila River, Caiden Lewis - 1st Attendant Jr. Miss Gila River



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The VISIONARY Peer Guides



Angela Noah
White Mountain Apache, OR

"I guarantee that your tribal history includes some resilient, strong ancestors who fought to protect us. That history is repeating itself today."



Collin Church
Potawatomi, WI

"It doesn't take a professional or a good speaker to lead. To be a leader, you have to have self-ignited passion."



Sonwai Wakayuta
Hualapai, KS

"Native leaders are emotional and empathetic; learning to care for the self is crucial for caring for others."



Savanna Rilatos
Confederated Tribes of Siletz, OR

"Just being alive is a struggle against settler colonialism because we are still here. We fight to exist and thrive."



Josiah Lester
Navajo-Dine, AZ

"The best teachings come from failure and I believe that if I did not fail and hit rock bottom, I would not be where I am now."



Cheyenne Kippenberger
Seminole Tribe of FL

"Our strongest leaders have had the hardest paths. Tough people are made from tough experiences."



Vance Homegun
Confederated Salish & Kootenai, MT

"No matter your past, your family, how much money you do or don't have, you have a hidden gift to share with your people."



Audriana Mitchell
Colorado River Indian Tribes, AZ

"I would tell youth my story, to help them realize we all struggle to find ourselves and hone our gifts. They will be a leader."



Rory Wheeler
Seneca Nation, NY

"Our people went through struggles that we today couldn't even imagine fighting. But, they still persevered, so we can too."



Leticia Gonzales
Bishop Paiute, CA

"We come from generations of resilience & strength. Share your story and struggles, there are always youth looking to you."



Santana Bartholomew
Pueblo of Pojoaque, NM

"The best leaders are servers, in service to others, we find our calling as a Native person. Everyone has a role."



Being a leader means setting a positive example for others.

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how to take steps to stay healthy
throughout their lives.




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Sh'xeeham Alohkaakan Wunjiin | How We Help

We envision a better world that serves the needs of all people in a culturally responsive, appropriate, and academically rigorous way.

Research

In order to do no harm, we must rely on critical, decolonized, equity, diversity, and Indigenous research literature bases, methodologies, and practices to be transformative in our work.

Development Services

In order to learn, unlearn, and relearn together, BPC offers development services that use western and BIPOC sources of scholarship, evidence bases, and methods.

Technical Assistance

Learning and evidence should be grounded in scholarship, practice, and lived experience. By actively engaging in the practice of evaluation, you will receive a western and BIPOC knowledge base as well as the opportunity to practice it in context.

Evaluation

Our responsive and effective evaluation services offer a wide variety of innovative and evidence-informed options that are uniquely tailored to the needs of the partners, communities, and stakeholders we support.

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UNITY 25 UNDER 25

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SIOUX COMMUNITY

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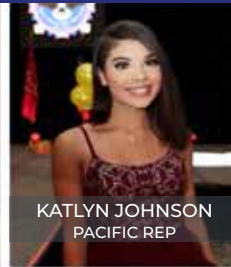
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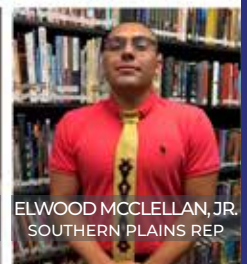
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