

# HEALING THE SPIRIT OF NATIVE YOUTH



**2023  
National UNITY Conference  
June 30 - July 3  
Washington, D.C.**



*program*

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## Welcome!

### 2023 National UNITY Conference

*“Healing the Spirit  
of Native Youth”*



## THURSDAY

(pre-conference activities)

Time	Event	Location
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	UNITY Healing Circle Pre-Conference Training	Columbia Room 3 (Terrace Level)
2:30 pm - 4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Video Filming Earth Ambassadors/ NUC EC</li> <li>- Sign up to be Emcee for General Sessions with Chance Rush</li> </ul>	Columbia Room 1 & 2 (Terrace Level)
4:30 pm	Dinner Break (on your own)	
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Welcome Reception at National Museum of American Indian (Light refreshments)</li> <li>- Conference Blessing</li> <li>- Welcome by Cynthia Chavez Lamar, Director, NMAI</li> <li>- Museum Exhibits open for UNITY attendees to explore</li> </ul>	National Museum of American Indian  <b>4th St SW, Washington, DC 20560</b>
12:00 am	Curfew / Lights out <b>DAILY</b>	

**Please wear your conference badge at all times!**



# AGENDA

## FRIDAY

**Theme: Spiritual Development**

**Wear Red in Honor of MMIW2S+**

Time	Event	Location
7:30 am	Conference Registration Opens	Terrace Foyer
9:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UNITY 101 Empowerment Session - lead by the NUC EC, Chance Rush, Hidatsa &amp; Lovina Louie, Coeur d'Alene Tribe. Learn about UNITY, NUC, Constitution &amp; Bylaws, Find out how you can get more involved</li> <li>- National UNITY Council Representatives Check-In</li> <li>- Great Session for First Time UNITY Attendees &amp; Advisors</li> <li>- Advisors Check on UNITY Membership Voting Status</li> <li>- How to Sign Up for Conference Activities</li> </ul>	International Ballroom
12:00 pm	Lunch Break (on your own)	
1:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-EC/Peer Leaders Huddle</li> <li>- Grand Entry line up (2 Youth Council Reps)</li> <li>- DJ Music Emcee One (Marcus Guinn), Osage/Potowatomi/Puerto Rican</li> </ul>	International Ballroom
1:45 pm	Grand Entry Line Up - Male & Female Reps <b>(Wear your regalia!)</b>	
2:00 pm	Opening Ceremony/UNITY Drum led by Micheal Killer & Corey Still Grand Entry! Parade of Nations by Region <b>TIME TO POST ON SOCIAL MEDIA</b>	International Ballroom



# AGENDA

## FRIDAY

Theme: Spiritual Development

Wear **Red** in Honor of MMIW2S+

Time	Event	Location
2:25 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Welcome/Call to Order - Chenoa Scippio &amp; Colby Whitethunder NUC Co-Presidents</li> <li>-Blessing: Keith Colston, Tuscarora Tribal Leader</li> <li>-Cultural Presentation: Youth Representatives of the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)</li> <li>-Welcome Keynote, Chief Marilyn Malerba, Mohegan, U.S. Treasurer</li> <li>-UNITY NEWS!</li> <li>-Video Message: Vice-President Kamala Harris</li> </ul>	International Ballroom
3:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Welcome Remarks, Loretta Tuell, Nez Perce Chairman, UNITY Council of Trustees</li> <li>Introductions of Council of Trustees</li> </ul>	International Ballroom
3:05 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introductions of the National UNITY Council Executive Committee</li> <li>-Opening Remarks : Special Envoy for Global Youth Issues, Abby Finkenauer</li> </ul>	International Ballroom
3:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Roll Call of Regions</li> <li><b>Great Plains:</b> Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota</li> <li><b>Midwest:</b> Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin</li> <li><b>Northeast:</b> Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont</li> <li><b>Northwest:</b> Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Alaska</li> <li><b>Pacific:</b> California, Hawaii</li> <li><b>Rocky Mountains:</b> Montana, Wyoming</li> <li><b>Southeast:</b> Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia</li> <li><b>Southern Plains:</b> Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas</li> <li><b>Southwest:</b> Colorado, New Mexico</li> <li><b>Western:</b> Arizona, Nevada, Utah</li> </ul>	International Ballroom

# AGENDA

## FRIDAY

**Theme: Spiritual Development**

**Wear Red in Honor of MMIW2S+**

Time	Event	Location
3:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Video Message by Sec. Deb Haaland</li> <li>-Matika Wilbur Swinomish/Tulalip -NY Times Best Seller Documentarian "Project 562"</li> </ul>	International Ballroom
4:00 pm	NDN Girls Book Club Fireside Chat - Kinsale Drake, Dine', and Lily Painter, Kiowa	International Ballroom
4:30 pm	Ice Breaker	
4:35 pm	Special Announcement/Presentation Earth Ambassadors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Welcome, Piscataway Nation</li> <li>-UNITY Council of Trustees</li> </ul>	International Ballroom
5:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Dinner Break (on your own) - EC/Peer Leaders Debrief</li> <li>Meet and Greet</li> </ul>	
6:30 pm	General Assembly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Explain purpose of caucus/announce tentative election procedures Input of youth issues</li> </ul>	International Ballroom
6:45 pm	Advisors Meet and Greet "Introductions and Safety Mitigation"	Columbia 7-12

# AGENDA

## FRIDAY

Theme: Spiritual Development

Wear **Red** in Honor of MMIW2S+

Time	Event	Location
6:45 pm	<p>Go to Area Caucuses Session #1</p> <p><b>Great Plains:</b> Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota (Columbia 5) - Terrace Level</p> <p><b>Midwest:</b> Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin (Lincoln East) - Lower Level</p> <p><b>Northeast:</b> Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont (Columbia 4) - Lower Level</p> <p><b>Northwest:</b> Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Alaska (Columbia 1 &amp; 2) - Lower Level</p> <p><b>Pacific:</b> California, Hawaii (Monroe) - Lower Level</p> <p><b>Rocky Mountains:</b> Montana, Wyoming (Columbia 3) - Lower Level</p> <p><b>Southeast:</b> Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia (Columbia 6) - Lower Level</p> <p><b>Southern Plains:</b> Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas (Georgetown) - Lower Level</p> <p><b>Southwest:</b> Colorado, New Mexico (Lincoln West) - Lower Level</p> <p><b>Western:</b> Arizona, Nevada, Utah (Jefferson) - Lower Level</p>	Assigned Rooms



# FRIDAY

**Theme: Spiritual Development**

# AGENDA

**Wear Red in Honor of MMIW2S+**

Time	Event	Location
8:15 pm	Clans/Fun and Games! -Chance Rush & Lovina Louie	International Ballroom
8:15 pm	<b>Advisors</b> "How to have a safe and fun experience at UNITY!!"	Columbia 7-12
9:30 pm	Announcements/Adjourn	International Ballroom
9:30 pm	Spirit Room available for prayers/sharing/reflections <b>*ADVISOR MUST BE PRESENT</b>	Cabinet
12:00 am	Curfew / Lights out <b>DAILY</b>	

## Traditional Skirt/Shirt Day

Time	Event	Location
7:00 am	Wellness Warriors Fitness Activity event Zumba with Eileen Crocker	Columbia Foyer - Across from Registration
7:30 am	-UNITY Drum -EC/Peer Leaders Huddle	International Ballroom
8:00 am	Conference Registration Opens	Terrace Foyer
8:00 am	Traditional Skirt and Shirt Fashion Show Kick-Off <b>Live streamed</b>	International Ballroom
8:30 am	General Session -Blessing/Cultural Presentation - New Dawn Youth Council, Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribe -UNITY NEWS! -Video Message from Secretary Raimondo, U.S. Department of Commerce -Video Message from UN Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield	International Ballroom
9:00 am	Special Performance Indigenous youth from Taiwan/Vox Nativa	International Ballroom
10:00 am	Speeches - Candidates for New Male and Female Co-President (2023-2024)	International Ballroom
10:05 am	National UNITY Council Initiative - Special Presentation - NUCEC	International Ballroom
10:15 am	<b>"Representation Matters" panel</b> featuring Marcus Guinn, Osage/Potowatomi/ Puerto Rican (Official DJ for the Oklahoma City Thunder) and Shawn Martinez, Navajo (Sr. Director/Live Presentation for the Phoenix Suns)	International Ballroom
10:45 am	<b>Advisors Meeting</b> "Action Planning and Fundraising"	Columbia 7-12

#### Traditional Skirt/Shirt Day

Time	Event	Location
10:45 am	<p>Go to Area Caucuses Session #2</p> <p><b>Great Plains:</b> Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota (Columbia 5) - Lower Level</p> <p><b>Midwest:</b> Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin (Lincoln East) - Lower Level</p> <p><b>Northeast:</b> Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont (Columbia 4) - Lower Level</p> <p><b>Northwest:</b> Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Alaska (Columbia 1 &amp; 2) - Lower Level</p> <p><b>Pacific:</b> California, Hawaii (Monroe) - Lower Level</p> <p><b>Rocky Mountains:</b> Montana, Wyoming (Columbia 3) - Lower Level</p> <p><b>Southeast:</b> Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia (Columbia 6) - Lower Level</p> <p><b>Southern Plains:</b> Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas (Georgetown) - Lower Level</p> <p><b>Southwest:</b> Colorado, New Mexico (Lincoln West) - Lower Level</p> <p><b>Western:</b> Arizona, Nevada, Utah (Jefferson) - Lower Level</p>	Assigned Rooms



# AGENDA

## Traditional Skirt/Shirt Day

Time	Event	Location
12:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Lunch Break (on your own)</li> <li>-EC/Peer Leaders Debrief</li> <li>-Autograph signing</li> <li>-Free Afternoon!</li> </ul>	Terrace Level Exhibitor Area
2:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-UNITY Official Conference Group Photo at Capitol Hill, Washington, DC</li> <li>-Dinner Break (On your own)</li> </ul>	Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C. (East side of Capitol Bdg)
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Talent Night <b>*SIGN UP REQUIRED</b>	International Ballroom
9:00 pm	Spirit Room available for prayers/sharing/reflections <b>*ADVISOR MUST BE PRESENT</b>	Cabinet
12:00 am	Curfew / Lights out <b>DAILY</b>	

# SATURDAY

Theme: Physical Development

# AGENDA

## SUNDAY

Theme: Social Development

**Wear Orange in Honor of Every Child Matters**

Time	Event	Location
7:00 am	Wellness Warriors Fitness Activity event	On your own
8:00 am	Visit Education and Career Exhibit booths	Terrace Level
8:15 am	-UNITY Drum -EC/Peer Leaders Huddle	International Ballroom
8:30 am	<b>General Session</b> -Cultural sharing and blessing: North Carolina Native American Youth Organization -Opening Remarks by Gov. Stephen R. Lewis, Gila River Indian Community -UNITY NEWS! -Video Message by Rep. Sharice Davids	International Ballroom
9:00 am	-Youth/Student Ambassadors Fireside Chat -DC Intern, NIEA, NCAI & CNAY	International Ballroom
9:45 am	Video Message by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. Presidential Candidate (D)	International Ballroom
10:00 am	Visit Education and Career Exhibit booths - <b>Pick up a raffle ticket to win prizes!</b>	Terrace Level
10:15 am	<b>Final Advisors Meeting</b>	Columbia 7-12
10:15 am	-Workshops Session #1 <b>(45 minute workshops)</b> -NIEA Listening Session for Advisors (Food provided) <b>Register in Advance</b>	Assigned Rooms
11:00 am	<b>Break - Go to your next workshop!</b>	
11:15 am	Workshops Session #2 <b>(45 minute workshops)</b> -NIEA Listening Session for Advisors (Cardozo) (Food provided) <b>Register in Advance</b>	Assigned Rooms
12:00 pm	Lunch Break (on your own)	

# AGENDA

## SUNDAY

Theme: Social Development

**Wear Orange in Honor of Every Child Matters**

Time	Event	Location
1:30 pm	Visit Education booths - <b>Earn a chance to win raffle prizes!</b>	Terrace Level
2:30 pm	-Workshops Session #3 <b>(45 minute workshops)</b> -Tribal Leader Panel	Assigned Rooms
2:30 pm	National UNITY Council Business Meeting - <b>Mandatory for male and female reps</b>	Columbia 1 & 2
3:15 pm	<b>Break - Go to your next workshop!</b>	
3:30 pm	-Workshops Session #4 <b>(45 minute workshop)</b> -Tribal Leader Panel	Assigned Rooms
4:15 pm	<b>Break - Get ready for the Gala!</b>	
5:30 pm	-Line up for Gala -CREATE SPARKS Red Carpet Moment - Sponsored by Walmart	International Terrace
6:00 pm	Pre-Gala Fashion Show featuring Grammy winner Red Berry Woman (Norma Flying Horse)	International Ballroom
6:30 pm	- UNITY GALA -Blessing -Special Message: Zoya Awan, Walmart -Fireside Chat with Norma Flying Horse -Awards and Scholarships -Presentations -NUCEC 2022-2023 -NUCEC 2023-2024 Election Announcement	International Ballroom
9:00 pm	DJ Dance	International Ballroom
10:00 pm	Spirit Room available for prayers/sharing/reflections <b>*ADVISOR MUST BE PRESENT</b>	Cabinet
12:00 am	Curfew / Lights out <b>DAILY</b>	



# AGENDA

## MONDAY

Theme: Mental Development

College and Career Day sponsored by



TRIBAL TECH  
PEOPLE, PERFORMANCE AND PARTNERSHIP

Time	Event	Location
7:00 am	Wellness Warriors Fitness Activity events on your own	
8:00 am	Visit Education and Career Exhibit booths	Terrace Level
8:15 am	EC/Peer Leaders Huddle	International Ballroom
8:30 am	<b>General Session</b> -Blessing/Cultural Presentation by Emily Silver, Haliwa-Saponi -UNITY NEWS!	International Ballroom
8:45 am	Welcome Remarks by Deputy Secretary Andrea Palm, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	
9:00 am	Video Message by USDA  <b>Special Presentation:</b> National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition  <b>Deborah Parker</b> , tsicyaltsa, (citizen of Tulalip Tribes), CEO, NNABSHC  <b>Theresa Sheldon</b> , Director of Policy & Advocacy, NNABSHC	International Ballroom

# AGENDA

## MONDAY

Theme: Mental Development

College and Career Day sponsored by



TRIBAL TECH  
PEOPLE, PERFORMANCE AND PARTNERSHIP

Time	Event	Location
9:15 am	<p><b>Meet Your Federal Partners - Work in Indian Country</b> (Panel Presentation)</p> <p><b>Moderator: PaaWee Rivera</b>, Pueblo of Pojoaque, Sr. Advisor - White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs/Director of Tribal Affairs</p> <p><b>JoAnn Kintz</b>, Deputy Director, Office of Tribal Justice, DOJ</p> <p><b>Gary Cooper</b>, Cherokee, Associate Deputy/ Assistant Secretary- Office of Native American Programs, U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development</p> <p><b>Raina Thiele</b>, Dena'ina Athabascan and Yup'ik, Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Alaska Affairs &amp; Strategic Priorities, U.S. Department of the Interior</p> <p><b>Naomi Miguel</b>, Executive Director, White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity for Native Americans and Strengthening Tribal Colleges and Universities, U.S. Department of Education</p> <p><b>Lawrence Shorty</b>, USDA Tribal Colleges and Universities Program</p>	International Ballroom

# AGENDA

## MONDAY

Theme: Mental Development

College and Career Day sponsored by



TRIBAL TECH  
PEOPLE, PERFORMANCE AND PARTNERSHIP

Time	Event	Location
10:00 am	Career and Education Day Kick Off <b>Victoria Vasques</b> , Diegueno of the San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians, Owner and Chairwoman, Tribal Tech LLC	International Ballroom
10:20 am	Visit Education and Career Exhibit booths - <b>Pick up a raffle ticket to win prizes!</b>	International Terrace
10:30 am	Workshop Session I <b>(45 minute workshops)</b>  <b>Optional:</b> Listening Session I with DOJ (OJJDP) Youth Session, Panelists: <b>Liz Ryan</b> , OJJDP Administrator  <b>Marcia Good</b> , Senior Advisor, Office of the Administrator, OJJDP  <b>Kathleen Mantila</b> , Sr. Advisor for Program Evaluation and Improvement, OJJDP  <b>Leanetta Jessie</b> , Deputy Associate Administrator, Youth Justice and System Innovation Division, OJJDP  <b>Kara McDonagh</b> , Program Manager, Youth Justice and System Innovation Division, OJJDP <b>*Register in Advance</b>	Assigned Rooms
11:30 am	Lunch Break (on your own)	
1:30 pm	Orientation Training for Newly elected NUC Executive Committee	Assigned Rooms
1:30 pm	Workshop Session II <b>(45 minute workshops)</b>  <b>Optional:</b> Listening Session II with DOJ (OJJDP) <b>*Register in Advance</b>	
2:15 pm	Go to next Workshop	
2:30 pm	Workshop Session III <b>(45 minute workshops)</b> -Optional Listening Session: Jason Cummings, U.S. Department of Education	Assigned Rooms
2:30 pm	<b>Advisors Meeting</b> "Sustaining/enhancing your youth council"	Columbia 7-12
3:15 pm	Go to next workshop	

# AGENDA

## MONDAY

Theme: Mental Development

College and Career Day sponsored by



TRIBAL TECH  
PEOPLE, PERFORMANCE AND PARTNERSHIP

Time	Event	Location
3:30 pm	Workshop Session IV ( <b>45 minute workshops</b> ) -Optional Listening Session: Jason Cummings, U.S. Department of Education	Assigned Rooms
4:30 pm	General Assembly / Closing Ceremony -UNITY Drum -Closing Remarks: Elizabeth Hidalgo Reese, Yunpovi (Willow Flower), Senior Policy Advisor for Native Affairs, Domestic Policy Council, The White House -Evaluation Giveaway	International Ballroom
5:30 pm	-Dinner Break (on your own) -EC/Peer Leaders Debrief	Main Stage
7:00 pm	Culture Night <b>*SIGN UP REQUIRED</b>	International Ballroom
12:00 am	Curfew / Lights out <b>DAILY</b>	

## TUESDAY

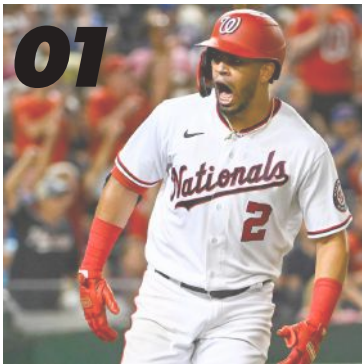
Optional Activities/Travel Day



**HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME!  
SEE YOU AT THE  
2024 NATIONAL UNITY CONFERENCE  
IN PORTLAND, OREGON!**

## 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY EVENTS IN *Washington, D.C.*

While attending the National UNITY Conference in Washington, D.C., celebrate independence in Washington, DC with a reenactment reading at the National Archives. Enjoy a baseball game, visit the American History Museum, explore the National Mall, and experience the Smithsonian National Zoo. End the day with the A Capitol Fourth concert and fireworks at the U.S. Capitol!



### 01

#### **Catch the Washington Nationals game!**

You can catch the Washington Nationals play against the Cincinnati Reds at the Nationals Park. Game begins at 11:05am and tickets start at \$39/each.



### 02

#### **A day at the Smithsonian's National Zoo**

The National Zoo is located in DC's residential Woodley Park neighborhood and, like all Smithsonian museums, admission is free! Be prepared to do lots of walking. The National Zoo, which is handicapped and stroller accessible, is a large park with 18 distinct areas to explore.



### 03

#### **"A Capitol Fourth" Concert Series**

A Capitol Fourth, America's National Independence Day celebration, honors our country's birthday with an all-star salute. For over 40 years, this television event, featuring a parade of superstars that helps set the tone for the greatest display of fireworks in the nation.



### 04

#### **Visit The National Mall & Memorial Parks**

The National Mall is America's most visited national park, where the past, present and future come together. The monuments and memorials in this park honor American forefathers and heroes who paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to this country. Spend the day at the National Mall, visit the Waterfront restaurants and prepare for fireworks!



**We are proud to support the next  
generation of Native voices.**



**COMCAST  
NBCUNIVERSAL**





**Victoria Vasques** is the Owner and Chairwoman of Tribal Tech, LLC and Cowan & Associates, Inc. Both companies are American Indian, SBA 8(m), third-party verified, woman-owned small businesses (WOSB) that provide management and technical services to federal, state, tribal and corporate clients. For more than 30 years, Ms. Vasques has been an advocate for American Indians, leading education reform, health care and advancing energy initiatives.

Her career in public service includes serving as the Assistant Deputy Secretary of the Office of Indian Education, U.S. Department of Education, where she was the principal point of contact within the federal government for Indian education across the nation. Prior to that, she served as the Director of Indian Affairs at the U.S. Department of Energy. She also served as executive director of the White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities, as an education program specialist in the Office of Indian Education, on the President's Commission on Indian Reservation Economics, and on the President's Commission on the HIV Epidemic.

Ms. Vasques received her Bachelor of Science degree from California State University at Fullerton, then went on to receive teaching credentials from the University of California at Irvine. She is Diegueno of the San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians, Valley Center, California, and is a former American Indian Woman of the Year. She also serves on various boards for national and local non-profit organizations dedicated to supporting and promoting education and health care. Vicki has created a non-profit organization, The Ronald Maese Peralta (RMP) Foundation, in honor of her father. RMP's mission is to improve the education, health and wellness of all people, especially those throughout Native communities.



**Kinsale Drake** is a Diné poet, playwright, and performer based out of the Southwest. Her work has appeared in Poetry Magazine, Best New Poets, Black Warrior Review, Nylon, MTV, NPR, Teen Vogue, Time Magazine, and elsewhere. She recently graduated from Yale University, where she received the J. Edgar Meeker Prize, the Academy of American Poets Prize, the Young Native Playwrights Award, and the 2022 Joy Harjo Poetry Prize.

Previously, she served as a National Student Poet representing the Western region of the country. She is a Yahoo In the Know Changemaker and was named by Time Magazine and filmmaker Ava Duvernay as an artist representing her decade "changing how we see the world." She is also the founder of NDN Girls Book Club ([www.ndngirlsbookclub.org](http://www.ndngirlsbookclub.org)), which teaches literary programming to Native youth and uplifts Indigenous authors and literature.



**Shawn Martinez** is in his third season as Senior Director of Live Presentation for the Phoenix Suns and Mercury. He oversees the strategy and execution of all in-game live production and entertainment elements for the organizations. Martinez's leadership elevated the game day experience at the recently renovated Footprint Center, creating the best homecourt advantage in the NBA and WNBA.

Martinez played a pivotal role in the two-and-a-half-year development of the Suns' ORIGINATIV platform, a symbolic turquoise City Edition uniform and basketball court honoring and celebrating Arizona's 22 federally recognized indigenous tribes. The program and uniform details pay homage to the rich histories and cultures of the state's Tribal Nations and celebrate their shared love of basketball.

Martinez grew up in Fort Defiance, Arizona, in the Navajo Nation and is an enrolled member of the Diné/Navajo Tribe. An athletic standout from Window Rock High School, Martinez continued his basketball journey at Fort Lewis College. He received his bachelor's degree in communications and fine arts and launched an entertainment career under the stage alias DJ Tribal Touch.

Before joining the Suns and Mercury, his home state teams, Martinez spent 12 years with the Denver Nuggets and six years with the Detroit Pistons. An NBA veteran, Martinez has supported the strategy and execution of four NBA All-Star Games and produced both the 2021 NBA Finals and 2021 WNBA Finals in 90 days. Beyond basketball, Martinez regularly mentors Native youth and shares his indigenous roots and career journey at various events across the country. In 2022, Martinez performed at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian to celebrate Native veterans and the official dedication of the National Native American Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C.



**Brings Water**, also known by her English name, **Lily Painter**, is a 21 year old citizen of the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma and the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. She is a poet, writer, community and arts advocate, filmmaker, and was an inaugural Remembering Our Sisters Fellow with the Center for Native American Youth where she advocated nationally for MMIWG2S+ awareness and policy advancement. In 2023, she was the White House's first Native American Intern in the Domestic Policy Council and was named as one of Teen Vogue's 21 under 21.

She is a past UNITY 25 under 25 and the reigning 2023 Miss Indian Oklahoma. In her free time, she assists with graphic design for NDN Girls Book



**Matika Wilbur** is a critically acclaimed social documentarian and photographer from the Swinomish and Tulalip peoples of coastal Washington. Project 562, a crowdfunded initiative to visit, engage, and photograph people from over 562 sovereign Tribal Nations in North America, is her fourth major creative venture elevating Native American identity and culture. She co-hosts the All My Relations podcast which has over 2 million listeners. She has offered over 300 keynotes at such places as Harvard, Yale, Berkeley, Google, TED Talks, the National Education Association, and National Geographic Explorer, and she is a regular contributor to the New York Times. Her book, "Project 562: Changing The Way We See Native America" was released in April 25th of 2023 and was instantly a NYT Bestseller.



**Norma Baker- Flying Horse 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. RBW is the recipient of the 2020 International Designer of the year, the 2022 Phoenix Fashion Week Designer of the Year, and the 2022 Cultural Recognition Visual Arts Grammy Award co-recipient. Her designs have been seen on various red carpet events such as the Grammys and the Oscars. RBW was named the first Native American contemporary designer to have a dress worn ON the Oscar stage during an Oscar musical performance. Giving her business her Native given name, Red Berry Woman, Norma strives to create pieces that honor and celebrate her tribal bloodlines.



**Marcus Guinn EMCEE, DJ**, Youth Advocate, and National Speaker. Currently, Emcee holds the position of an official DJ for Nike N7 and serves as an International DJ/Tour Support for Taboo (The Black Eyed Peas). Emcee has also been honored as an MTV Video Music Award Winner. Additionally, he is a member of the recently formed group #Mag7. His professional endeavors extend to his role as the CEO of One Innertainment Inc. and as a Co-Founder of an impactful outreach program called One Chance Leadership.



**Raina Thiele** serves as Senior Advisor for Alaska Affairs and Strategic Priorities to Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland. In this role, she serves as the Department of the Interior's policy lead on issues related to Alaska's public lands, tribal relations, the arctic, and international Indigenous issues. She is the first Alaska Native to serve in this role. Raina has spent her career in public service, the private sector, and the nonprofit sector. She previously served as President Obama's tribal liaison and led planning for President Obama's historic

2015 trip to Alaska. She also served for nearly five years in the White House Office of Management and Budget, focusing on a range of tribal, international, and energy issues.

She has served on the boards of the Arctic Economic Council, the Verizon Consumer Advisory Board, and the Environmental Law Institute's Environmental Justice Advisory Council. She is a first generation college student who earned her bachelor's degree from Yale College and her master in public policy degree from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. Raina was born and raised in Alaska and her family hails from Pedro Bay Village on Lake Iliamna and Alexander Creek near Mt Susitna. She is Dena'ina Athabascan and Yup'ik of the Tulchina (water) clan.



**Bernice Gover** (*Pawnee/Choctaw*) is a 5th and 6th grade Reading teacher at Indian Wells Elementary School, located on the Navajo reservation. Ms. Gover has provided eight years of instruction to IWES, where she has taught as a 1st, 5th, and 6th grade teacher, and has served as the school's reading specialist. Ms. Gover has also served as a coach and is currently serving as a mentor teacher overseeing a student teacher.

A 2010 graduate of Winslow High School, in Winslow, Arizona, Bernice went to further her education at South Mountain Community College in Phoenix, Arizona. Upon her completion she transferred to Haskell Indian Nations University, located in Lawrence, Kansas. Bernice completed her education at Haskell, earning a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education degree in 2015. Bernice graduated from Grand Canyon University in 2019, with a Master of Arts in Reading.

Bernice is now attending Northern Arizona University's American Indian School Leadership Program. With an expected graduation date of 2024, Bernice will graduate with an M.Ed. in Educational Leadership with plans to work as an administrator in her district. She strongly believes in the advancement of Indian education. Serving as a member of the board will allow her to utilize her voice to make positive changes in the world of Indigenous academia.





**PaaWee Rivera** serves as a Senior Advisor to the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and Director of Tribal Affairs for the Biden-Harris Administration. Prior to his appointment, Rivera served as the Western Coalitions Director for the Biden-Harris presidential campaign. He also served as Senator Elizabeth Warren's Western Political Director, as a Special Advisor for her 2018 Senate re-election campaign, and as Colorado State Director for her 2020 presidential campaign. He also led Senator's

Warren's Native American engagement and helped formulate her Native American policy platform. Rivera spent 3 years at the Democratic National Committee in a number of positions, including as the DNC's national Native American Engagement and Finance Director. Before the DNC, he worked as a government relations advisor working with Tribal governments on federal public policy and political affairs. He graduated from Dartmouth College with a major in Government and minor in Native American Studies. Rivera is from New Mexico and is an enrolled Tribal member of the Pueblo of Pojoaque located just north of Santa Fe New Mexico.



**Lawrence Shorty** (*Nashashí Diné*) is a descendent of some of the first agriculturalists in what would become the states of Arizona, Mississippi, and New Mexico. His ancestors and family were dry land and irrigation farmers, sheep, goat, and cattle herders, and tobacco farmers.

Lawrence co-founded the Traditional Tobacco Seed Bank and Education Program at the University of New Mexico. He helped to pioneer a Native American resurgence in tobacco seed collection, seed sharing, and ceremonial tobacco growing. His multidisciplinary and hands on approach to Native tobacco growing intersects with substance abuse prevention, public health, and agriculture, all areas in which he has published. Lawrence has received fellowships from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and the United States Department of Agriculture. His contemporary interests are in the history of pre-Columbian foods from the American continent and their contemporary influence on national dishes worldwide. He currently works with the US. Department of Agriculture managing the USDA Tribal Colleges and Universities Program, which builds the land grant capacities of tribal colleges and universities.



**Robert F. Kennedy, Jr** is a long-time environmental lawyer and one of the founders of Waterkeeper Alliance, an organization dedicated to the protection of waterways worldwide. His commitment to water coupled with his work in indigenous rights is what brought him to speak at Standing Rock in 2016. Kennedy is the nephew of President John F. Kennedy and the son of Senator Robert F. Kennedy, and is currently a candidate for the Democratic nomination for President of the United States.



**Chief Mutáwi Mutáhash (Many Hearts) Marilynn "Lynn" Malerba**

became the 18th Chief of the Mohegan Tribe on August 15, 2010, and is the first female Chief in the tribe's modern history. The position is a lifetime appointment made by the Tribe's Council of Elders. Lynn follows in footsteps of many strong female role models in the Mohegan Tribe, including her mother, Loretta Roberge, who was a member of the Tribal Council that achieved Federal Recognition for the Tribe and held the position of Tribal Nonner (elder female of respect) as well as her great-grandfather Chief Matagha (Burrill Fielding). Prior to becoming Chief, she served as Chairwoman of the Tribal Council, and served in Tribal Government as Executive Director of Health and Human Services. Preceding her work for the Mohegan Tribe, Lynn had a lengthy career as a registered nurse ultimately as the Director of Cardiology and Pulmonary Services at Lawrence & Memorial Hospital. She earned a doctor of Nursing Practice at Yale University, named a Jonas Scholar. She was awarded an honorary Doctoral degree in Science from Eastern Connecticut State University and an honorary Doctoral Degree in Humane Letters from the University of St. Joseph in West Hartford, CT. She earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Connecticut, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the College of St. Joseph and her diploma in nursing from Hartford Hospital School of Nursing.

Lynn was appointed by President Biden and is currently serving as the Treasurer of the United States.



**Gary J. Cooper** serves as the Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Native American Programs at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. Along with the Deputy Assistant Secretary Heidi Frecheffe, they lead the Office of Native American Programs (ONAP). Gary provides oversight and management to the nearly 200 ONAP employees across the Nation, leading a team of professionals at the Headquarters Office in Washington, DC, in addition to six regional offices, and two satellite offices. ONAP manages over twenty programs dedicated to Native American communities – including one that is the largest source of housing assistance.

Gary is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation and for nearly twenty-two years before joining HUD he worked for the Nation's housing program. For more than eight of those years he served as the Executive Director of the Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation. During his tenure he served on the Board of Directors for the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC), elected by his peers to serve as the organization's Chairman for two and half years, before stepping down to accept his new position.



**JoAnn Kintz** is the Deputy Director of the Office of Tribal Justice (OTJ) at the U.S. Department of Justice. OTJ is the primary point of contact for the Department of Justice's government to government relationship with Indian tribes. OTJ also serves as a source of Indian law expertise for the Department. Prior to her current position, Ms. Kintz served as Senior Counsel at Democracy Forward, where she represented entities, including non-profit organizations, labor unions, and Indian tribes, in legal and policy matters aimed at protecting and advancing democracy and combating unlawful government actions that seek to undermine it. She began her career as a Trial Attorney with the Environment & Natural Resources Division/Indian Resources Section of the Department of Justice, where she represented the United States in a variety of civil matters pertaining Indian tribes and tribal interests.

Ms. Kintz, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, is a Columbia Law School graduate, honored as a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar. She was a Managing Director for the Human Rights Law Review. During her time at law school, she interned at the Indian Law Resource Center and engaged in pro bono projects at the Navajo Nation Department of Justice and the Pine Ridge Office of Dakota Plains Legal Services. She holds a B.A. from Columbia College.



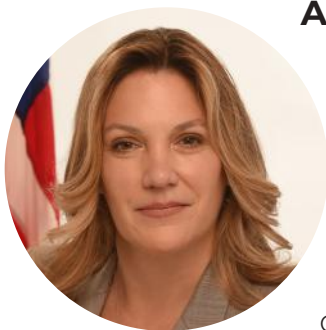


**Zoya Awan** is the Director of Public Affairs at Walmart.

In her role she directs the strategic outreach and engagement strategy for Walmart's strategic partnerships within multicultural and minority communities including People with Disabilities, Native Americans, and Emerging Generations across communities. Prior to her work at Walmart, Zoya worked at Microsoft in Government Affairs, in the State Department's office of the Special Representative for

Afghanistan and Pakistan and various non-profits. Zoya has an MBA from Georgetown University and her B.A. in International Affairs and Communication Studies from American University.

Zoya is a proud Pakistani- American Muslim woman and an explorer who loves to travel and explore all things in the world. Zoya is passionate about giving a voice to the voiceless and building partnerships to work across sectors to make impact in communities. Born and Raised in Long Island, New York a longtime Washingtonian Zoya currently resides with her family in New York.



**Andrea Palm** is the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). As Deputy Secretary, she is the Chief Operating Officer and is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Department.

Palm most recently served as Secretary-designee of the Department of Health Services (DHS), overseeing one of the largest state agencies in Wisconsin as a member of Governor Tony Evers' cabinet. In this role, she had responsibility for the state's Medicaid program, its Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and behavioral health programs, among others. DHS is also Wisconsin's public health agency, and as such, Palm led the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Previously, Palm held a number of policy and operational roles in the Obama-Biden Administration at HHS, including Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Counselor, Chief of Staff and Senior Counselor to the Secretary. During her eight-year tenure, she worked on a variety of Administration priorities, including the Affordable Care Act, as well as providing leadership for the Department's work to combat the opioid epidemic.

Palm was born and raised in rural, upstate New York. She holds a Bachelor's degree from Cornell University and a Master's degree from Washington University in St. Louis.



**Cynthia Chavez Lamar** is the director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian. She is the first Native woman to head a Smithsonian museum. Chavez Lamar oversees the museum's three facilities: the National Museum of the American Indian on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., the museum's George Gustav Heye Center in Lower Manhattan and the Cultural Resources Center in Suitland, Maryland. Chavez Lamar is an accomplished curator, author and scholar whose research interests are focused on Southwest Native art and the methodologies and practices involved in collaborating with Indigenous communities.

Since January 2021, Chavez Lamar has served as acting associate director for collections and operations at the museum. She was responsible for overseeing its collections, facilities, safety and information technology departments. She led efforts to ensure effective management of and care for the museum's collection, which is composed of more than 1 million objects and photographs and more than 500,000 digitized images, films and other media documenting Native communities, events and organizations.

Chavez Lamar has been at the museum most recently since 2014, and earlier in her career was a museum intern (1994) and later an associate curator (2000–2005). From 2014 through 2020, Chavez Lamar served as assistant director for collections at the museum.



**Liz Ryan** became Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention on May 16, 2022, following appointment by President Joseph R. Biden. Prior to leading OJJDP, Ms. Ryan served as president and CEO of the Youth First Initiative, a national campaign focused on ending the incarceration of youth by investing in community-based alternatives. Ms. Ryan founded the Youth First Initiative in 2014; under her leadership, it achieved the closure of youth prisons in six states and redirected more than \$50 million to community-based alternatives to incarceration.

Ms. Ryan founded the Campaign for Youth Justice in 2005 and served as its president and CEO until 2014. The national, multistate initiative sought to end the prosecution of youth in adult criminal courts and the placement of youth in adult jails and prisons. During Ms. Ryan's tenure, the campaign's work led to legislative and policy changes in more than 30 states, a 60 percent decrease in the number of youth in adult courts, and a greater-than 50 percent decrease in the number of youth placed in adult jails and prisons.



**Abby Finkenauer**, U.S. Special Envoy, emerged from a rural Iowa working-class background as a first-generation college graduate. At 24, she won a seat in the Iowa House of Representatives, serving her community from 2015-2019. Notably, Abby championed collective bargaining and workers' rights, while advocating for equal pay, public education, infrastructure funding, voting rights, and women's reproductive health access. At 28, she became the youngest woman to flip a Congressional seat and passed a bill within her first two weeks as a Congresswoman.

As Chairwoman of the Rural Development, Agriculture, Trade, and Entrepreneurship Subcommittee, she amplified rural issues. Abby also founded the Endometriosis Congressional Caucus, securing doubled NIH research funding. In November 2022, Abby was appointed as the U.S. Special Envoy for Global Youth Issues and is focusing her energy on lifting up the voices and stories of young people across the globe and fostering relationship for the United States that will span generations advancing and protecting democracy.



**Yuan Sheng International Academy** belonged to Vox Nativia Taiwan Association. It was established in 2018 as the first indigenous public-interest experimental school in Taiwan, supported by the private sector to carry on the care for young children in isolated places.

To aid with the financial, academic, and life adjustment issues so they may continue on to college, we recruit high school students in Taiwan who are native to the rural areas.

The YSIA choir includes all of the students. Students develop and boost their confidence via choir practice and performance exposure. The wonderful voices of the Indigenous people will be shared with the world by preserving their traditional songs and timbre, fusing them with contemporary music, and training the choir into a world-class ensemble. We encourage students to contribute back to society on their own by teaching them the principle of "Taking from the community, giving back to society." As a result, the YSIA choir frequently receives invitations to and participates in benefit concerts hosted by nonprofit organizations.

## FEATURED GUESTS



**Theresa Sheldon**

*Director of Policy & Advocacy, National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition*



**Rory Wheeler**

*Seneca - Washington DC Intern*



**Gabriella Nakai**

*Navajo/Choctaw - CNAY, Champion of Change*



**Deborah Parker**

*Tsicyaltsa, (citizen of Tulalip Tribes), CEO, National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition*



**Caleb Dash**

*Onk Akimel O'odham and Yanenowi Logan, Seneca - NCAI Youth Commission Co- Presidents*

## FEATURED GUESTS



**Governor Stephen R. Lewis**  
*Gila River Indian Community*



**Naomi Miguel**  
*Executive Director, White House Initiative on  
Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and  
Economic Opportunity for Native Americans and  
Strengthening Tribal Colleges and Universities, U.S.  
Department of Education*

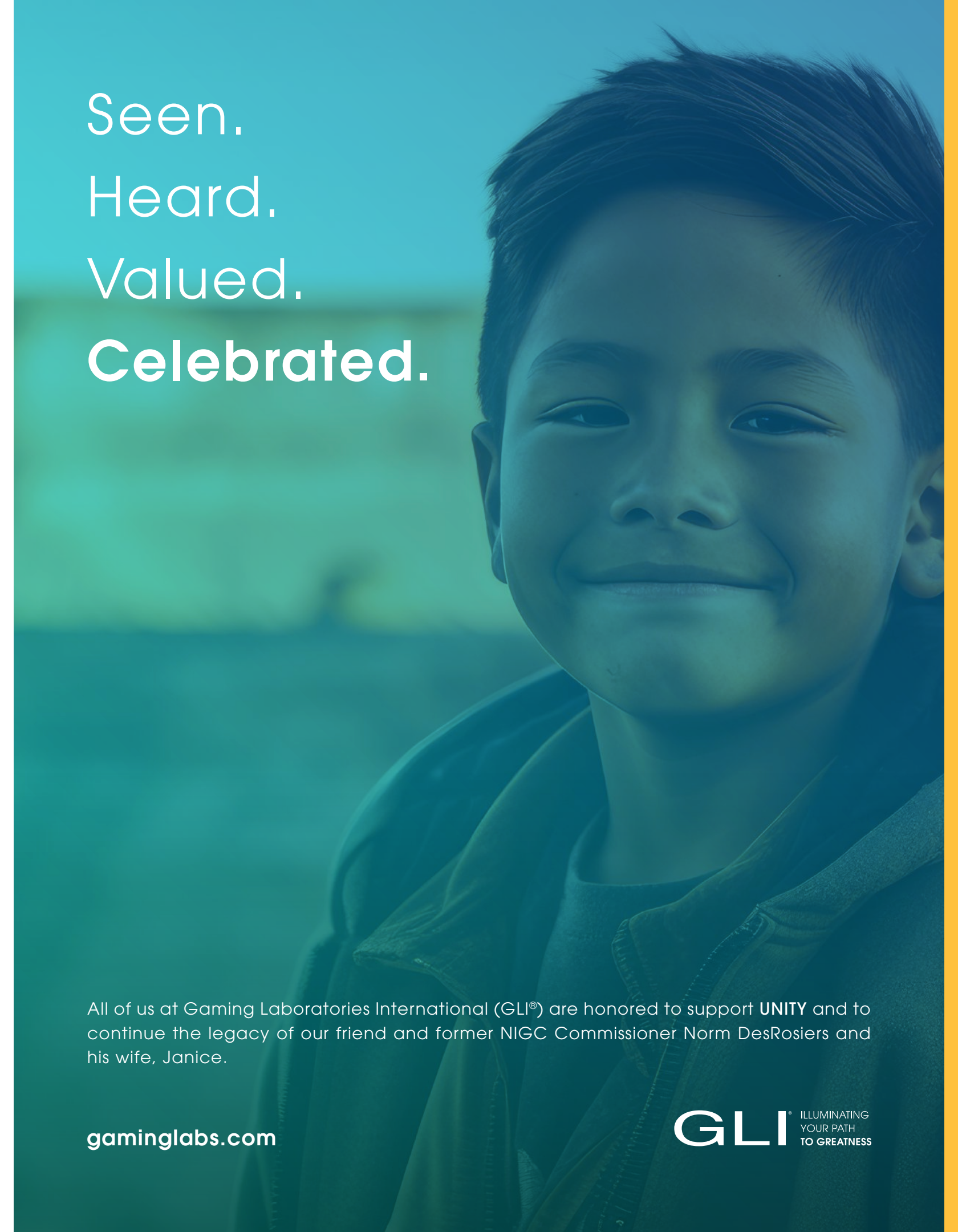






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# THE RMP FOUNDATION

American Indian and  
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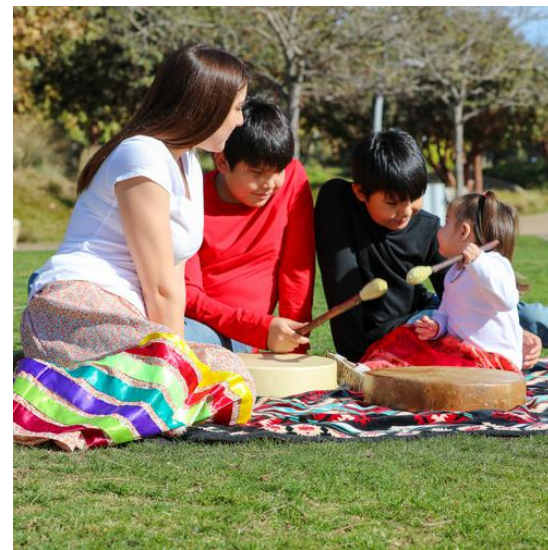
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**The RMP Foundation** is a non-profit dedicated to improving the education, health, and wellness of all people, especially those throughout Native communities.

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[www.rmpfoundation.org](http://www.rmpfoundation.org)





**Pearl Yellowman** is a member of the Navajo Nation and is now a full-time Trainer focusing on Youth Development, Community Development, Government Development, and Executive Leadership Trainings.

Pearl is currently the vice-president of College Operations at Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute in Albuquerque, NM.



**Chance Rush** 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 is an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes (Hidatsa). He's also Dakota, Arapaho, Oneida, and Otoe. 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).



**Lovina Louie** is schitsu'umsh (Coeur d' Alene) Tribe, nselxcin (Okanogan/Colville), Nimipu (Nez Perce) she is a descendant of Chief Morris Antelope of the schitsu'umsh and Chief Manuel Louie of the Inkaneep Band in Oliver BC Canada. She is a graduate of the University of Idaho where she received her Bachelors in Organizational Sciences with an emphasis in Community and Tribal Wellness. She was recently featured on Lifetime Movie Network 50 Women in 50 States and

a speaker at the TEDx Coeur d'Alene event. LoVina is a board member for the Native Wellness Institute, a national trainer and facilitator in youth leadership development, strategic planning, family constellations and community healing and wellness planning. She also has certifications from the Healthy Native Communities Fellowship. She has worked with youth and adults in wellness and healing for over twenty years throughout North America. LoVina is the visionary behind the newly developed and revolutionary exercise series "Powwow Sweat" and co-directed the American Indian Film Festival and Red Nation Film Festival award winning music video "We Shall Remain."



**Michael Killer**, Osiyo, I am a full blooded Cherokee from Tahlequah, OK where I live with my wife Jerri Ann and our 2 kids Levi & Lennox.

I am the singer for the U.N.I.T.Y. Drum. I have also served on the executive committee as a member at large and as co-president. I have been singing around this drum since its instalation back in 1994 at the Tampa conference. There have been many great singers from all over Indian country that have sat around grandpa. we invite everyone to come and sing with us, so bring your songs. It is an open drum. It has been taught to me that the drum is the heartbeat of our native people. It's good medicine. I am very honored and humbled to serve as the leader singer. Just want to say thank you to Mary Kim and to U.N.I.T.Y. wado!!!

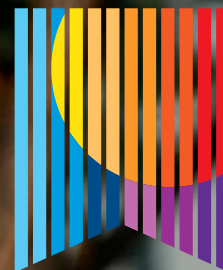


**Sheldon Smith** is a Native American advocate, motivational speaker, and performer. His work has focused on working with young people across the country to find their potential. Including building positive character development, leadership, self-care, cultural and spiritual empowerment. Sheldon share his passion by sharing stories, breaking down barriers, and being an entrepreneur.



**Hunter Genia**, Saginaw Swan Creek Black River Band of Chippewa, has over 29 years of service to the field of social work, wellness, advocacy, speaking, facilitating, training and teaching to youth, parents, elders, tribal communities, schools, universities, organizations, agencies, and community groups on various wellness, social, historical trauma and justice concerns and issues.

**Aditonal Trainer: Corey Still.**



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# WORKSHOPS

**BOTH DAYS**  
(sun & mon)

Room	Presenter	Organization/ Youth Council	Workshop Title	Workshop Description
Morgan (Lobby Level)	Krishna Aniel	National Museum of the American Indian	Internship / Fellowship Opportunities at the National Museum of the American Indian	The Smithsonian Institution is the world's largest museum and research complex with 21 museums, 9 research centers, and 137 million treasures to discover. Learn about internship and fellowships throughout the Smithsonian and specific opportunities at the National Museum of the American Indian.
Holmead East (Lobby Level)	Joseph Nayquonabe	Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe	The 5 Steps of Transformational Leadership	Leadership in Indian Country is quickly changing hands from one generation to the next. It's more important than ever to build habits that will transform your leadership skills. In this interactive session youth will learn and apply 5 proven habits to transforming their leadership skills
Holmead West (Lobby Level)	Eli Tully	Operation Hope	Money Management Workshop	The workshop will provide a brief presentation of Financial Literacy to the youth and college- aged adults. Topics will range from Money Management, Savings and its benefits, and financial planning for future and current events. Presentation will be interactive to promote financial wellness for all.

# WORKSHOPS

**BOTH DAYS**  
(sun & mon)

Room	Presenter	Organization/ Youth Council	Workshop Title	Workshop Description
Jay (Lobby Level)	Alecia Onzawah	The Skye Woman Project	MMIP Youth Prevention Initiative	This workshop consists of MMIW stats while noting this crisis also affects boys/men. Using age appropriate language, attendees will hear the story of my own daughter. Various safety measures will be included as potential prevention along with handouts for attendees.
Oak Lawn (Lobby Level)	Katherine Lacy	AmeriCorps	United through Service - Your Journey from Passion to Service to Career with AmeriCorps	Let's talk about community service! Did you know that AmeriCorps can be a way to serve your community in a topic that you're passionate about while earning tons of benefits to start your career? Join us for fun, prize-winning games and trivia, and hear from an AmeriCorps alum about their service.
Piscataway (Lobby Level)	AjahRain Yellowhair	UNITY Class of 2022 25 under 25	Cultural and Philosophical Approach to EcoResiliency through The Indigenous Perspective	My vision for this workshop will be based on my research work with the University of Portland on Eco-Sustainability in areas of Spirituality, Ecovillages, and Transition living. I hope to engage in a dialogue with students about how culture can inform our climate practices for land stewardship.
Northwest (Lobby Level)	Kelly Vallo	Inter Tribal Council of Arizona	Myth or Fact: You Can Catch An STI From A Toilet Seat?	The workshop will provide youth a brief overview of STIs and way to stay healthy. Youth participants will engage in an interactive activity to increase their knowledge about STIs. Tools and resources from the WeRNative and Healthy Native Youth website, including free text messaging services.



# WORKSHOPS

**BOTH DAYS**  
(sun & mon)

Room	Presenter	Organization/ Youth Council	Workshop Title	Workshop Description
Embassy (Terrace Level)	Layha Spoonhunter	Pretty Elk Consulting	LGBTQ/Two Spirit talking circle/ safe space	Talking circle and a safe space for LGBTQ and Two Spirit Youth . This provide LGBTQ2s the opportunity to meet each other and be in an inclusive and welcoming environment.
Jefferson West (Lower Level)	Mackenzie Neal	Bureau of Indian Affairs	Pathways to Federal and Tribal Careers: BIA Pathways Internship Program	Introduce Native students to the Bureau of Indian Affairs Pathways Internship Program and promote career opportunities in Indian Country. Pathways staff will review the federal and tribal internship process, provide application advice, and share information exciting career paths.
Jefferson East (Lower Level)	Mackenzie Neal & Team	Bureau of Indian Affairs	Internships & Careers in Tribal Climate Resilience, Environmental Science, and more!	Learn more about careers in tribal climate resilience, food sovereignty, traditional ecological knowledge, and natural resource management with Tribal Nations and the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

# WORKSHOPS

## SUNDAY

Room	Presenter	Organization/ Youth Council	Workshop Title	Workshop Description
DuPont (Terrace Level)	Logan Monroe	Northland Community Schools Youth Council Alumni	Indigenous Identity: Defending, Protecting, and Retaining in a Post-Contact World	This lecture-esque workshop/presentation briefly explores the foundations and pan- Indigenous definitions of Indigenous identity, the struggles contemporary Indigenous peoples face in the spaces we occupy, and just a few of the ways we as Indigenous people can tackle these daily challenges.
Fairchild West (Terrace Level)	Rory Wheeler	National Native American Law Students Association	Exploring Pathways to Law: Q & A with Law Students	Have you thought about, thinking about, or what to know more about attending law school? In this session we will discuss the law school application process, questions about the law school admissions test (LSAT), and opportunities available specific to Indigenous students interesting in law.
Gunston West (Terrace Level)	Melodi Serna	American Indian Center of Chicago	I Support Lateral Kindness	This workshop is to teach our youth how to combat lateral violence in our communities. I will discuss the many ways that leading 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.
Fairchild east (Terrace Level)	Robin Eagle	Reno-Sparks Indian Colony UNITY	Protecting Thackerpass “you can’t mine your way out of climate crisis “	Our youth council has been participating in peaceful protest against lithium mines in Nevada. Discussion on mining, the truth about green energy and it’s impact on sacred lands. PowerPoint and handouts will be distributed.

Room	Presenter	Organization/ Youth Council	Workshop Title	Workshop Description
Cardozo (Terrace Level)	Shanise Kaaikala	National Indian Education	Focus Group for Chaperones & Adults: Afterschool Time Programs in Native Communities	<b>*SIGN UP REQUIRED</b> The breakout session would be more of a focus group/gathering for chaperones/ adults to discuss after school time programs and needs in their communities. This would be part of an internal report that NIEA is working on to define how afterschool/ out-of-school time programs impact Native students.
<b>Sunday: Round 1</b>				
Monroe (Lower Level)	Abraham Broncheau	Nez Perce Tribe Students for Success	Belonging: Hosting a Youth GONA Training	This first section of the GONA focuses on building a team, community identity, and a strengthened sense of belonging. In Native culture, a place for all ages, a place for all kinds of people, is valued. The first section of the GONA/GOAN represents infancy and childhood, a time when we need to know how we belong. Hear how the Nez Perce Tribe Students for Success teaches Belonging in their Youth GONAs.
<b>Sunday: Round 2</b>				
Monroe (Lower Level)	Joshua Langi	Kickapoo Native Connections Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas"	Mastery: Hosting a Youth GONA Training	Mastery is the next important step in an individual's and a community's journey toward the wholeness and balance necessary to address important issues. In GONA/ GOAN, this section outlines a healing model for historical trauma recovery and envisioning a healthier future for individuals, families, and communities. Hear how the Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas teaches Mastery in their Youth GONAs.

# WORKSHOPS

## SUNDAY

Room	Presenter	Organization/ Youth Council	Workshop Title	Workshop Description
<b>Sunday: Round 3</b>				
Monroe (Lower Level)	Trevor Foster	Phoenix Indian Center Final Youth Council	Interdependence: Hosting a Youth GONA Training	Even when people are strong and committed to healing themselves and others, it is no match for the power of the community, this is Interdependence. This section of the GONA/GOAN is intended to develop the common community vision and direction necessary to address and prevent mental and substance use disorders and suicide and promote mental health. Attend this workshop to hear how youth councils teach Interdependence in their Youth GONAs.
<b>Sunday: Round 4</b>				
Monroe (Lower Level)	Mat Pendleton		Generosity: Hosting a Youth GONA Training	The section on Generosity in the GONA/GOAN focus on the community prevention plan. Generosity reaffirms their appreciation and acknowledgment of the role of elders in community balance and wellness. It helps youth understands community-based prevention and the important role this plays in sustainability.

# WORKSHOPS

## SUNDAY

Room	Presenter	Organization/ Youth Council	Workshop Title	Workshop Description
Kalorama (Lobby Level)	Connor Bunnyhead	White Deer Run of York Bureau of Land Management	Music Therapy and Mental Health	This workshop explains the neuroscience of music, it's effects on the brain and how it can impact your mental health. Not only do you get to learn the small ins and outs about chemicals in the brain, you also get to have fun lip-syncing while doing so!
Columbia 3 (Terrace Level)	Elizabeth Bryant	Cow Creek Youth Council	Language and Culture in your Youth Council	It is everyone's responsibility to revitalize their culture. In this workshop, we will show you ways to do this with your YC. Through games and activities, you will leave this workshop with ideas & examples that you can take back to your community. Do your part in bringing your culture back to life!
Columbia 4 (Terrace Level)	Miengun Pamp	Native Organizers Alliance	Modern Day Warriorisms	We will do an activity where the participants will fill in a timeline of indigenous events since 1492 to understand how our people have resisted colonization and show how warriors have changed throughout history. We will also discuss as group how organizers today fill a warrior's role.
Columbia 5 (Terrace Level)	Rhonda LeValdo & Carrie Cornelius	Haskell Indian Nations University	Why Haskell?	Listen to presenters talk about the benefits of attending Haskell Indian Nations University, costs, history, admissions information, and financial aid information. There will also be current students talking about their experience at Haskell.

# WORKSHOPS

## SUNDAY

Room	Presenter	Organization/ Youth Council	Workshop Title	Workshop Description
Georgetown West (Lower Level)	Lisa Vandever  Saundra Mitrovich	National Congress of American Indians Youth Commission	Building a Strong Roadmap for Native Youth Leadership in Civic Participation	As we reflect on 100 years of Indian Citizenship, it's crucial for Native people to grasp our history and exercise our voting rights. It took time for Native communities to attain voting rights in various states. Engage in an interactive discussion with our NCAI Youth Commission officers.
Georgetown East (Lower Level)	Sydney Mattheson	Tribal Youth Resource Center	Tribal Youth Resource Center Presents: YA 101	The current cohort of Tribal Youth Resource Center Youth Ambassadors would like to share the groundbreaking moves they've made personally, professionally, and for Indian Country as a whole. We are hoping to find more Native youth who are passionate about youth justice and want to make change.
<b>Sunday: Round 1 &amp; 2</b>				
Lincoln East (Lower Level)	Denise Jensen	Navajo Prep Naat'aanii Youth Council	Promoting and Implementing Our Elder's Teachings	This workshop will share how students from Navajo Preparatory School are participating in activities to revive, promote and implement Navajo culture and traditional teachings. Members of the Navajo Prep Naat'aanii Youth Council will be sharing examples on how they are involved on school campus.
<b>Sunday: Round 3 &amp; 4</b>				
Lincoln East (Lower Level)	Various Tribal Leaders	UNITY	Tribal Leaders Panels	



# WORKSHOPS

## SUNDAY

Room	Presenter	Organization/ Youth Council	Workshop Title	Workshop Description
<b>Sunday: Rounds 1 &amp; 2</b>				
Lincoln West (Lower Level)	Corey Still	Kul Wicasa Oyate Natural Helpers and One Fire Associates, LLC.	Becoming Natural Helpers in Our Own Communities	Join the Kul Wicasa Oyate Natural Helpers and One Fire Associates to learn how becoming Natural Helpers in your community can impact your fellow youth, identify needs, and create programming that meets those needs. Come learn from our Helpers about best practices and real-life experiences.
<b>Sunday: Rounds 3 &amp; 4</b>				
Lincoln West (Lower Level)	Corey Still	One Fire Associates, LLC	Empowering Youth Through Data	What is data and why is it important? Join this session to learn how data and evaluation can help empower youth to identify needs in their communities, learn basic evaluation techniques such as Community Based Participatory Research, and learn how you can create lasting impacts in your community.

# WORKSHOPS

## SUNDAY

Room	Presenter	Organization/ Youth Council	Workshop Title	Workshop Description
<b>Sunday: Round 1</b>				
Columbia 6 (Lower Level)	Liliana Mars	UNITY Earth Ambassadors	Wuske Washapuk (Young Roots)	Get to know the seeds of traditional plants of the Narragansett People Tribe. Learn to plant them and how they were used. Illustrate predictions of what you think the plants will look like.
<b>Sunday: Round 2</b>				
Columbia 6 (Lower Level)	Jovi Williams	UNITY Earth Ambassadors	The Importance of Environmental Advocacy in Indian Country	Inspire Native Youth to partake in leadership roles to better advocate on Environmental Sustainability, by highlighting the ongoing environmental issues affecting our Mother Earth, and also provide possible solutions and understanding on Environment Advocacy.
<b>Sunday: Round 3</b>				
Columbia 6 (Lower Level)	Evelyn Enos & Sumaya Quitugua	UNITY Earth Ambassadors	Indigenous Youth Perspective	Saving the planet is an overwhelming task, especially on your own! Earth Ambassadors Evelyn Enos and Sumaya Quitugua will help breakdown environmental issues we face day to day and we will create solutions together as well as inspire ambition, in the environment and in yourselves.
<b>Sunday: Round 4</b>				
Columbia 6 (Lower Level)	Spencer Walton	UNITY Earth Ambassadors	Environmental Clean Up	Get to know each other, ways to find the beaches with trash, scout the beach, ways to partner with local business, etc.

# WORKSHOPS

## MONDAY

Room	Presenter	Organization/ Youth Council	Workshop Title	Workshop Description
<b>Monday Round 1 ONLY</b>				
Gunston East (Terrace Level)	Zoya Awan & Justin Chu	Walmart/Create Sparks	Create Sparks	Info session on the Create Parks program
<b>Monday Rounds 1 &amp; 2</b>				
DuPont (Terrace Level)	Tashina Barber	University of Utah's Centering Indigenous Reciprocity, Culture, Learning, & Engagement (CIRCLE) Program	Reclaiming and Indigenizing Spaces through Sustainability Partnerships	Natives have a long tradition in making relations with the natural world, fostering a culture of sustainability. We will illuminate the work of Native changemakers at the University of Utah taking the lead in Indigenizing their campus, creating a place of belonging for Natives through partnerships.
<b>Monday Rounds 3 &amp; 4</b>				
DuPont (Terrace Level)	Jason Cummins	U.S. Deptmt of Education	U.S. Deptmt of Education	Optional Listening Sessions
Fairchild West (Terrace Level)	Rudy Pina	Tribal Unite	Internal Wellness through	We will be discussing the way our longstanding tradition(s) of storytelling can be a part of our lives today in order to improve the presence of culture and overall wellness. Topics include creative writing and storytelling as an outlet.

# WORKSHOPS

## MONDAY

Room	Presenter	Organization/ Youth Council	Workshop Title	Workshop Description
Gunston West (Terrace Level)	Edison Red Nest III	Native Futures	Creator's Game- using lacrosse to fight poverty	In the workshop we will give a brief description of our lacrosse program and the effects that it has had on the native population here in western Nebraska. We will also touch on some of the negatives that our youth have grown up with and how lacrosse has helped them.
Fairchild East (Terrace Level)	Cecelia George	NAHOVA (Nez Perce Youth Council)r	Willpower, empower, and hope!	HOPE. Goal setting is the foundation of having hope, and to reach a goal one has to have the ability to identify routes toward goals and to find new routes around potential obstacles, and they must be able to sustain motivation to move along these routes. Trauma can be a hope robber.
Jefferson East	Mackenzie Neal & Team	Bureau of Indian Affairs	Internships & Careers in Tribal Climate Resilience, Environmental Science, and more!	Learn more about careers in tribal climate resilience, food sovereignty, traditional ecological knowledge, and natural resource management with Tribal Nations and the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).
Jefferson East	Mackenzie Neal & Team	Bureau of Indian Affairs	Internships & Careers in Tribal Climate Resilience, Environmental Science, and more!	Learn more about careers in tribal climate resilience, food sovereignty, traditional ecological knowledge, and natural resource management with Tribal Nations and the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

# WORKSHOPS

## MONDAY

Room	Presenter	Organization/ Youth Council	Workshop Title	Workshop Description
Cardozo (Terrace Level)	Weihsin Chuan	Taiwan Vox Nativa Association	The Beauty of Taiwan indigenous art bamboo	Experience the Taiwanese Indigenous Paiwan Tribe Bamboo Weaving. People will learn about the bamboo culture in the Paiwan tribe and create their own bamboo woven baskets. The workshop has 2 rounds: 1:30-2:15 and 2:30- 3:15. 20 people and 5 dollars for each round.
Monroe (Lower Level)	Samantha Hintz	Center for Native American Youth	Democracy is Indigenous	The training is dedicated to mobilizing young leaders to enhance civic engagement. It equips them with the knowledge and skills necessary for civic engagement, encouraging them to actively participate in shaping the future of their community. Trainees have the opportunity to receive project funding.
Kalorama (Lobby Level)	Brooke Wheeler	Bureau of Land Management	Environmental Career Exploration by Discovering your Values	Interested in the environment and helping tribal communities but don't know where to start or what you might be good at? Understanding your values can help narrow your options. Join us in exploring your personal values and linking them to career aspirations.
Columbia 3 (Terrace Level)	Steven Tamayo	Bluebird Cultural Initiative	Traditional Games	Teach history of the Great Plains region's traditional tribal games. Discuss the concept and rules of the games, include designs, symbols, and colors in the different indigenous languages. Experiential learning and relationship building through interacting with other participants.

# WORKSHOPS

## MONDAY

Room	Presenter	Organization/ Youth Council	Workshop Title	Workshop Description
Columbia 4 (Terrace Level)	Jaclyn Gray	I Will See You Project: Riverside San Bernardino County Indian Health, Inc.	Historical Trauma, Drama, and Wellness	Our project's youth adapted version from Native Wellness Institutes curriculum on Healthy Relationships.
Columbia 5 (Terrace Level)	John Moses	US Government Agency - Securities and Exchange Commission	Building Blocks of Wealth: Saving and Investing for Your Future	An interactive discussion to introduce key investing topics for young adults from the SEC's Office of Investor Education and Advocacy. Topics include: - How saving and investing interact - Dollar cost averaging and compound growth - Apps, Crypto, and alternative investments - Avoiding fraud
Georgetown West (Lower Level)	Amanda Honwytewa	Yavapai-Apache Nation Youth Council	Tribal Leadership: Service to the Community	Gain some personal and professional insight on the role of being a Tribal Councilmember. Focusing on the topic of community service and how volunteerism can strengthen current and future leadership. Share and develop collective ideas on tribal community service projects.
Georgetown East (Lower Level)	Maria Cruz Frausto Orozco	Public Educator	Natives and IEP's What is a Learning Disability and How do I Advocate for Myself in my Education?	As native students begin their education there may be barriers to accessing a fulfilled education by presenting the resources available for native students with disabilities we can empower students and their families to advocate for themselves, get their needs met, graduate, and begin college.
Monroe (Lower Level)	Rochelle Jurado	MMIW Indian Capital	"De-Escalation situations and MMIW Awareness"	MMIW Awareness



# WORKSHOPS

## MONDAY

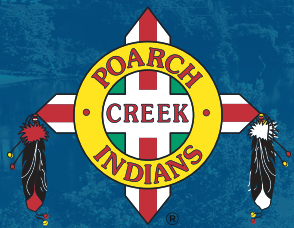
Room	Presenter	Organization/ Youth Council	Workshop Title	Workshop Description
<b>Monday: Rounds 1 &amp; 2</b>				
Lincoln East (Lower Level)	Multiple Guest Speakers	Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention	OJJDP Listening Sessions	<p><b>*SIGN UP REQUIRED</b></p> <p>Bring together a select group of youth, ages 14 to 24, and adults with a diverse range of experiences to discuss challenges with safety in their communities and share ideas for how federal programs could better empower them and their families.</p> <p><b>Round 1 session is for youth and round 2 session is for adults.</b></p>
Lincoln West (Lower Level)	Corey Still	One Fire Associates, LLC	Utilizing Indigenous Leadership in Our Communities	What is leadership? Leadership is a set of values that each of us carries. We think about leadership as being in some sort of organizational role or position, but each of us are leaders in our own right. Come learn how to build leadership skills based on our own cultural knowledge and backgrounds.
<b>Monday: Rounds 3 &amp; 4</b>				
Lincoln West (Lower Level)	Cheyenne Robinson	Mika'e NiaShinga (Star People) Youth Council of Nebraska	Empowering Your Path: Career Preparedness	The "Empowering Youth Path: Career Preparedness" is an informative and engaging event designed to equip individuals with the necessary tools, knowledge, and strategies to succeed in their future professional journeys.
Lincoln East (Lower Level)	Aaron Poor Bear	Little Priest Tribal College	The Importance of Education	Importance of education and share the resources of what Little Priest Tribal College offers. There are no wrong or right ways of gaining your education and receiving a degree.

# WORKSHOPS

## MONDAY

Room	Presenter	Organization/ Youth Council	Workshop Title	Workshop Description
<b>Monday: Round 1</b>				
Columbia 6 (Lower Level)	Anagali (Shace) Duncan	UNITY Earth Ambassadors	The Connection Between Environmental Protection and Mental Health for Indigenous Youth	We value water and land as sacred. In light of the ongoing contamination of water in Oklahoma, it becomes hard to sustain our traditional practices of self care. Learn how poisoning our land, is poisoning our very existence as native youth.
<b>Monday: Round 2</b>				
Columbia 6 (Lower Level)	Sareya Taylor	UNITY Earth Ambassadors	Sensing Home-Eco Poetry	Explore our five senses to celebrate the areas we call home. Reflect on your ties to home and its importance to combat western narrative through writing exercises. A reminder that where we come from is where we can find joy and beauty.
<b>Monday: Round 3</b>				
Columbia 6 (Lower Level)	Bronson Azama	UNITY Earth Ambassadors	'Ohā-na: Cultivating Relationships, Resilience, and Responsibility	Learn from the wisdom of the Pacific. A space grounded in Oceania but welcome to all for shared healing, and to raise a blue consciousness amidst rising seas and changing times.
<b>Monday: Round 4</b>				
Columbia 6 (Lower Level)	Tia Butler	UNITY Earth Ambassadors	Making Connections Through Music	Explore both traditional and modern songs from Native artists. Discuss how music can affect us and connect us with our culture, and each other. Express emotions and feelings with songs and talking about how songs can effect many aspects of our health.





# Your voice is our future.

We know a bright tomorrow depends on the youth of Native America coming together today. Uniting in the power to heal. The power to grow. The power to be heard. We're proud to support the National UNITY Conference.

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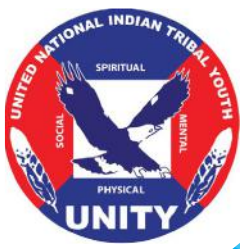


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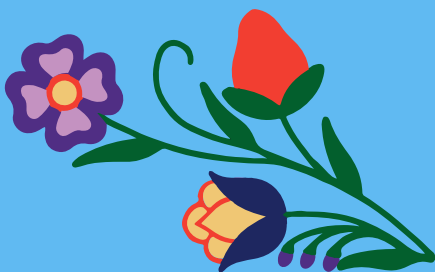
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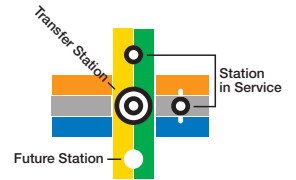
- RD Red Line • Glenmont / Shady Grove
- OR Orange Line • New Carrollton / Vienna
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- YL Yellow Line • Huntington / Greenbelt
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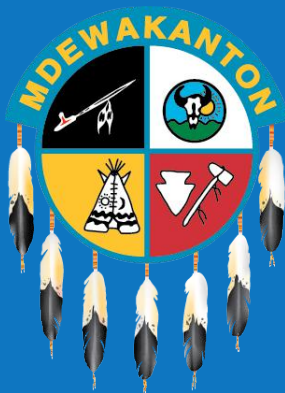


# EXHIBITORS LIST

National Museum of the American Indian
AmeriCorps VISTA
The Native American Alaska Native (NAAN) Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees
McGill University
National Indian Education Association
One Fire Associates, LLC
Institute of American Indian Arts
BIA, Office of Trust Services - Pathways Program
Blue Campaign, Center for Counter Human Trafficking (CCHT), U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Columbia Law School
Bureau of Land Management Arizona
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)
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**NIEA Listening  
Session Sign-Ups**



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**OJJDP Listening  
Session Sign-Ups**



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**Culture Night  
Sign-Ups**



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**Talent Night  
Sign-Ups**



SCAN ME



## UNITY Staff

**Mary Kim Titla** - Executive Director (*San Carlos Apache*)

**LorenAshley Buford** - Training and Resource Development Manager (*Yamassee Descendant*)

**Greg Mendoza** - Youth Programs Director (*Akimel O'odham/Tohono O'odham/Yaqui*)

**Tami Patterson** - Bookkeeper/CRM Manager

**Will Mosley** - Communications Assistant (*Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Indians*)

**Caleb Dash** - Production Assistant (*Onk Akimel O'odham*)

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**953 E. Juanita Ave., Ste C  
Mesa, AZ 85204**

**[headquarters@unityinc.org](mailto:headquarters@unityinc.org)**

**+1 (480) 718-9793**