



#UNITYSD2025

SAN DIEGO, CA
JUNE 27 - JULY 1 2025



Workshops: Saturday, June 28 - session 1 & 2

session 1 - 10:15 am - 11:00 am / session 2 - 11:15 am - 12:00 pm

Category	Workshop Title	Presenter	Description	Room
College and Career	Guided by Our Nations: A Tribal Leaders Dialogue with Native Youth	UNITY Co-Presidents	Panelists will share real-world leadership experiences and lessons learned, offering valuable insight into civic engagement and Indigenous leadership.	Golden State Ballroom
College and Career	University of California, Overview	Juan Carlos Lopez	We will explore the ins-and-outs of what is required to be consider for admissions to the University of California.	Palm Room 1
College and Career	Creating Native & Indigenous Centered Retention Programs	Aerin Scalco	In this session, attendees will identify key successes in improving student retention, and develop strategies to enhance support for students.	Palm Room 2
College & Career	How to Build Your Network, Skills, and Resume During College	Elijah Cota	Learn how to build strong connections, discover your strengths, and turn college into a stepping stone for meaningful opportunities.	Palm Room 3
College & Career	Internship and Fellowship Opportunities at NMAI	Krishna Aniel	Learn the various opportunities to intern at the National Museum of the American Indian's, the Native American Collections Fellowship and the Native Arts Fellowship.	Palm Room 4
College & Career	Why Haskell?	Rhonda LeValdo	Present information on attending Haskell Indian Nations University and the options we have.	Palm Room 5
College & Career	College admissions 101	Mika Harrison	Attendees will learn all about College Admissions 101: when to start touring colleges, when to apply, FAFSA deadlines, and scholarship seasons.	Palm Room 6

Workshops: Saturday, June 28 - session 1 & 2

session 1 - 10:15 am - 11:00 am / session 2 - 11:15 am - 12:00 pm

Category	Workshop Title	Presenter	Description	Room
College & Career	The Career Compass: Moving Towards Mental Wellness and Meaningful Work	Adene Karhan	In this session we'll talk about how understanding your mental health can help youth and young adults examine potential career paths and make informed choices.	Palm Room 7
College & Career	Career Readiness: Empowering Futures	Dania Wahwasuck	We will engage in discussions about overcoming barriers, embracing cultural identity, and harnessing strengths to succeed in various career paths.	Palm Room 8
College & Career	Play and Learn: Tribal Gaming	Danielle Finn	This will be a workshop to teach and play the 3 different classifications of gaming in Indian Country through games.	Sunset 1
College & Career	"Against the Odds: Turning Struggles into Strength and Dreams into Reality"	Jason Amador	This workshop will equip you with the mindset, daily habits, and self-belief needed to overcome adversity and pursue your goals with purpose.	Sunset 3
College & Career	Let's Go Viral! Empowering Native Youth Through Social Media	Ian Teller	Through interactive activities, Native youth will learn how to use social platforms to amplify their voices, share their stories, and drive meaningful change.	Pacific I
Community Advocacy	Buffalo in the Storm: Organizing in Inclement Political Weather	Tremayne Nez	In this workshop, we aim to apply lessons from buffalo relatives to our current challenges.	Town & Country B
Community Advocacy	Knowing Our Power: Understanding Systems, Influence, and Strategy	Angela Diaz	In this session, we'll walk through what a power analysis is and how it can be used to understand power structures within our communities.	Sunset 4

Workshops: Saturday, June 28 - session 1 & 2

session 1 - 10:15 am - 11:00 am / session 2 - 11:15 am - 12:00 pm

Category	Workshop Title	Presenter	Description	Room
Culture	"Honoring Our Relatives: A Native Youth-Centered Approach to the MMIWR Crisis"	Lynnette Grey Bull	This workshop will explore how Native youth can play a vital role in advocacy, awareness, and policy change around Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Relatives.	Town & Country C
Culture	Leadership	Travis Ruiz	Fostering a culture where vulnerability and relentlessness meet through an engaging leadership approach.	Pacific C
Culture	Keres BINGO: Celebrating Culture & Community	Rosemary Reano	Get ready to listen closely and shout "BINGO!" for a chance to win prizes. This is a wonderful way to experience a piece of Keres language and culture in a fun and memorable setting.	Pacific G
Culture	SD Hip Hop Workshop	Nicholas Havens	We will cover all elements of Hip Hop including, Writing Singing/Rap'N, Breakin'/Dancing, Graffiti/Art in blackbooks/Murals & Dj'N/Producing.	Pacific H
Culture	Awaken the Warrior	Kansas Middletent	This workshop is a hands on experimental learning approach that creates a safe environment for our students to gain valuable life skills that will help them navigate "walking in two worlds".	Martini Lawn
Culture	Reclaim Your Roots, Reclaim Your Mind	Sommer Lopez	We'll explore how reconnecting with our traditions can boost your mental health, help you stay grounded, and guide you toward becoming a leader.	Pacific E

Workshops: Saturday June 28 session 1 & 2

session 1 - 10:15 am - 11:00 am / session 2 - 11:15 am - 12:00 pm

Category	Workshop Title	Presenter	Description	Room
Environment	2025 class of Earth Ambassadors	Earth Ambassadors	Join the newly inducted class of Earth Ambassadors in this workshop session covering various topics related to culture and environmental stewardship.	Town & Country D
Environment	Currents of Change: Indigenous Youth Rising for Ocean Rights	Kelsey Leonard	This interactive workshop brings together Indigenous youth to explore the rights of the Ocean through the lens of traditional knowledge and advocacy.	Pacific D
Health & Wellness	Beads of Strength: A Quest for Inner Care	Jalen Harvey	As you complete small acts of self-care and reflection, you will earn a bead representing your personal strength and healing.	Sunset 2
Health & Wellness	Skincare and beauty. How it relates to our health.	Tania Estrada	Teaching the youth about skincare and beauty and how it relates to our health.	Pacific F
Health & Wellness	'Resiliency' from a Dine Youth Therapist perspective	Anya Ashley	In this session we will discuss resiliency and positive ways to cope with stress. Attendees will generate ideas from others, but also learn how to incorporate these ideas into their own lives.	Sunset Patio
Health & Wellness	Girls Flag Football 2028 Olympic Sport	Keith Vasquez	Introducing our native Americans/indigenous youth to Girls flag football, the fastest growing sport in the U.S.	Flamingo Lawn

Workshops: Saturday, June 28 - session 3 & 4

session 3 - 2:30 pm - 3:15 pm / session 4 - 3:30 pm - 4:15 pm

Category	Workshop Title	Presenter	Description	Room
College and Career	Guided by Our Nations: A Tribal Leaders Dialogue with Native Youth	UNITY Co-Presidents	Panelists will share real-world leadership experiences and offer valuable insight into civic engagement and Indigenous leadership.	Golden State Ballroom
College and Career	University of California, Overview	Juan Carlos Lopez	We will explore the ins-and-outs of what is required to be consider for admissions to the University of California.	Palm Room 1
College and Career	Creating Native & Indigenous Centered Retention Programs	Aerin Scalco	Attendees will identify key successes in improving student retention, and develop strategies to enhance support for students.	Palm Room 2
College and Career	Pathways to Purpose: Native Voices on Higher Education Journeys	Tommy Devers	American Indian student leaders from CSUSM will engage in an interactive session exploring the transformative power of higher education.	Palm Room 3
College and Career	Let's Go Viral! Empowering Native Youth Through Social Media	Ian Teller	Through interactive activities, Native youth will learn how to use social platforms to amplify their voices, share their stories, and drive meaningful change.	Pacific I
College and Career	Conducting interviews for social media	Victor Organista	This workshop will be a guide through the steps that are necessary for conducting a successful interview.	Sunset 2
Community Advocacy	Buffalo in the Storm: Organizing in Inclement Political Weather	Tremayne Nez	In this workshop, we aim to apply lessons from buffalo relatives to our current challenges.	Town & Country B

Workshops: Saturday, June 28 - session 3 & 4

session 3 - 2:30 pm - 3:15 pm / session 4 - 3:30 pm - 4:15 pm

Category	Workshop Title	Presenter	Description	Room
Community Advocacy	Wuske Washapuk	Liliana Mars	In this workshop we will share our experiences and create a safe space to have fun and connect our roots.	Town & Country C
Community Advocacy	The Future is Us: Building Inclusive Leadership for Tomorrow	Whitney Robinson	This is a dynamic and interactive workshop designed to inspire and prepare individuals to become impactful leaders.	Palm Room 5
Community Advocacy	Strengthening Policies, Empowering Native Youth	Kimberly Osmani	Participants will discuss how Native youth and communities are strengthening policies that support youth with disabilities.	Palm Room 7
Community Advocacy	The Power of Community	Kaylee Evans	Attendees will express their experiences with community strength as we explore the power that community has within our Native culture.	Sunset 1
Culture	Diné Philosophy of Learning	Kaleb Jones	This workshop will share an interactive presentation about how to use the Diné Philosophy of Learning in everyday life.	Palm Room 4
Culture	Sewing Traditions Together	Stephanie Garcia	Attendees will sew items and incorporate designs that hold cultural significance for participants.	Sunset 4
Culture	Piipaa Xumar Shuvar (Maricopa Children Songs)	Aarick Mack	Learn children's songs translated into the Piipaash language.	Pacific C
Culture	Who Are You?: Unearthing and Embracing our Indigenous Identities	Angelo Romero	Bridging gap between traditional and modern approaches on how to preserve our tradition in the 21st century.	Pacific E

Workshops: Saturday, June 28 - session 3 & 4

session 3 - 2:30 pm - 3:15 pm / session 4 - 3:30 pm - 4:15 pm

Category	Workshop Title	Presenter	Description	Room
Culture	Creator's Game: Building a pathway to the future	Edison Red Nest III	In this workshop we will discuss the origins of Creator's Game and how we use it to better ourselves. We will discuss how Lacrosse is being utilized to send our Native youth to college.	Flamingo Lawn
Environment	2025 class of Earth Ambassadors	Earth Ambassadors	Join the newly inducted class of Earth Ambassadors in this workshop session covering various topics related to culture and environmental stewardship.	Town & Country D
Environment	Sagebrush & Bingo: Native Plants of Fort Hall	Mazie Countryman	Native Plant Bingo—learn as you play and win prizes while deepening your connection to the land!	Pacific G
Environment	Indigenous Surf Film	Native Like Water	Join the Native Like Water team to indulge in Indigenous film.	Pacific D
Health & Wellness	LGBTQIA/ Two Spirit Safe Space/talking circle . MMIP Awareness	Layha Spoonhunter	This workshop will provide a safe space to talk about issues affecting LGBTQIA and Two Spirit native youth and their allies.	Palm Room 6
Health & Wellness	Wellness and Prevention with the Tribal Youth Court and AIR Programs	Temyal Lomayesva	This presentation will cover the framework and Peer Decision maker training process as part of our Tribal Youth Court.	Palm Room 8
Health & Wellness	Indigenous Surfing, a Metaphor for Life	Marc Chavez	Presentation will include a sneak preview of the Indigenous Surf Film Haagua and demonstrate how youth can obtain a flow state through cultural water recreation.	Pacific F

Workshops: Saturday, June 28 - session 3 & 4

session 3 - 2:30 pm - 3:15 pm / session 4 - 3:30 pm - 4:15 pm

Category	Workshop Title	Presenter	Description	Room
Health & Wellness	Running Towards Healing: Mental Wellness Through Movement	Terence Brown	this workshop, we will address the challenges affecting Native youth today and explore their deep connection to mental well-being.	Pacific H
Health & Wellness	Self Care - Make your own candy jars	Ashley Johnston	Make Your Own Candy Jar workshop! You'll decorate your own jar and fill it with your favorite sweets, because self-care should always be sweet and simple!	Sunset Patio
Health & Wellness	Breathing, Movement, & Peaceful Sounds: a "Me Moment" Retreat	Daniel Hatcher	Join Healthier Generation for an interactive "Me Moment" retreat where you'll explore restorative activities to find peace and calm. Participants will receive a list of free resources to use and share with others.	Martini Lawn

Workshops: Monday, June 30 - session 1 & 2

session 1 - 10:15 am - 11:00 am / session 2 - 11:15 am - 12:00 pm

Category	Workshop Title	Presenter	Description	Room
College and Career	Creating Your Elevator Pitch	Jaycee Salling	A strong pitch can help you build relationships, explore career paths, and gain valuable insights even if you're not actively seeking employment.	Palm Room 1
College and Career	Dreamstarter: Changing Your Community One Dream at a Time	Sydney Farhang	RS staff will present on this program as an opportunity for Native youth to engage with their communities.	Palm Room 2
College and Career	Internship and Fellowship Opportunities at NMAI	Krishna Aniel	Learn the various opportunities to intern at the National Museum of the American Indian's, the Native American Collections Fellowship and the Native Arts Fellowship.	Palm Room 4
College and Career	Why Haskell?	Rhonda LeValdo	Present information on attending Haskell Indian Nations University and the options we have.	Palm Room 5
College & Career	College admissions 101	Mika Harrison	Attendees will learn all about College Admissions 101: when to start touring colleges, when to apply, FAFSA deadlines, and scholarship seasons.	Palm Room 6
College & Career	The Career Compass: Moving Towards Mental Wellness and Meaningful Work	Adene Karhan	In this session we'll talk about how understanding your mental health can help youth and young adults examine potential career paths and make informed choices.	Palm Room 7
College & Career	Play and Learn: Tribal Gaming	Danielle Finn	This will be a workshop to teach and play the 3 different classifications of gaming in Indian Country through games.	Sunset 1

Workshops: Monday, June 30 - session 1 & 2

session 1 - 10:15 am - 11:00 am / session 2 - 11:15 am - 12:00 pm

Category	Workshop Title	Presenter	Description	Room
College & Career	"Against the Odds: Turning Struggles into Strength and Dreams into Reality"	Jason Amador	This workshop will equip you with the mindset, daily habits, and self-belief needed to overcome adversity and pursue your goals with purpose.	Sunset 3
Community Advocacy	Pageant Preparation & Public Speaking: Find Your Voice	Dania Wahwasuck	Participants will learn the importance of stage presence, effective communication, and how to convey their stories with confidence.	Pacific D
Community Advocacy	Cultivating Community	Eileen Crocker	Discover your inherent abilities and empower your voice as Eileen shares her experiences and skills to help you cultivate your community.	Pacific F
Community Advocacy	Hawai'i & Tulalip Youth Unite to Uplift Our Communities	Lilla Iokepa-Guerrero	An overview of the International Declaration document and the developed Tulalip Declaration of Youth document.	Town & Country B
Culture	Traditional Games of the North	Kyle Worl	Discover pathways to participate in Traditional Games competitively and recreationally, including scholarship and travel opportunities.	Town & Country C
Culture	Understanding Colonial Norms to Build a Network of Support for Native American Students	Aerin Scalco	This workshop will explore how the Native Resource Center (NRC) at SDSU operates within a colonial university system while centering Indigenous ways of being.	Sunset 4

Workshops: Monday, June 30 - session 1 & 2

session 1 - 10:15 am - 11:00 am / session 2 - 11:15 am - 12:00 pm

Category	Workshop Title	Presenter	Description	Room
Health & Wellness	Break Cycle Warriors	Bradly Guachino	Using physical, mental, and spiritual strategies and tactics. Walking with our youth through Indian country and breaking cycles along the way.	Pacific C
Culture	Cultural	Charlene Worrell- Elliott	Promoting the importance of our relationship to the environment empowering our connection to nature and culture.	Pacific G
Culture	SD Hip Hop Workshop	Nicholas Havens	This workshop will explore all elements of Hip Hop including, Writing Singing/Rap'N, Breakin'/Dancing, etc.	Pacific H
Environment	2025 class of Earth Ambassadors	Earth Ambassadors	Join the newly inducted class of Earth Ambassadors in this workshop session covering various topics related to culture and environmental stewardship.	Town & Country D
Environment	Reviving Indigenous Aquaculture: Oyster, Abalone + Kelp Restoration	Coach Jackson	Building capacity to support Indigenous-led South Coast oyster, abalone + kelp restoration in partnership with Scripps Institution of Oceanography and SDSU CMIL.	Pacific I
Health & Wellness	We Are Medicine: New Medicine Is Needed	Winona Boado	This workshop is an opportunity to empower Indigenous youth by strengthening kinship bonds exploring the deep work of self-discovery and community care.	Pacific E
Health & Wellness	F.A.C.T.S.	Yolanda Robinson	F.A.C.T.S. of Life - Facing our Fears, Adjusting your Attitude, Caring for Ourselves and Others, Truth Can Hurt but it Can Also Heal, Strengths	Palm Room 8

Workshops: Monday, June 30 - session 1 & 2

session 1 - 10:15 am - 11:00 am / session 2 - 11:15 am - 12:00 pm

Category	Workshop Title	Presenter	Description	Room
Health & Wellness	Mobile Technology as a First Line of Defense for Young Adults	Ken House	Using mobile technology, Tribal Nations can meet young people where they are and help them get better outcomes from diseases of despair - suicide, addiction, etc.	Sunset 2
Health & Wellness	'Resiliency' from a Dine Youth Therapist perspective	Anya Ashley	Attendees will generate ideas to cope with stress from others, but also learn how to incorporate these ideas into their own lives.	Sunset Patio
Health & Wellness	Girls Flag Football 2028 Olympic Sport	Keith Vasquez	Introducing our native Americans/indigenous youth to Girls flag football, the fastest growing sport in the U.S.	Flamingo Lawn
Health & Wellness	Hoop Dance Workshop With Eric Michael Hernandez	Eric Hernandez	Discover the art, tradition, and athleticism of Native American Hoop Dance in this interactive workshop led by award-winning hoop dancer Eric Hernandez.	Martini Lawn
UNITY	NUCEC Business Meeting	Executive Committee	Youth councils need who are in good standing, including up-to-date annual UNITY Network affiliation fees and reports, will have voting privileges and access to business meeting content.	Pacific A

Workshops: Monday, June 30 - session 3 & 4

session 3 - 2:30 pm - 3:15 pm / session 4 - 3:30 pm - 4:15 pm

Category	Workshop Title	Presenter	Description	Room
College & Career	Microenterprise Development in Tribal Communities	Josh Smith	This workshop will offer tips on how to develop a business plan, how to brand yourself and how to create a marketing strategy.	Palm Room 2
Community Advocacy	Reasonable Accommodations in Higher Education	Jesse Lara	A student's right to disability-related reasonable accommodations from a public/private college or university.	Palm Room 1
Community Advocacy	Tribal Youth Protecting Youth From MMIP & Exploitation	Dr. Aaron Payment	Monday "Honoring Our Relatives: A Native Youth-Centered Approach to the MMIWR Crisis"	Palm Room 4
Community Advocacy	The Future is Us: Building Inclusive Leadership for Tomorrow	Whitney Robinson	Participants will explore the power of representation and the importance of inclusive leadership.	Palm Room 5
Community Advocacy	Strengthening Policies, Empowering Native Youth	Kimberly Osmani	Participants will discuss how Native youth and communities are strengthening policies that support youth with disabilities in employment.	Palm Room 7
Culture	Tradition Games	Steven Tamayo	Native youth play a vital role in advocacy, awareness, and policy change around MMIP	Town & Country C
Culture	Mental Health for Modern Day Warriors	Taylor Susan	Workshop will include presentation about stress and ways to cope with stress.	Sunset 4
Culture	Piipaa Xumar Shuvar (Maricopa Children Songs)	Aarick Mack	Learn children's songs translated into the Piipaash language.	Pacific C
Culture	UNITY Drum	Isidoro Sierra	Learn about the history of the UNITY drum.	Martini Lawn

Workshops: Monday, June 30 - session 3 & 4

session 3 - 2:30 pm - 3:15 pm / session 4 - 3:30 pm - 4:15 pm

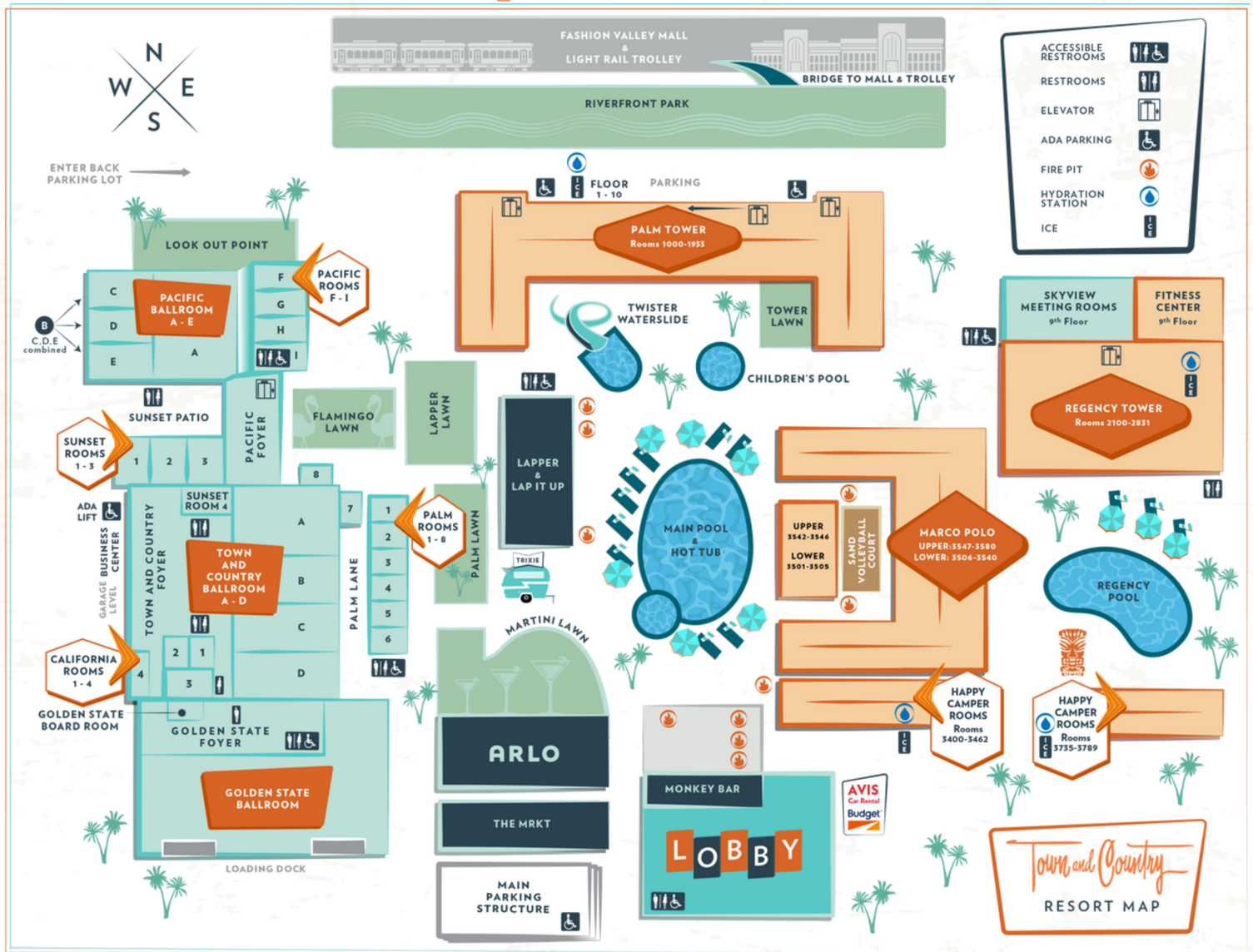
Category	Workshop Title	Presenter	Description	Room
Culture	Who Are You?: Unearthing and Embracing our Indigenous Identities	Angelo Romero	Bridging gap between traditional and modern approaches on how to preserve our tradition in the 21st century.	Pacific E
Culture	Dine Culture Sharing & Generational Teachings	Talibah Begay	I would love to share how important the connection between a grandchild and grandparent is.	Pacific G
Culture	"Story Medicine: Reclaiming Identity Through Traditional Storytelling"	Angelina Hinojosa	This youth-led workshop will use traditional storytelling as a teaching tool to help Native youth reclaim their identity, overcome behavioral struggles, and find strength in ancestral knowledge.	Pacific I
Culture	Maanico Horuzra Youth Council Culture Sharing	Vicky Ontiveros Gallegos	Traditional games of the Ho-Chunk Nation.	Palm Room 3
Environment	2025 class of Earth Ambassadors	Earth Ambassadors	Join the newly inducted class of Earth Ambassadors in this workshop session covering various topics related to culture and environmental stewardship.	Town & Country D
Health & Wellness	Opioid Awareness & Narcotics Administration	Julie Woochuk	A presentation designed to increase awareness regarding opioids.	Palm Room 6
Health & Wellness	Safe Sex Practices & STI Prevention	Kara De Angelo	We would like to do a Q&A prior and post presentation along with giveaways to active participants in post oral "Quiz Questions."	Palm Room 8
Health & Wellness	Native VISION - Living a Life You Have Always Dreamed Of	Louis Blue Cloud Baca	Join us to learn how you can begin to live a joyful and meaningful life...a life you have always dreamed of.	Sunset 1

Workshops: Monday, June 30 - session 3 & 4

session 3 - 2:30 pm - 3:15 pm / session 4 - 3:30 pm - 4:15 pm

Category	Workshop Title	Presenter	Description	Room
Health & Wellness	Indigenous Approach to Mental Wellness	Monique Castro	This workshop will include a deeper understanding of Indigenous core values, balance, and sustainability.	Sunset 2
Health & Wellness	Alcohol: the Mind Killer	Edison Red Nest III	We will talk about ways to come back alcoholism and help those currently struggling.	Sunset 3
Health & Wellness	Creative Expressions for Mental Wellness	Brianna Farnam	Using the creative arts to enhance mental wellness	Pacific D
Health & Wellness	Indigenous Surfing, a Metaphor for Life	Marc Chavez	Presentation will include a sneak preview of the Indigenous Surf Film Haagua and demonstrate how youth can obtain a flow state through cultural water recreation.	Pacific F
Health & Wellness	Running Towards Healing: Mental Wellness Through Movement	Terence Brown	this workshop, we will address the challenges affecting Native youth today and explore their deep connection to mental well-being.	Pacific H
Health & Wellness	I got this!	Sheldon Smith	We'll explore positive affirmations—what they are, how to use them, and why they're powerful for your mind and mood.	Sunset Patio
Health & Wellness	Our Healing Seal	Kelly Valo	Learn what type of leader they are and how their skills in communication and healing can be a steppingstone towards Mental Health education and awareness.	Flamingo Lawn
Health & Wellness	Spiritual Awakening Connection through Culture	LoVina Louie & Hunter Genia	How do you connect? Embracing your spirit and connection through song, prayer and language.	Town & Country B
UNITY	NUCEC Business Meeting	Executive Committee	Youth councils need who are in good standing, including up-to-date annual UNITY Network affiliation fees and reports, will have voting privileges and access to business meeting content.	Pacific A

Hotel Map & Places to Visit



San Diego Zoo

Located just 3.5 miles away from Town & Country Resort, San Diego Zoo features over 4000 animals with several different ecosystems to view. Take part in tour bus rides throughout the park, or see the entire zoo from above on their Skyfari Gondola lift. Either way, San Diego Zoo is great place for wonderful memories.

Sunset Cliffs Natural Park

Located 7 miles away from Town & Country Resort, Sunset Cliffs Natural Park showcases a rugged coastline and some magnificent views for an awesome sunset. It is a perfect spot for an afternoon picnic. Who knows? You may even be lucky enough to spot the grey whales passing through.

Mission Beach

Located 7 miles away from Town & Country Resort, you can enjoy the Californian lifestyle on the sandy beach. Two miles of beachfront makes way for relaxation and entertainment for you and your friends.

Downtown San Diego

Located just 5 miles away from Town & Country Resort, downtown San Diego offers much to do with several shopping spots, eateries and more. If timing serves, you may even be able to catch a Padres Game at Petco Park.

