

## NOTICES

### Indian Country Tourism Conference Hits Denver in September

International participants from as far away as New Zealand and as close as Canada are joining Native Americans, government officials, cultural tourism specialists, educators, and a host of tourism industry representatives on Sept. 26-28, 2002, for a forum that studies the booming Indian Country tourism trade.

The theme of "People, Culture, Heritage, and Place" addresses the positive attractions of Native tourism that appeal to diverse international audiences.

The Native Tourism Alliance, an initiative of the Western American Indian Chamber, will host this meeting, which expects to attract participants in the fields of cultural/heritage tourism, eco-tourism, and sustainable development.

"The ultimate goal of this gathering is to assess how indigenous people can develop sustainable tourism enterprises in ways that improve community economic opportunity, support the preservation of indigenous cultures and protect precious lands and natural resources," says Ben Sherman, president. "This conference will explore avenues for native people to work with domestic and international partners who share common values regarding community, culture, and lands."

The three-day conference features such notable speakers as Curly Bear Wagner, internationally known Blackfeet historian, lecturer, and cultural tourism expert; Lorentino Lalio, New Mexico's Indian tourism director; Marsha Smoke, owner of Canada's Pash Travel; Margaret Nelson, president of the Alaska Native Heritage Center; and Johnpaul Jones, renowned Choctaw architect with Seattle-based Jones & Jones Architects.

The conference is packed with topics, including tourism programs for gaming tribes, Lewis & Clark bicentennial opportunities, building sustainable community enterprises, partnering for success, marketing Native tourism, education in Native tourism development, and integrating art, culture, heritage, and place. All sessions will promote active participation among speakers, panelists, and audiences.

A banquet will feature special entertainment and the presentation of NTA Trust Awards to four deserving Native tourism enterprises. A social pow-wow will be held.

Business Enterprises for Sustainable Travel (BEST) and the American Express Company are major sponsors of the event. BEST is an initiative of The Conference Board, in association with the World Travel & Tourism Council. BEST and American Express provided funding for the new online Web site directory, [www.nativetourism.org](http://www.nativetourism.org), developed by the Western American Indian Chamber and Native Tourism Alliance.

The conference costs \$300 and includes the opening reception, general sessions, special sessions, materials, lunches, and a banquet. Exhibit booths are \$300 for trade booths and \$150 for Native art/craft booths. American Express, MasterCard, and Visa credit cards are accepted. There is an extra \$25 charge for purchase orders.

Register for the conference online at [www.nativetourismalliance.org](http://www.nativetourismalliance.org), call 303-661-9819, or e-mail [conference@indiancountry.org](mailto:conference@indiancountry.org). The official travel agent is Native Tourism & Travel. E-mail Sonja Tanner at [boozhoo@nativetours.com](mailto:boozhoo@nativetours.com), or call 952-346-9250.

Special conference lodging rates are available at the Renaissance Denver Hotel, the site of the conference. Call 303-399-7500 and mention the conference.

The Native Tourism Alliance, headquartered in Denver, Colo., has played a central role in supporting American Indian tourism interests in the United States for several years. This initiative of the Western American Indian Chamber was created to serve American Indian business and economic development through tourism while supporting the preservation and integrity of indigenous cultures, communities, and lands.

An all-Indian board of directors leads the Native Tourism Alliance. Visit [www.nativetourismalliance.org](http://www.nativetourismalliance.org) for more information.



### Arts Commission Requests Applications for Leadership Grants

The Oregon Arts Commission has announced a Sept. 16, 2002, application deadline for Arts Education Leadership Grants, which will support projects that strengthen and integrate the arts into school curriculum and community life.

"Arts programs have a profound impact on the lives of children and adults. The Oregon Arts Commission has a strong commitment to building strong education programs through the arts. This program supports creative sustained partnerships between schools, communities, and cultural organizations," said Kathleen Davis, vice chair of the Oregon Arts Commission and chair of the Arts Education Committee.

Arts Education Leadership Grants are designed to promote the essential

role of the arts in learning and to assist in the improvement of arts education in Oregon schools. These grants are available to non-profit organizations, schools, and school districts, as well as local arts and community service organizations.

Applications will be accepted until a postmark deadline of Sept. 16, 2002. Grant requests must be for activities or projects occurring Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2003.

Request an application from the Oregon Arts Commission office by mail at 775 Summer St. NE, Salem, OR 97301-1284; or call 503-986-0082.

Guidelines may be downloaded from the Oregon Arts Commission's home page on the Internet at <http://art.econ.state.or.us>.

### Munsel Park Apartments Offers Senior Housing

Kellenbeck Property Management manages Munsel Park Apartments, located at 2021 East 12<sup>th</sup> St. in Florence, Ore. The complex is designated for seniors.

To be eligible, the head of household or spouse must be a senior and/or handicapped/disabled, regardless of age. The complex carries an FmHA mortgage and Rural Development has the responsibility to monitor the management of the complex to ensure program compliance.

The complex has 44 units with full subsidies available. Managers must abide by the Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan, which requires outreach by notifying the public that the complex exists and that subsidies are assigned to the complex.

People in need of subsidized housing can contact the manager of Munsel Park at 541-997-2661 to obtain an application. At that time, the interested party will be informed of the eligibility requirements and sent an application if requested.