

First Nations Announces Native Youth and Culture Fund Grantees

First Nations Development Institute is pleased to announce it has awarded 24 Tribal organizations and entities with grants under its Native Youth and Culture Fund (NYCF) program.

First Nations launched the grant program in 2002 with support from the Kalliopeia Foundation and other generous supporters, to partner with Tribes, Native non-profit organizations and Native community groups working in rural and reservation-based communities seeking ways to preserve, strengthen and/or renew Native culture and tradition among Native youth.

First Nations believes Native youth represent the future of Native communities and their health and well-being determines the future health and well-being of the community. By investing in youth and giving them a sense of place and tradition in the community, a community ensures it will have future leaders.

All awardees developed projects that met the NYCF goal of assisting Native communities to control their assets and build the capacity to direct their economic futures. Each project demonstrates a creative and innovative approach to preserve, strengthen or renew Native culture and tradition among Native youth, whether through traditional knowledge, art, language or through a program or business enterprise.

The NYCF has four programmatic priorities:

- Preserving, strengthening or renewing cultural and/or spiritual practices, beliefs and values
- Engaging both youth and elders in activities that demonstrate methods for documenting traditional knowl-

edge, practices and/or beliefs, where culturally appropriate

- Increasing youth leadership and their capacity to lead through integrated educational or mentoring programs
- Increasing access to and sharing of cultural customs and beliefs through the use of appropriate technologies (traditional and/or modern) as a means of reviving or preserving Tribal language, arts, history or other culturally relevant topic

Funded projects draw upon traditional knowledge in the local community, build relationships between youth and elders, and explore traditional approaches to strengthening Native values in youth. Grants awarded this year ranged from \$3,200 to \$20,000.

The following organizations were chosen for funding in fiscal year 2008:

- California Indian Basketweavers Association
- Chilkat Indian Village
- Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation
- Gedakina, Inc.
- Honor Indians Institute, Inc.
- Hualapai Tribe of Northwestern Arizona
- Indigenous Peoples Council on Biocolonialism
- Junior Achievement of New Mexico, Inc.
- Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
- Montana Indian Business Alliance
- Mooretown Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California
- Nanticoke Lenni-Lanape Indians

- Native American Community Board
- Native American Fish and Wildlife Association
- Native Village of Afognak
- Navajo Waters
- Northwest Native American Basketweavers Association
- The Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin
- Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
- Potlach Fund (Canoe Journey)
- Sinte Gleska University
- Sunkawakan's Gift, Inc.
- Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California
- Western Shoshone Defense Project

2008 Call for Letters of Intent (LOIs) for Little Eagle Staff Fund

First Nations Development Institute invites letters of intent for its Little Eagle Staff Fund grant program.

Native community-based non-profit development organizations (NCNDOs) and Native community-serving financial institutions (NCSFIs) play a key role in creating an "enabling environment" for economic development in Native communities. In 2001, First Nations Development Institute launched its Little Eagle Staff Fund (LESF), which provides financial and economic development organizations with early stage investment and capitalization so they can increase organizational capacity and enhance their development of new financial products and services.

The goal is to support Native community-based development organizations, especially financial institutions, so they can promote economic development in Native communities. Programs serving Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and Oklahoma Native communities, as well as federal, state and unrecognized Tribes are invited to submit proposals. Priority will be given to groups located in or near the Native communities they serve, especially in rural areas.

Through its support of Native community-based non-profit development organizations and Native community-serving financial institutions, First Nations will promote the growth and increase the stability of new and emerging organizations that serve as "one-stop shopping" for educating future consumers of financial services and products.

Investment in local Native-controlled financial institutions enables them to offer new and innovative asset-building strategies for community members and allows them to act as an information clearinghouse for asset- and wealth-creating programs.

It is First Nations' vision that support for the "enabling environment"—also known as the business climate or investment climate—in Native communities will mean creating healthy social entrepreneurial institutions that provide support and capital for local entrepreneurs.

To submit a letter of intent (LOI), please go to www.firstnations.org/gLittleEagle.asp and download the forms. Call Sarah Dewees at 540-371-5615 with any questions.

SOUTHERN OREGON UNIVERSITY



Konaway Nika Tillicum
Native American Youth Academy
July 26- August 2, 2008

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!

Take Cool Classes!
Meet Other Native Youth!
Fun Activities!
Learn About College
and Experience a College Campus!

Who should Apply?

- ~Students who have completed grades 6-12.
- ~Students who have completed at least one year of college are encouraged to apply as Senior Counselors. (paid position)
- ~Konaway is also accepting applications for Instructors.

For more information contact
Chava Florendo at (541) 552-8256
or email florendch@sou.edu

www.sou.edu/NATAM/konaway.shtml

Advocates Sought to Serve Long-Term Care Residents

Volunteer advocates and investigators are needed to serve as ombudsmen for residents of nursing homes, residential care facilities, assisted living facilities and adult foster care homes.

The Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman will train volunteers on the aging process, communication skills, problem-solving skills, investigation and other ombudsman skills. The certification training will begin July 10 in Eugene, Ore.

As certified ombudsmen, volunteers work to improve the quality of residents' lives by identifying and investigating complaints and concerns

on behalf of the residents, then working with the facilities to make changes.

The typical concerns ombudsmen address cover a broad range and often include resident care; residents' rights, such as privacy, respect and dignity; and quality of life concerns such as appropriate activities and meals.

"The volunteers make a tremendous difference in the lives of the residents," says Kathy Walter, program administrator. "They are well-prepared and effective."

For information about the program or to learn how to get involved, contact Walter at 800-522-2602.