

# White House to host gathering for Tribal youth, build on Gen-I initiative

WASHINGTON – On July 9, the White House will host the first White House Tribal Youth Gathering to provide American Indian and Alaska Native youth from across the country the opportunity to interact directly with senior administration officials and the White House Council on Native American Affairs.

The Tribal Youth Gathering, a collaboration between the White House and Unity Inc., will continue to build upon the president's Generation Indigenous (Gen-I) initiative and his commitment to improve the lives of Native youth across the country.

President Obama launched the Gen-I

initiative at the 2014 White House Tribal Nations Conference to focus on improving the lives of Native youth through new investments and increased engagement.

This initiative takes a comprehensive, culturally appropriate approach to ensure all young Native people can reach their full potential.

The Gen-I Native Youth Challenge invites Native youth and organizations across the country to become a part of the administration's Gen-I initiative by joining the National Native Youth Network – a White House effort in partnership with the Aspen Institute's Center for Native American Youth and the U.S. Department of the Interior.

# NMAI seeks individuals, organizations for its Artist Leadership Program

The National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) invites community-based artists of the Americas and Hawai'i to apply to the Artist Leadership Program (ALP) for Individual Artists. Museums, arts organizations and cultural institutions in the U.S. and Canada are invited to apply to the ALP's organization track.

ALP is an incredible personal and artistic experience that reconnects artists to indigenous cultural materials for inspiration and discovery, and encourages them to challenge personal boundaries.

ALP artists have access to more than 800,000 objects, photographs and paper archives in the NMAI's collections at the Cultural Resources Center and the

museum on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

ALP artists return home empowered with new insights, skills and techniques to share in community workshops and public arts programs.

ALP seeks to inspire artistic practice and creativity, mentor young people through pride in learning about their

cultural and artistic heritage, and reflect the fact that indigenous arts hold value and knowledge and offer communities a means for healing and new ways to exchange cultural information.

For detailed program information and to apply online, please visit [nmai.si.edu/connect/artist-leadership-program/](http://nmai.si.edu/connect/artist-leadership-program/).

Applications are due June 15 by 5 p.m. EDT.

# iTunes® now offers Onondaga lacrosse documentary *The Medicine Game*

LINCOLN, Neb. – Tucked away in central New York state is the Onondaga Nation, a sovereign American Indian community known to produce some of the top lacrosse players in the world. Yet the fear of leaving their community, substance abuse and poverty have kept far too many of these players from venturing off the "rez" and into collegiate or professional ranks.

Enter the Thompson brothers – Jerome "Hiana" and Jeremy – who are driven by a single goal of beating the odds against them and playing lacrosse for national powerhouse Syracuse University.

"They started school late and they've come from so far behind to catch up and do as well as they're doing now," said Jerome "Ji" Thompson, Hiana and Jeremy's father. "And just to get that degree to show everybody, because I know there are people out there that actually know them that don't think they can do it."

"Lacrosse is more than just a game – it's a way of life, it's a heritage," said Producer/Director Luke Korver. "It's being Iroquois. It's being Native American. It's a part of their culture, their religion, who they are."

The brothers heavily pursued their ongoing shared vision of playing lacrosse for Syracuse University. Athletically, the

brothers were standouts, but academically, they struggled.

The obstacles in their way were frequent and daunting, but their love for the game, each other and their family's unyielding determination helped propel these youth against the odds.



Courtesy photo by Erik Korver

Jeremy and Jerome "Hiana" Thompson

"I titled the film *The Medicine Game* because the game has helped not only the Thompsons, but many families and communities to stay healthy both physically and mentally, to bond with one another and to learn many powerful life lessons," said Korver.

To watch the film's trailer, visit [visionmakermedia.org/medicine\\_game](http://visionmakermedia.org/medicine_game).

*The Medicine Game* is now available to own (\$14.99) or rent (\$4.99) from the iTunes® store. Type *The Medicine Game*

in the iTunes Store search box and view listing under the movies section. iTunes works on Mac, PC, iPad, iPhone, iPod touch and Apple TV. Visit [apple.com/itunes](http://apple.com/itunes) to download iTunes.

Vision Maker Media, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) that receives major funding from the Corporation for Public Broad-

casting, shares Native stories with the world by advancing media that represents the experiences, values and cultures of American Indians and Alaska Natives.

All aspects of our programs encourage the involvement of young people to learn more about careers in the media – to be the next generation of storytellers.

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## The Past Is Present

### BASKETS OF THE SILETZ TRIBE

A Benefit for the  
**Siletz Tribal Cultural Center**

**Saturday, June 20th**  
at  
**Chinook Winds Casino**  
**1pm – 5pm**

\*Silent Auction\*  
1pm to 4pm

Keynote Speaker:  
**Edmond Ben** – Is a Siletz Tribal Elder, sharing his first-hand knowledge of the Siletz Tribes' history and culture.

Siletz Featured Weavers:  
**Lori Brown, Nora Williams-Wood, and Mitzi Brown**

It is a pleasure to present three Siletz Tribal members who are accomplished artists, carrying our traditions into the present. They will be using traditional basketry materials to demonstrate Siletz basket weaving.

\* Siletz Basket Display \* Siletz Tribal Craft Vendors \* Silent Auction \*

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians

Siletz Tribal Arts and Heritage Society 501 c (3)  
For more information please visit:  
**huu-cha.org**  
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