

California Indian Culture And Sovereignty Center Opens At Cal State San Marcos

Friday, November 18, 2011

By [Alison St John](#)



Photo by Alison St John

Above: Joely Proudfit, Director of the new California Indian Culture and Sovereignty Center at Cal State San Marcos, with Chris Devers, former chair of the Pauma Band.

Cal State San Marcos is working to strengthen Native Indian education and enterprise. The campus celebrated the opening of its [California Native American Culture and Sovereignty Center](#) with bird singers and a blessing by former Pauma chairman, Chris Devers.

"We acknowledge the elders who are here with us today," Devers said. "For it is within them comes the knowledge and the history of us as a people. We always remember those yet to be born, for it is for them that these facilities will be around when it is their time - when they seek education."

The U.S. census shows Native Americans have lower educational attainment rates than other ethnic groups. San Diego has more Indian reservations than any other California county.

tribal donations.

Much of the money for the new center comes from