





Indigenous Woman Is First To Be Appointed To State Commission On Women And Girls

By Jade Hindmon / KPBS Midday Edition Co-Host, Megan Burke / News Editor

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Courtesy of Joely Proudfit

Joely Proudfit, Luiseño/Payómkawichum, in an undated phone. She is department chair of American Indian Studies and director of the California Indian Culture and Sovereignty Center at California State University, San Marcos. She was recently appointed by California Governor Gavin Newsom to serve on the state's Commission on the Status of Women and Girls.

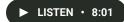


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Joely Proudfit, Ph.D., is Luiseño and Payómkawichum. She has been department chair of American Indian Studies and director of the California Indian Culture and Sovereignty Center at California State University, San Marcos since 2008.

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For the first time, an Indigenous woman has been appointed to join California's Commission on the Status of Women and Girls. Joely Proudfit is Luiseño and

director of the California Indian Culture and Sovereignty Center at California State University, San Marcos since 2008.

Proudfit said it means a lot to her to be able to represent Indigenous women and girls on the commission.

"For so long, and far too long, the invisibility and the erasure of Native peoples, especially Native women and girls, has been the norm. And so I'm excited to not only have a seat at the table but to have an opportunity to work with other women to help shape policy to better the lives of all women in California. And for my focus, especially that of indigenous women and girls," Proudfit said.

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The position on the commission requires confirmation by the state senate.

Proudfit joined Midday Edition on Tuesday to talk about her hopes for the role on the commission.

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Jade Hindmon



Jade Hindmon is KPBS Midday Edition co-host. Prior to making San Diego home, Jade worked in markets across the Southeast and Midwest, building a network of sources to tell the stories of people in each community. She worked as a multimedia journalist and anchor at WRTV in Indianapolis. While there, she launched "The Weekend Edition of Good Morning Indiana" and generated breaking news content for both broadcast and digital platforms. Prior to Indianapolis, she was an anchor and multimedia journalist at FOX Carolina in Greenville, SC. As part of that Emmy Award winning team, she covered elections, landed exclusive interviews, and interviewed presidential candidates. Jade also had the opportunity to cover international news and was able to travel to South Africa during the 2010 World Cup. Jade is a three-time Emmy nominee, a National Association of Black Journalists Salute to Excellence Finalist, and the recipient of a South Carolina Associated Press Award. She is a proud graduate of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University.

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Megan Burke



Megan Burke is an Emmy-award winning news editor overseeing the environment, health, and racial justice and social equity reporting beats. Prior to her current role as editor, Megan spent more than a decade as a producer for KPBS Midday Edition, a daily radio news magazine and podcast. Other news production credits include KPBS Evening Edition, KPBS Roundtable, and San Diego's DNA, a two-part documentary highlighting the region's oldest traditions and culture using personal artifacts and oral histories of San Diegans.

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