Professor Consulting on Native-Themed Netflix Series

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American Indian studies professor Joely Proudfit consulted on a Native-themed children's show coming to Netflix next week.

Joely Proudfit, chair of the American Indian studies department at Cal State San Marcos, is serving as a consultant for a Native-themed, animated children's show that will debut on Netflix next week.

Proudfit is the Native production consultant for "Spirit Rangers," which will premiere on the streaming service on Monday, Indigenous Peoples Day.

"Spirit Rangers" is a fantasy-adventure preschool series that "celebrates community, nature and the rich heritage of Native American storytelling." It was created by Karissa Valencia, a member of the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians and the first California Native American showrunner.

The show features an all-Native writers' room and Natives in every aspect of production. More than 100 Indigenous people worked on the series.



California Indian Culture and Sovereignty Center at CSUSM, consulted on "Spirit Rangers" through her company. Native Media Strategies provides resources that help foster more authentic representation of Native and Indigenous peoples in Hollywood.

Among other projects, Proudfit previously offered Native consulting services to

"Stumptown," an ABC crime drama that aired in 2019, and "Hostiles," a 2017 Western film starring Academy Award-winning actor Christian Bale.

"My education has afforded me the opportunity to create and produce amazing content, and I hope our students are inspired to earn their degrees and follow their dreams," Proudfit said.

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