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CICSC Newsletter

RESPONSIBILITY RECIPROCITY RESPECT RELATIONSHIPS

Issue No. 4/December 2014

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE!



Special thanks to our individual donors!

Thank you to our partners, donors and event sponsors!



With the new year fast approaching, I would like to take a moment to reflect on achievements and to thank our donors, partners, and event attendees for your support. Early in the year, we released the State of American Indian and Alaskan Native (AIAN) Education in California 2014-the second publication in a three-part series made possible by the financial support of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. In October, we had the pleasure of having Suzan Shown Harjo on our campus to speak on cultural appropriation. We recently concluded the 2nd Annual San Diego American Indian Film Festival, which was a huge success. I would also like to give a special thank you to CICSC staff, student workers, and volunteers for their tireless efforts in helping with running the center, helping at events, and doing their part in all that the CICSC accomplishes. We, at the CICSC, take great pride in our students and rejoice in their many achievements, awards and accomplishments. We wish our American Indian graduates great success as they move into their next phase of their lives. Thank you again for your continued support and stay tuned for exciting developments in the new year.

Joely Proudfit, Ph.D. (Luiseño)
Director, CICSC

2nd Annual San Diego American Indian Film Festival



Opening Night: Rhymes for Young Ghouls with Jeff Barnaby

Thursday, November 20th, 2014



November 20th, 2014 was the opening night of the second annual San Diego American Indian Film Festival. We kicked off the night by showing four different shorts. Each short had a personal message either funny and inspirational, or more serious and darker. The feature film for the night was Rhymes for Young



Ghouls, which was written and directed by Jeff Barnaby. The movie was set in the 1970s on the Red Crow Mi'g Maq reservation in Canada and focuses on a young heroine who makes tough choices so she can pay a "truancy tax" to avoid attending residential school. After the completion of the movie, the audience had the opportunity to talk to Jeff Barnaby, who himself is Mi'gmaq, about the movie and how he became inspired to make movies. Overall everyone had a great time: the volunteers, the audience, and the special guests. [Photos Link](#)



Raffdazzel "Raffie" John (Oneida)
CICSC Student Assistant

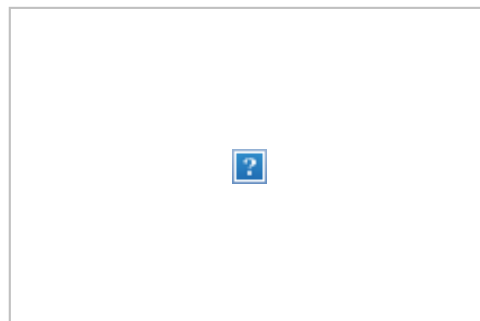


Friday Night Funnies: A Tribute to Charlie Hill

Friday, November 21st, 2014



Students and guest were in for a treat on Day 2 of the 2nd Annual San Diego American Indian Film Festival (SDAIFF). As lines began to form, laughter filled the air, and attendees took photos with family and friends as auditorium seats filled up for Friday Night Funnies. The evening paid respect to the late comedian Charlie Hill (Oneida-Mohawk-Cree) by screening a special tribute entitled "On & Off The Res' with Charlie Hill". Members of the Hill family were in attendance and were thankful to see so many people laugh and remember the life of an amazing individual. Immediately following the screening, the audience was treated to the comedic performances of stand-up comedians Abel Silvas (Juaneño), Shishonia Livingston (Navajo) and Jim Ruel (Ojibwe). [Photos Link](#)



Marjon Pino (Navajo)

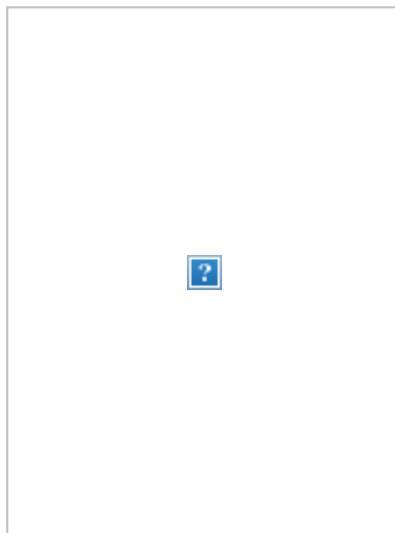




CICSC Student Assistant

Closing Day & Night: Youth Track, Documentaries, and Empire of Dirt

Saturday, November 22nd, 2014



Local community affiliates, students and invited special guests gathered for the final day of the 2nd Annual San Diego American Indian Film Festival (SDAIFF) held at Pechanga Resort and Casino in Temecula, CA. Events kicked off the afternoon with a youth track that allowed students to interact with Native American Artist and Film Maker, Steven Paul Judd (Kiowa and Choctaw). As the youth track concluded three documentaries were featured for the matinee session. Emmy--award winning Sycuan documentary, "Our People. Our Culture. Our History" was the first of three documentaries shown. Next, "Once We Had

a River" was shown followed by a question and answer session with Chairwoman LaVonne Peck (La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians) and Chairman Bo Mazzetti (Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians). Finally, events shifted to recognize and showcase the life and story of tribal leader, feminist, and activist for many Native American rights, Mrs. LaDonna Harris (Comanche Nation). As night fell students and attendees were able to engage in a red carpet "meet and greet" with the invited special guests to conclude the evening's Main Feature "Empire of Dirt". The night ended with a question and answer session with actress Shay Eyre (Oglala Lakota & Cheyenne Arapahoe) and filmmaker Chris Eyre (Cheyenne Arapahoe), director of "Smoke Signals" and filmmaker Steven Paul Judd. A special "thank you" goes out to everyone in attendance as well all the sponsors for this year's success! [Photos Link](#)

*Marjon Pino (Navajo)
CICSC Student Assistant*

November Events

Potlatch Fund Gala

Saturday, November 1st, 2014

On November 1, 2014 Dr. Proudfit and Dr. Gregor traveled to the Tulalip



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Indian Reservation north of Seattle, Washington to attend the annual Potlatch Fund Gala as guests of Cora Gaane with Wells Fargo Native American Division. The Potlatch Fund is the Chinook word for the Native American Spirit of Giving. The organization is one of the northwest region's largest tribal philanthropies. The event was somber due to the recent incident of school violence that occurred earlier in the month at a local high school. Guest speakers and gala emcees expressed condolences to the Tulalip Tribal Council and community members in attendance and the entire audience was included in a healing song played by a visiting tribal leader. The event was truly remarkable with honorees receiving beautiful awards for their activism, art, and community service. The silent auction was full of unique, one-of-a-kind pieces from Northwest Artisans and Dr. Proudfit won the bid for an autographed basketball signed by Shoni Schimmel! The meal included traditionally prepared salmon, venison, and seasonal vegetables. It was truly an honor to participate and contribute to a worthy cause. For more information about the Potlatch Fund, go to: www.potlatchfund.org.



*Theresa Gregor, PhD (Kumeyaay)
CICSC Research Assistant*

American Indian Heritage Month Kick-Off: A Celebration of Song & Dance

Tuesday, November 4th, 2014



The American Indian Student Alliance (AISA) and the California Indian Culture and Sovereignty Center (CICSC) coordinated the "Celebration of Song & Dance" event to begin American Indian Heritage Month at CSUSM. We had special guests including Chairwoman Maxine Resvaloso, the TM Bird Singers, bird dancers, fancy dancers, and drummers to entertain the CSUSM campus with song and dance performances. This event took place in front of the University Student Union (USU) during U-hour. Many students and faculty members stopped to gaze

at what was happening; they were being drawn in by the eclectic colors of the dresses and regalia, which were impossible to ignore as they danced beautifully on the grass with the sound of the gourds and singing in the background. The alluring performance captivated the audience as they took photos and videos to capture this unique experience. The event came to a close with a round dance called a friendship dance where students and staff joined hands with the performers to conclude the event. [Photos Link](#)

Stephanie Silva
CICSC Student Assistant

Vision Maker Media Award Presentation

Thursday, November 13th, 2014

Two gentlemen who have been instrumental in changing the media landscape for American Indians and Alaska Natives were honored by the Vision Maker Media, Thursday, November 13, 2014, at a ceremony at the San Diego Hard Rock Hotel. Michael Smith (Sioux), founder of the American Indian Film Institute (AIFI) received the First Annual Frank Blythe Award for Media Excellence. Frank Blythe (Eastern Band of Cherokee/Sisseton/Wahpeton Dakota) is the founding executive director of what is now Vision Maker Media. Vision Maker Media began as a membership service for public television stations to broadcast Native American content, its first name was Native American Public Broadcasting Consortium in 1976. He led the organization until he retired in 2006. Tishmall Turner, Tribal Liaison, and Dr. Joely Proudfit, CICSC Director attended the event. [Photos Link](#)

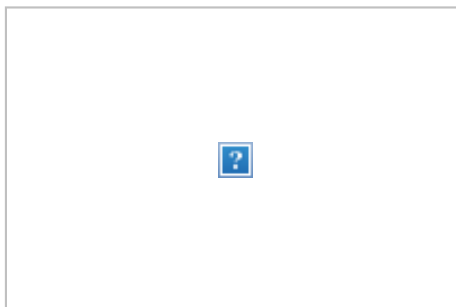


Tishmall Turner (Luiseño)
CSUSM Tribal Liaison

2014 Culture Expo

Wednesday, November 12th, 2014

On Wednesday, November 12th, Alpha Pi Sigma Sorority and Nu Alpha Kappa Fraternity co-hosted the 2014 Culture Expo at California State University San Marcos. The Culture Expo was held in the amphitheater of the beautiful and new University Student Union. Throughout the evening, vivid performances from a variety of different cultural student organizations made their way to the stage. Our very own Michael Murphy, Joseph Smith, and Ernestina Martinez were there to perform and proudly represent the



American Indian Student Alliance (AISA). AISA strives to educate students about Native culture and facilitate leadership opportunities for American Indian students on campus and in the community. [Photos Link](#)

Michael Murphy (Luiseño)
CICSC Student Volunteer

Spirit of the Tribes 5K Run/Walk

Saturday, November 15th, 2014



Runners and walkers of all ages gathered on a beautiful Saturday morning to partake in the annual "SPIRIT OF THE TRIBES 5K RUN/WALK" held this year by the Native American Student Programs office at the The University of California, Riverside. Native American children, students, local elders and community supporters from San Diego up to Los Angeles were in attendance to support the fundraising event for UC Scholarships. Tribal Liaison, Tishmall Turner and CSUSM student, Marjon Pino participated in the event. " It was not only an beautiful morning, but seeing everyone out

there having fun and coming together to promote health and education was a beautiful moment in itself." [Photos Link](#)

Marjon Pino (Navajo)
CICSC Student Assistant

Ask an American Indian "Myth Busters" Day

Tuesday, November 18th, 2014

On November 18th, 2014 the American Indian Student Alliance at CSUSM facilitated an interesting event, Ask an American Indian "Myth Busters" Day. There were about nine to twelve people present. Joely Proudfit, director of the CICSC, was there and she helped direct the conversation. One of the main topics of discussion was "If you had the resources, what movie about Native American's would you make?" It was interesting the responses that were given. For example, one student responded "I would go around and ask complete strangers, what their honest opinion was of Native Americans." Another person's response was "I would make a documentary about my life. I lived on the res, having people doubting me, people picking on me, and show where I am so far, here in college." None of the responses,

had the stereotypical outlook of Native Americans. It proves to show that, there are people out there who want to give the correct and accurate picture of Native Americans' daily life or history.

Raffdazzel "Raffie" John (Oneida)
CICSC Student Assistant



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