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AIR News

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“OUR MISSION IS THE PROMOTION AND SUCCESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS WITHIN EDUCATION.”

Created in 1993 the AIR Program has set out to create a greater future for our American Indian Community through education.

Covid-19 and our AIR Summer: Postponed until Next Year

In our 26+ years of operation we seldom cancel any of our events but this year due to the health concerns of Covid-19 and its severe health ramifications we decided not to have our Summer Project.

We are truly disappointed as we always look forward in meeting new friends, our discussion on what we can do as Native People to improve our communities, and enjoying the summer together. AIR Programs is a member of the Native American Community and our first and primary concern is the health and safety of our Native Youth and community, therefore, we felt the best avenue for our program is to “*postpone until next year*” our summer project to ensure that we remain safe during these trying times.

We look forward in preparing for the upcoming year with our new programs and for our next summer outing, please stay safe.

(Pictures from Summer 2019)





Congratulations to our Native High School graduates and your admissions to:

USD, UCLA, CSUSM and Manhattanville College

We are proud of all our Native Youth who have participated in our programs throughout these many years. Many have gone on to be Tribal Leaders, Health workers, Lawyers, Teachers, to serve our country in the military and much more. This year our class of seniors have been admitted to the above named universities.

We are extremely proud of our seniors who have accomplished so much to get to this level.

We are honored that they have been a part of the AIR Programs family and we look forward to their leadership in the future. Congrats!



We thank Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP, and SCTCA for their sponsorship of our American Indian Recruitment Programs.



27th Annual American Indian Recruitment Programs Awards & Fundraiser Banquet

Thursday, November 19, 2020, 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

at the University of California, San Diego



AIR Programs announces the date for our Annual Awards and Fundraiser Banquet for 2020. This year our Annual banquet will be held at the University of California, San Diego, where we will honor our students and mentors within our program. In attendance, will be representatives from numerous universities and our community partners. Celebrate and honor our students by attending and supporting the 2020 AIR Annual Awards and Fundraiser Banquet.

For additional sponsorship information please visit our website at www.airprograms.org or email us at info@airprograms.org
 (Please Note: Banquet is subject to change based on Covid-19 and safety concerns and may be held virtually)



Results are in: AIR Honors Project – Continuing Academic Success among Native Youth

AIR Programs has collaborated with many universities on developing a cohesive program that has its basis in Tribal Governance. These projects have combined our mentoring ideals, our community approach, and our outreach to Native Youth to understand principals of Tribal Governance, Native Nations Building, and American Indian History. Our results have had an overwhelming number of our Native participants empowered in understanding our unique relationships with the United States while looking inward towards cultural inclusion. Our participants have utilized this coursework as proof they can successfully accomplish university level material and include this when applying to many universities as their academic accomplishment.

This has led to many of our participants being admitted to universities such as: Stanford, UCLA, USC, Brown, UCSD, SDSU, CSUSM and many more. Today, we continue this ideal as we are collaborating with Intertribal Court of Southern California, the University of California, San Diego, and San Diego State University.

Our work together has created an overarching training in Tribal Governance and Restorative Justice, which includes training/course in:

- Introduction to Legal Systems (1 unit - UCSD)
- Introduction to Tribal Legal Studies (3 units - UCSD)
- Tribal Governance: Writing and Rhetoric (3 units - SDSU)

AIR Programs and Intertribal Court are sponsoring these developmental training/courses under our project American Indian Youth Engagement Court, where our Native Youth who participate in this training will be asked to participate on a peer jury to help diverted juvenile offenders by hearing and giving input on a healing and wellness track for the offender. Our training/courses allows us to instruct our participants to understand the vast differences between western constructs of justice and Tribal restorative justice.

Our Year 1 results: Our Expectations were exceeded, where the majority of our Native Youth passed these courses. Roughly, 76% passed our courses. Contrast this with California Community Colleges adults taking online coursework, the results were roughly 60% passage (AND) our students did this during Covid-19 interruption.

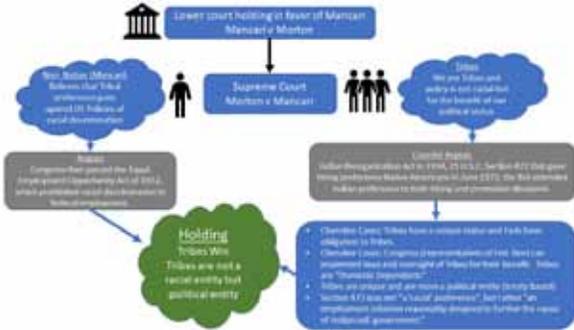
What can be said of our results? Our students can compete with the best on an academic level with students across the country and in specialized programs offering more than our public-school system. Our students come from regional Tribes, urban populations, rural schools, and afterschool programs. Most important they want to learn more about their Native communities as opposed to western ideals that our public education system is mandated to utilize. We are encouraged with the results of this program and look forward to this upcoming year as we are set to expand our work. **If you have any interested Native High School Youth who may want to learn about Tribal law and governance our courses will restart in Fall.**

For more information please contact us at info@airprograms.org.

Special Thank You To:
Intertribal Court of Southern California, San Pasqual Indian Education, Pechanga Education Counseling and Resources, Morongo Indian Education, SDSU American Indian Studies, and UCSD Extension.

Pictured Above: From Winter Session Course Intro to Tribal Legal Studies

Pictured to left: Court Case Diagram for moot court final



We thank the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians and the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians for supporting our AIR Programs, bringing needed services to our Native Communities.



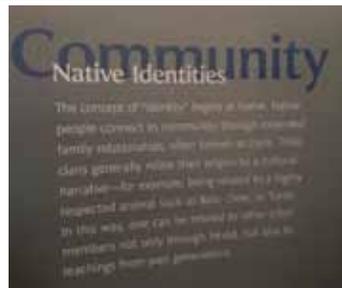
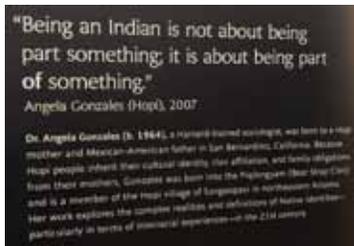
AIR Honors Course to be offered for Fall at UCSD and Spring at SDSU

In combination with our collaboration with the Intertribal Court of Southern California we are offering training/courses on Restorative Justice and Tribal Governance to Native High School youth. These courses are university based and provide greater knowledge on restorative justice concepts so that youth may participate within our Native Youth Court and make informed decisions based on laws, custom and traditions practiced by the Tribes.

We are coming off a great first year of this project in where many of our students have successfully participated within these courses. These courses are online but we require that all students work with our mentors to help them navigate the materials to improve their performance and understanding.

Challenge yourself and join us for one or both of these courses starting in September!

Suggested Requirements: 2.5 GPA / Ages: 10th -12th grades (exceptions may be made)



AIR Programs obtains a grant from ANA

AIR Programs is in its 27th Year of continuous service to our American Indian communities and we have seen so much success among our Native youth and mentors. AIR Programs began its service in 1993, became a non-profit in 2002, and has operated continuously as a Native controlled corporation. With a renewed pledge to assist our Native youth, we have partnered with Intertribal Court of Southern California to assist in the development of a American Indian Youth Engagement Court (AIYEC).

For this project we have been awarded a grant from the Administration of Native Americans (ANA). We are honored that ANA has the belief and recognizes the need to help our at-risk Native youth.

The American Indian Youth Engagement Court (AIYEC) project is a diversion-based process that will serve our San Diego County Tribes that are challenged with incidents of juvenile delinquency. Here, Native youth peers will hear and assist in adjudication of the juvenile offender. This includes the development of the Native Youth Peer Decision Makers (Youth Decision Makers) training program that will engage our Youth Decision Makers to guide them in their decisions within the Youth Court and provide them greater academic understanding on Tribal Governance.

(Pictured Above and Left: AIR Staff presenting AIR Project in Washington DC / AIR and ANA Project Managers at ANA Conference.

Visit our Facebook site and like us at:
<https://www.facebook.com/AIR-American-Indian-Recruitment-Program>



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