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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.



AIR Programs 2016-17 has Exceeded Expectations

This past year might be our best year in student success, outreach to our communities, and developing programs that will benefit our Native Communities. We congratulate our students who have been admitted to highly competitive universities such as SDSU, UCLA, Stanford and Brown. At each university our students competed against 80,000 students+ at each university and earned their way into them. Yes, our students can compete against the best.

In starting our program 24 years ago, we aimed to create change so that more native students would consider opting to pursue higher education. As stated previously, our goal was one student.

Today, our ideals and our work are seeing our students pursuing higher education in numbers. We must state, that it is our student’s ability and their motivation that got them there, our program and what we accomplish is only a vehicle in which our students can demonstrate their ability in academics and gain motivation. We are truly grateful these students chose to utilize our program for their academic endeavors.

We often oversimplify our program, as many from our community are within the AIR Program fabric. Our program is a community oriented program in which all pitch in for the benefit our students. Drivers, mentors, coordinators, other educational programs from both urban and Tribal communities, and parents, participate to make it possible for our native students to succeed and to pursue higher education.

Therefore, we take this time to thank everyone for their participation and hard work that it took to have our students reach their greatest potential in pursuing higher education and to become our future leadership in Indian Country.





24th Annual American Indian Recruitment Programs Awards & Fundraiser Banquet

Thursday, November 8, 2017, 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

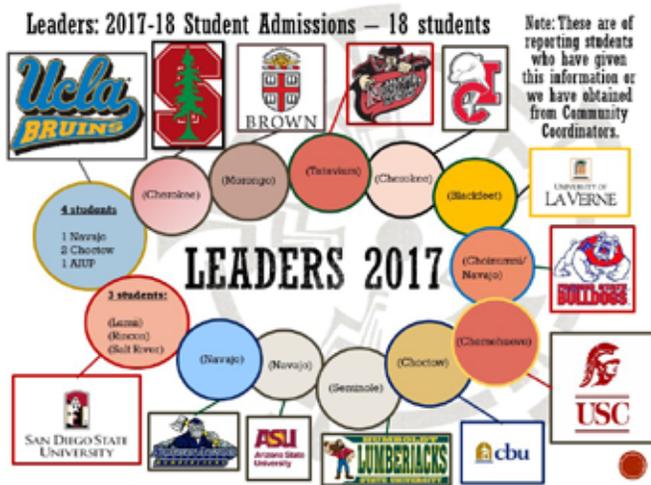
at the University of San Diego



AIR Programs announces the date for our Annual Awards and Fundraiser Banquet for 2017. This year our Annual banquet will be held at the University of 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. The date is set for November 8th from 5:30 to 8 pm. Celebrate and honor our students by attending and supporting the 2017 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

(Pictures Above from AIR Summer 2017 and Spring AIR Leaders Project)



Success for our “Leaders” students and congrats on their Acceptances

AIR Programs “Leaders” students, as mentioned above, have exceeded our expectations as the vast majority are going on to pursue higher education at competitive universities like UCLA, SDSU, Brown, Stanford, USC and more. Leaders is a partnership between AIR and UCLA which utilizes basic concepts that AIR has always championed: cultural inclusion within an academic learning project in an after school program format. Here, students take a university level course within American Indian subjects with assistance from our mentors who assist in learning the content.

From this, more and more universities are looking at this project as an academic enrichment program and we are able to demonstrate that our students can compete on an academic level at any university.

Our success is seeing many universities adopting programs like ours.

This is good, as academia should embrace and work with our Native Communities so that we may have access to western education while keeping our identity and our ideals intact.

Again, congratulations to our Native Students on their acceptances as we start the 2017-18 school year!!!



(Pictured Above: Students at the University of California Irvine Midway Leaders meeting with Joe Graham Ph.D. (Isleta Pueblo) Spring 2017 / AIR Summer students in the Laguna Mountains at a cultural site.

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



AIR Summer Program 2017

This summer was busy as we had a successful turnout and completion of our summer program. Over 67 participants turned out for AIR Summer with our summer topic being “Elements of Culture”. Elements of Culture examined aspects of culture as related to Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. Part of NAGPRA is cultural patrimony. We looked at this (cultural patrimony) and expanded on what this means as it relates to our identity as Native Americans. To accomplish this, we spent time in the Laguna Mountains in visiting specific sites of cultural importance, heard legal discussion on cultural patrimony from Procopio Law, had guest speakers discuss cultural inclusion of dance and song, and finally had a great time meeting one another and having fun while doing this.



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

*Pictured Above and to the Side:
Pictures from AIR Summer 2017
Laguna Mountains / SDSU / La Jolla
Shores Kayaing / SDSU*



AIR Spring 2017

In Spring 2017, AIR held its program at the Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel (Santa Ysabel) as an after school program. This is a first for our program and, for most Tribes, to have an outside native education organization hold their meetings there. It is our belief, that you must go to the community you wish to serve, work along-side those within the community, to understand their needs and issues so you can serve them in a greater capacity. Our most meaningful solutions come from being in the community, working with them, towards a common goal of achieving the best of our students through education.

We held our program in Santa Ysabel throughout the Spring 2017 with a cultural based theme of hand games of the Kumeyaay. Pulling in guest speakers (Paul Cuero (Campo) / Ral Christman (Viejas) / Christopher Chapos (San Pasqual) / Kristy Orosco (San Pasqual) / Fred Largo (Campo)) to assist Bernice Paipa (Santa Ysabel-COordinator) on this project we had a great turn out. From our Spring program, we saw our students participating in hand-games (Peon) at every gathering in the region. Overall the real enjoyment is that our students are participating culturally in their own communities and empowering them in other areas, such as education. We thank Bernice and all our guest speakers for working with us on this project.



*Thanking the Soboba Band
of Luiseno Indians
for their support for our
Native Students and our program.*

Announcing AIR Leaders Course to be offered at SDSU location

Law X 490.0 - Introduction to Tribal Legal Studies Starting October 11, 2017

Instructor: Nicole A. Johnson Esq.

Midway meeting at UCLA (Mandatory) on November 18th / Final-Moot Court (Mandatory)

Law X490 Course Description: This course provides a broad overview of the most important issues involved in tribal legal studies, including an overview of tribal government, the history of tribal court systems, legal structure of tribal courts, tribal court criminal and civil jurisdiction, roles in tribal court systems, tribal court management, due process, appellate courts, the Indian Civil Rights Act, and the Indian Child Welfare Act. Students receive an introduction to the basic concepts of legal studies and the legal studies program. The course addresses tribal common law and traditional dispute resolution methods, including an extensive examination of the process of the incorporation of tribal custom and tradition into the court system and the development of tribal common law. Students also study issues involved in the development and implementation of such traditional dispute resolution mechanisms as peacemaking courts.

Requirements: 2.5 GPA / Ages: 10th -12th grades

This is a university level course and is advanced in reading and legal concepts. This course requires 30 pages of reading per week and written assignments required on a weekly basis for 10 weeks.

For additional information contact: Dwight K. Lomayesva at dlomayesva@airprograms.org

Visit our website at: <http://www.airprograms.org/Leaders%20v%20202/Leaders%20v2.html>



Announcing AIR Leaders Jr. Course to be offered at SDSU location

(SDSU) Calling all high school students and recent high school graduates!

Want to earn college credits in an accelerated class that fits with your schedule? Want to learn more about Native American history and current controversial topics? Want to become a stronger academic writer and become better prepared for your future college courses? Then we've got the classes for you! Earn college credit while you also work towards your General Education graduation requirements by taking AMIND 120 (Written Communication) and AMIND 140 (History from an American Indian Perspective to 1850).

Join us for one or both of these 8-week courses starting in September!

More information: info@airprograms.org or americanindianstudies@sdsu.edu

Requirements: 2.5 GPA / Ages: 10th -12th grades

(Pictured Above and Left: Students at the Tule River Moot Court competition and AIR Summer students at SDSU and Torrey Pines)



AIR PROGRAMS

PO Box 880471
San Diego CA 92168
info@airprograms.org



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