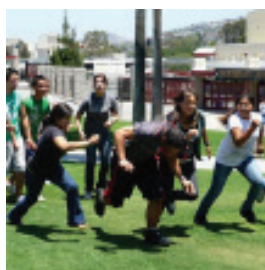


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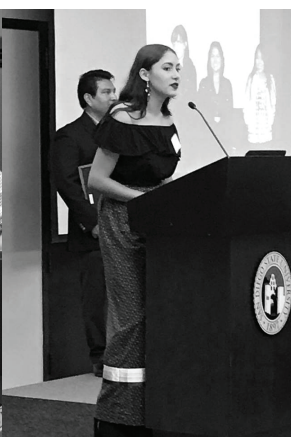


AIR News

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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 is proud to announce our 2022 Student Leadership Awardees

We are proud to announce our Student Leadership Awardees for 2022. Our awardees have been selected based on their academic standing, their participation in AIR Programs Projects, their ability to inspire and motivate others, their dedication to community and their determination to pursue higher education. We will honor these amazing Awardees at our Annual Awards and Fundraiser Banquet to be held October 26th, 2022, at the UC San Diego Extension Building, Park and Market Street (Downtown San Diego).

We are honored that we have been able to know these students as someday they will lead all our communities to a greater future. This year's awardees are:

Areaya Fernandez (Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians)
Jayla Pete (Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria)
Liyah Martinez (San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians)
Faith Pojas (La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians)

Congratulations to our Awardees!!!

(Pictured on front Page: Past Awardees)



The American Indian Recruitment (AIR) Programs 29th Annual Fundraiser Banquet

Date: Wednesday, October 26th, 2022, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Location: University of California, San Diego: Downtown and Market location



AIR Programs has proudly served the California American Indian community for over 29 years, through our mentoring and tutorial programs and our Honors Project. Our programs provide our Native youth the tools needed to compete and succeed within the academic setting and create opportunities to expose them to higher education.

Support the AIR Programs by becoming a sponsor of this year's 29th Annual Awards and Fundraiser Banquet! The evening's events will include presentations highlighting this year's accomplishments and awards for our students, mentors, and community members. If you cannot attend, please support our program through a donation towards our Native youth and academic programs. Visit our website at www.airprograms.org for updates on the Annual Banquet.



Our 2022 Student Leadership Awardees



Areaya Fernandez (Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians)

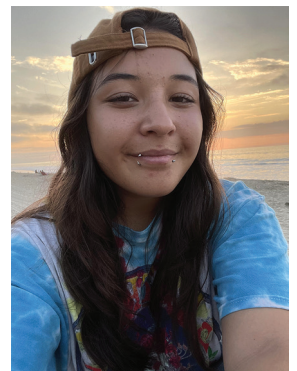
I am a Pechanga Tribal Member from Temecula, California, and I am currently 17 years old. I enjoy staying active in my Pechanga community by taking part in several cultural activities. I have attended several Native American youth empowerment conferences, such as Dream the Impossible, Mid UNITY, and the National UNITY Conference. These conferences bring youth from all across the country to collaborate on current issues facing Native youth. In addition to this, I have been a part of the Indigenous Peoples Club, at Great Oak High School, for three consecutive years. I have also participated in the Pechanga Youth Traditional Knowledge Program for five years, where I work with other teens to learn more about my ancestors and our traditional ways. I continue to show my commitment to my community by running to be a Pechanga Youth Council representative and have successfully been elected by the Pechanga Tribal Youth, three years in a row. Furthermore, I take my education very seriously, and I'm always putting my best foot forward when it comes to my schooling. My goal is to attend college and build a career in Native American Law to better my Native community and the Native Americans of this nation.

Faith Pojas (La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians)

Hello, my name is Faith Pojas. I am from the La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians and currently a senior at Valley Center High School. After school, I plan on furthering my education at select colleges, which include: University California of San Diego, University California of Santa Cruz, or California State University of Monterey Bay.

I will major in Marine and Environmental Studies. I know we have tribal lands and culturally important areas that need protecting. My minor will be in music journalism so I can continue to explore what I love, music and writing.

I am more than excited to graduate and go to college. With the help of AIR, I have learned to better my research and writing abilities to prepare me for the path I will go on.



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





Jayla Pete (Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria)

I am Jayla Pete. I am 17 years old. I am a senior attending Lowell High School, one of the best rated public high schools in California. I live with my dad, mom, younger brother, and my lovable dog, Buddy. At Lowell, I excel in my schoolwork, whether the learning is in person or online. I have maintained a high GPA throughout my academic school years while participating in a multitude of clubs and other extracurricular activities. To start, I joined my school's Latin Club to enrich my thoughts apart from my core classes in Roman culture and I continue to study the language because Latin is useful in the science and law fields, which are part of my ideal career goals. I am also a part of the PAWS clubs (Protecting Animals Without Shelters), in which volunteers help at animal adoption events and support animals by either holding a fundraiser or collecting needed supplies for the animals. One of my interests that I expanded by my own initiative in school is playing the trombone. Currently, I am the president of my school's jazz band, and the lead trombonist, allowing me to step out of my comfort zone in terms of having to manage multiple parts as a leader and a musician. Other extracurriculars I have done are the Graton Writing Project, with two pieces in published anthologies, an internship in a summer exploration program focusing in law, and taking college courses at my local city college. I have been part of the AIR program, starting my sophomore year of high school, with the intention of learning more about my culture as a Native American. I have participated in moot courts, discussions about tribal law, and a Youth Peer Court, all giving me insight on my culture and traditions. Though my school has helped me develop and thrive in many fields of learning, the subject matter has not given me much of an opportunity to learn about my ancestors and culture in depth. I am a Native American youth of the Pomo tribe and very proud of my heritage and who I am. From my Native American background, I have learned values such as respecting all people no matter their background. As I continue on my path of life, I hope to learn and connect more with my culture, especially in a place where opportunities seem so limited. I am proud of who I am and how far I've come, and no amount of challenges will stop that.

Liyah Martinez (San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians)

Hi, I am Liyah Martinez and I am 14 Years old. I currently attend Valley Center High School where I am a sophomore. My family and I are from the San Pasqual Reservation. I have a very cheerful personality and am always willing to help others. Whenever there are opportunities to lead I am quick to take charge. My friends describe me as crazy at times, but I can be serious when necessary. My favorite classes are Spanish and Art. My greatest passion is art. This is ultimately what I would like to pursue in college. My Art teacher is willing to give me a recommendation to go to one of the top art schools in New York. I have also received awards in art competitions. I often give my art away to friends and family to help brighten their day. Art definitely has helped me focus in school since I am a hands-on learner. My grandpa has always been my biggest inspiration when it comes to following my dream of art. My art teacher was so kind and inspired me to be a great artist and to follow his example of being the best art teacher I could possibly be. I am very athletic and look forward to all the sports they have to offer this year. I am most interested in track and field hockey. My aunt was a great field hockey goalie. She inspired me to play sports and follow in her footsteps. She is truly one of the BEST role models in my life. My whole family is very athletic on my dad's side. My P.E. teacher wanted me to sign up for field hockey last year but I didn't get a chance to because of COVID. There are many things that I am unable to do because of COVID, but there are also many other things I can do. Because of COVID, I have been able to focus and art and spend time with my family. I also have this great chance to take these courses. I am especially excited to have the opportunity to join the peer court. I feel like this will be a great opportunity to explore more things I haven't seen before. I look forward to taking this class to have more opportunities and options in the future. I also want to learn more about my tribe and how it is governed by the legal system. Thank you for taking the time to read my response, I appreciate the opportunity to take this class.



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.





Tribal Youth Court Update

As mentioned in our last Newsletter we are having tremendous success with our Tribal Youth Court Project in partnership with the Intertribal Court of Southern California (ICSC), where we continue to develop and offer training for the youth peer court jury through restorative justice concepts.

To summarize our project, our collaboration with the ICSC on the development of a Tribal Youth Peer Court, as a diversion-based court, will serve our San Diego County Tribes and Native youth. We plan to hold a small mock hearing as a test run for the youth court in November. Finally, in December, as part of our youth court peer decision maker training, we will host a Tribal Youth Court Moot Court for our final exam, where the students will face off to argue their side of the Indian law court case that will be the subject of the moot court. In the past our students have showed a command of these cases and we are always amazed and proud of how well they all grasp these complex concepts. Perhaps it's because these cases are about their communities...



AIR Programs Fall Honors Courses Now Enrolling Accepting applications for Second Course

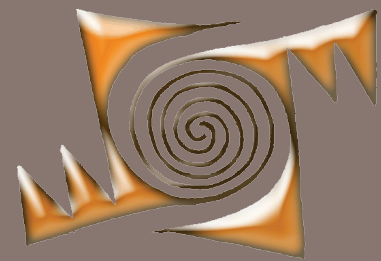
We are now accepting applications for our second course in our restorative justice trainings. Within this course, you will be introduced to concepts of Tribal Restorative Justice, Tribal Courts, and Federal Indian Law.

Introduction to the Tribal Legal Studies - 3 Semester Units
Starting: Oct. 5th, 2022, - Ending: Dec. 10th, 2022

For more information visit our website at:
www.airprograms.org



AIR Programs AIYEC Project is under a grant from the
Administration for Native Americans
We thank them for their belief in our Native Youth and our Project.



AIR PROGRAMS

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