



PRESS ADVISORY FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

Institute of American Indian Arts
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IAIA's CLE TO HONOR TRIBAL LEADERS & NEW MEXICO LEGISLATORS

What: Reception to Honor Tribal Leaders & New Mexico Legislators

When: Wednesday January 31, 2007, 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Where: IAIA Museum, 108 Cathedral Place, Santa Fe

(January 30, 2007) The Achein Center for Lifelong Education, Research and Cultural Exchange (CLE) joins with the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) Museum and the Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) of New Mexico in hosting a special reception to honor 2007's New Mexico Tribal Leaders, Legislators and supporting agencies. The event was piloted by the CLE during the 2006 legislative session to fulfill an initiative aimed at facilitating communication and stronger relationships between the State, tribal colleges and Tribes. When it comes to issues impacting New Mexico's Native People and tribal communities, this reception is one of the most influential events the 2007 legislative session.

John Gonzales, Executive Director of the Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Corp., will join New Mexico State Representative Ray Begaye and President Ferlin Clark of Dinè College in the evening's keynote addresses. To honor New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson's declaration of 2007 as the "Year of Water", the CLE will also salute the Declaration of Seed Sovereignty, a document developed to unite diverse stakeholders in combating genetic modification and the corruption of sustainable agricultural practices throughout the globe.

The CLE plans on making the Legislative Reception an annual event on the legislative calendar. CLE proudly partners with the following entities: Crownpoint Institute of Technology, Dinè College, Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, American Indian Graduate Center and the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center.

For more information, please contact Pamela Mahooty, CLE Office Manager, at 505.424.2387 or at pmahooty@iaia.edu.

Achein Center for Lifelong Education, Research & Cultural Exchange (CLE) is sponsored by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation

The Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Cultural and Arts Development (IAIA) is a multi-tribal center of higher education dedicated to the preservations, study, creative application and contemporary expression of American Indian and Alaska Native arts and cultures. Established by Congress in 1986, the Institute is comprised of the Center for Arts and Cultural Studies (CACs), the IAIA Museum and the Achein Center for Lifelong Education, Research & Cultural Exchange (CLE). As a federally chartered tribal college, IAIA enrolls Native American students regionally and nationally from reservation and urban communities, including graduates and transfer students from two-year tribal colleges.