



## News Release

May 17, 2007

**Institute of American Indian Arts  
83 Avan Nu Po Road, Santa Fe, NM 87508**

### **Dr. Robert Martin Selected as President of IAIA**

**Santa Fe, New Mexico**---Institute of American Indian Arts Board Chair Loren Kieve (Cherokee Nation) announces the selection of Dr. Robert G. Martin as IAIA's President. Dr. Martin will begin his tenure as President of the Institute of American Indian Arts on July 1, 2007.

"We are delighted to have Dr. Martin a preeminent leader in education, serve as our next President. We are confident he has the vision to lead us in making IAIA the premier institution of higher learning in Native American art and cultural studies in the United States. Dr. Martin's vast experience in academia will be a strong asset to our institution," said Kieve.

Dr. Martin (Cherokee Nation) has extensive experience in higher education as a faculty member and administrator. He served as President of Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institution in Albuquerque from 1981-1989. He was President at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas from 1989 -1999. He also served as President of Tohono O'odham Community College from 2001-2005. He is a member of the faculty and Associate Head of the American Indian Studies Programs at the University of Arizona.

"I am honored and excited to be selected as the President of the Institute of American Indian Arts. I look forward to working with the IAIA Board of Trustees, faculty, staff and students in continuing to build upon its rich history and tradition of excellence in art and cultural education for American Indians and Alaskan Natives." Dr. Martin said.

"Dr. Martin is highly regarded among educators as a person of great skill and vision. He's well respected and knowledgeable, and is a strategic thinker and problem solver. We will put his talents to work as he guides us in shaping the future of IAIA, and warmly welcome him into the IAIA family," Kieve said.

Dr. Martin is married to Luci Taphonso (Diné), a professor of American Indian Studies and English at the University of Arizona.

**For interviews contact:**

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**Attached image: Dr. Robert Martin and Ms. Luci Taphonso**

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The Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development (IAIA) is a multi-tribal center of higher education dedicated to the preservation, study, creative application and contemporary expression of American Indian and Alaska Native arts and cultures. Located at 83 Avan Nu Po Road on a modern, 140-acre campus approximately ten miles south of downtown Santa Fe, IAIA serves its full-time and part-time students through programs in contemporary and traditional fine arts, creative writing, Indigenous liberal studies, and new media. Established in 1962 by Congress, IAIA includes the Center for Arts and Cultural Studies (CACS), IAIA Museum, and the Achein Center for Lifelong Education, Research & Cultural Exchange (CLE).. As a nationally accredited, degree granting college, IAIA awards both four-year Bachelors degrees and two-year Associates degrees. For additional information visit [www.iaia.edu](http://www.iaia.edu) or call the Campus Information Line at 505-424-2300.