

**News Release**

*For Immediate Distribution*  
February 26, 2010

**Contact:**

Hayes Lewis, 505.424.5701  
hlewis@iaia.edu

# CENTER FOR LIFELONG EDUCATION

A center of the INSTITUTE of AMERICAN INDIAN ARTS

## **IAIA's Center for Lifelong Education Presents Fourth Annual Suicide Prevention Workshop**

The Institute of American Indian Arts' Center for Lifelong Education is hosting the fourth annual Suicide Prevention Conference and Tribal Training March 16 and 17, 2010 on the IAIA campus located at 83 Avan Nu Po Road in Santa Fe. A conference fee of \$50.00 includes breakfast and lunch each day. Continuing education credits are available, as well.

The workshop is designed to assist Native American tribes in learning about suicide and how to use community strengths and resources for prevention at a community-wide level. The conference is open to tribal leaders, community based practitioners, veterans, mental health, behavioral health and education practitioners. The general public is also welcome to attend. Participants will learn about school/community collaborations, evidence based models, community mobilization, support for challenges specific to veterans and youth and more.

Alex Pattakos, Ph.D. and Rick Thomas, M.A. (Santee Sioux) are the conference's key note speakers. Pattakos is the founder of the Center for Meaning in Santa Fe and author of the international best seller *Prisoners of Our Thoughts*. Dr. Pattakos will share how world renowned psychiatrist Viktor Frankl's philosophy and approach can help participants/readers find meaning in every moment of their lives. Thomas is a Vietnam combat veteran, spiritual leader and co-founder of the "Red Road to Recovery." His work has spanned the spectrum of health and healing and includes cultural training for youth, elders, nursing associations, veterans, universities, prisons and Native American health care providers.

For more information, or to register, contact Hayes A. Lewis, Director, Center for Lifelong Education at 505.424.5701 or [hlewis@iaia.edu](mailto:hlewis@iaia.edu) or Karen Fragua, Office Manager, at 505.424.2387 or [kfragua@iaia.edu](mailto:kfragua@iaia.edu). For a full conference agenda, please visit: [www.iaia.edu/event\\_489.php](http://www.iaia.edu/event_489.php).

###

---

**About IAIA**

IAIA's mission is to empower creativity and leadership in Native arts and cultures through higher education, lifelong learning and outreach.

Offering degrees in studio arts, creative writing, new media arts, Indigenous liberal studies, and museum studies, IAIA is the only college in New Mexico with National Association of Schools of Art and Design accreditation. IAIA is also accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges.