

News Release

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**Expanding the Circle Summer Enrichment Program
at IAIA to Foster Student Success**
Applications Accepted Until May 22, 2009

Santa Fe, NM – The Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) is pleased to announce it is currently accepting applications for the 2009 Expanding the Circle Summer Enrichment Program. The Summer Enrichment Program is a three-week residential session (June 14 – July 5, 2009) for Native American students of the 22 Pueblos and tribes of New Mexico. It incorporates both academic preparation for college and personal development instruction for high school sophomores and juniors. By participating in college courses with culturally relevant curriculum, students will have the opportunity to experience college in an environment that values their culture and promotes their success in life. In addition, participants who complete the program will earn three college credits from IAIA.

To be considered one must currently be a sophomore or junior in high school, have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher, be a Native American from one of New Mexico's 22 Tribes/Pueblos, and commit to attending all three weeks of the program in Santa Fe, NM. Applications must be postmarked or hand-delivered by May 22, 2009. Interested students can also apply through the Expanding the Circle website at www.iaiaetc.org.

Liz Bahe, IAIA's Expanding the Circle Director hopes that families will encourage their students to apply. "This program offers a unique opportunity for American Indian students from New Mexico's tribal communities to build and expand their academic and social skills for future entrance into a higher education environment."

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Those interested in applying should contact Alissa Chavez at 505.424.2341 or email achavez@iaia.edu. For more information about the Expanding the Circle please visit www.iaiaetc.org. For more information about the Institute of American Indian Arts, please visit www.iaia.edu

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IAIA's Mission:

To empower creativity and leadership in Native arts and cultures through higher education,
lifelong learning and outreach