



AIR Newsletter

Volume I Issue 4: AIR/ANA 08-09

10-31-08



SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Special points of interest:

- AIR Jr. to starts
- Election day
- Renee's Corner
- Workshops



Inside this issue:

Elections Special...	1
AIR Workshops	1
AIR Jr. Begins	2
Renee's Corner	2
Picts	2



VIEJAS BAND OF KUMEYAAY INDIANS

PALOMAR COLLEGE Learning for Success

Elections Special

When we watch our televisions, hear our radios, and see those signs-there is so much on this upcoming election. As a non-profit we cannot comment on the current propositions or candidates but why is it, that our elections are so important?

Looking back on our past, the American Indian has a lot to gain or lose based on those who are elected to office. All we have to do is look at President Andrew Jackson who acted and set in motion the removal of the majority of American Indians from the Eastern United States to west of the Mississippi (this was called the "Trail of Tears"). Or U.S. Senator Henry L. Dawes of Massachusetts who developed "the Dawes Act" which was put into action on February 8, 1887 which effectively ceded millions of acres of American Indian territory to the public and land speculators and finally destroying some Indian reservations permanently. Today, there is no secret that the Supreme Court acts against our American Indian rights that were gained under previous courts of the 1960's and early 1970's. Supreme Court appointees are appointed by our elected Presidents. So why is it important to vote? We must only look to our past and reflect on what could have been had there not been a policy that actively stood against the American Indian. Now we must look to our future and vote for those who may secure a greater future for our entire community. Please get out and vote.



AIR Workshops by Renee White Eyes, M.A.

So far, AIR Sr. has had two workshops. One on degrees and the other on financial aid. I believe that these workshops are essential to all students. Going on to higher education is hard enough without the extra burden of figuring out how to navigate the FAFSA and which degree can do what or what the difference is between a BA or BS. It can be so confusing that a lot of students just don't want to think about it. I remember trying to navigate the whole system myself, and I still did not understand it all, until I had to give a presentation on it. This is why we are trying to give our Native youth a head start in the game. Having a good understanding of these two subjects will put less of a strain on our students and will have them prepared for the road ahead. We hope you got a lot out of these workshops and are here to answer your questions should you have any.





AMERICAN INDIAN RECRUITMENT PROGRAMS

PO Box 880471
San Diego CA, 92168
info@airprograms.org

"Our mission is the promotion and success of American Indians within education."

www.airprograms.org

Renee's Corner

by Renee White Eyes

Over this last weekend, AIR made a trip to Seattle, Washington for the National Indian Education Association Conference. What an experience! Not only was the surroundings absolutely beautiful, but AIR put on a great presentation to the Native educators at NIEA. We feel that the AIR Program ideals and how we have developed our programs are a viable solution for many programs out there that maybe searching for ideas. We feel our partnerships and semester long approach is gaining greater support and that this model maybe what is looked towards as a model program.

We would like to send out a special thank you to Dr. Michelle Jacob at USD and Tishmall Turner at CSUSM for presenting with us. It just goes to show that we need all of our partners in order to be a success!



AIR Jr. Begins

We started the AIR Jr. program on Oct. 28, for only the second time in our 15 year history. Last Spring was the first time we invested into the program and had great success. This year, we were not sure our funding would allow the continued development of such a program, but we were funded on Oct 1, 2008. Thus we are starting slow on this project but will continue to grow as we feel that it is important to include this age group because statistically this is the age in which students mostly make decisions about higher education. We want to continue the ideals that higher education has for our students and therefore feel that this is an excellent program to continue. More reports to come on a great program.

For more information go to our website at www.airprograms.org
Email us at: info@airprograms.org



Sycuan is a great sponsor of the AIR Programs



Barona is a great sponsor of the AIR Programs