

DENVER AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION

RESOURCE GUIDE



The Denver American Indian Commission was formed in 2007 to improve communications between the Native community and the City and County of Denver. Nearly a decade and some 40 commissioners later, the DAIC continues to serve as an example of proactive civic engagement, where urban Indian concerns such as economic impact, social and cultural awareness and political equality are brought to the attention of city leadership through members of the Native community appointed by the Mayor.

The DAIC promotes community excellence and models civic responsibility through monthly meetings and annual gatherings. The commission also serves as a resource for the Native community, creating partnerships and promoting positive awareness in the non-Native community.

For example, the DAIC worked with Denver City Council to proclaim Oct. 12, 2015, as Indigenous Peoples' Day in the Mile High City. Though this recognition was for one day only, commission members resolved to establish a permanent day of observance.

You thrive. I thrive. We thrive.

The DAIC pooled resources with the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs and Rocky Mountain Indian Chamber of Commerce to conduct the first of its kind Colorado American Indian and Alaska Native Economic Impact Report in 2015. The study determined that Native

individuals, businesses and tribes added more than \$1.5 billion annually to the Colorado economy.

Since 2011, the DAIC has partnered with the International Institute for Indigenous Resource Management and the Denver Museum of Nature & Science to present Indigenous themed, mostly independent documentaries, followed by facilitated discussion with commissioners and non-Native audience members. The Indigenous Film Series has showcased Native topics and Native peoples' firsthand experiences to increase the visibility and awareness of American Indians in the Denver area.

In 2010, the DAIC launched a special alliance with the Stronghold Society Inc., a local nonprofit devoted to staging the annual One Gathering Skate for Life event at downtown's Denver Skate Park. The event has become the largest skateboarding competition for American Indian youth in the country.

Native American businesses and tribes add more than \$1.5 billion to the Colorado economy every year.

In addition to organizing such annual events as Pathways to Respecting American Indian Civil Rights, where Native people whose civil rights may have been violated can safely discuss potential legal and regulatory issues with federal and state civil rights enforcement staff and advocates, the commission creates this guide, which celebrates and promotes everything from health and family services to culture, education, legal, federal and tribal resources.

Please share this resource.

Darius Lee Smith (Navajo/Black) is the liaison to the DAIC Commission and the Director of the Denver Anti-Discrimination Office. He may be reached at 720.913.8459 or Darius.Smith@denvergov.org.

AMERICAN INDIAN ORGANIZATIONS THROUGHOUT DENVER AND THE FRONT RANGE

COMMUNITY BUILDERS

Provide Denver urban Natives with health services, professional development and family services.

Denver Indian Center
www.denverindiancenter.org

The mission of the DIC, established as a nonprofit in 1983 to provide a common venue for Denver's Native community in the West Denver neighborhood of Westwood on Morrison Road, is to empower Native youth, families and community through self-determination, cultural identity and education. Programs include Native Workforce, Food Assistance, Family Support Services and Elders Programs. In 2016, the DIC launched the Honoring Fatherhood Program to provide culturally responsive parenting, relationship and workforce stability support services to low income American Indian/Alaska Native fathers in the Denver metro area.

Denver Indian Family Resource Center
www.difrc.org

DIFRC, located at West Jewell and South Wadsworth in Lakewood, is committed to strengthening vulnerable American Indian children and families through collaborative and culturally responsive services. Established in 2000, DIFRC holds facilitated year-round classes in Family Preservation, Family Reunification, Indian Child Welfare Advocacy and Behavioral Health. The center maintains a proactive staff of 10 and several dedicated volunteers who assist with parenting, life skills, healthy cooking and community gardening classes.

Denver Indian Health & Family Services
www.dihfs.info

DIHFS is Denver's urban Indian health program, providing culturally appropriate healthcare services for American Indian families and individuals. Partially funded by Indian Health Services (IHS), DIHFS is one of 34 members of the National Council of Urban Indian Health. While not a full-service IHS hospital, DIHFS provides primary health care services and behavioral services including some dental

procedures at reduced or no cost, depending on a client's financial situation. DIHFS also provides enrollment services for Colorado Medicaid and assistance with the State Health Exchange. Located near Denver's City Park, a block from historic East High School, DIHFS has been providing a vehicle for a healthy Native community since 1978.



RADIO SHOWS

Champion Native music and promote local/regional/national Native news and events.

Indian Voices Radio Show & Newsletter
www.kgnu.org/indianvoices

Since 1983, Theresa Halsey (Hunkpapa Lakota) has tirelessly volunteered her time as host and producer of the award-winning weekly Indian Voices show featuring American Indian issues, news, interviews and music on KGNU Community Radio. Indian Voices can be heard live on Sundays from 3:00-4:00 p.m. at 88.5 FM, 1390 AM and KGNU online. Past Indian Voices programs are archived online at KGNU.

InDigitNess Voice Radio Show
www.indigitnessvoice.org

Hosted by broadcast journalist Richard Two Elk (Oglala Lakota), son Alix and daughter Kodid, InDigitNess Voice airs every Sunday morning from 7:00-8:00 a.m. on KUVU 89.3 FM Denver.

The show takes pride in connecting listeners to positive perceptions of Native America and engages in affirmative conversations on music, news and other important issues. InDigitNess Voice debuted on radio and via live streaming on July 6, 2014, following the sudden passing of Susanne Aikman, the longtime host and producer of alterNative Voice, which aired for over 22 years.

American Indian Reporter
www.kzkoradio.com

AIR Digital Radio Show spotlights local and national guests who discuss current issues and past events/issues in business, youth, education, politics, entertainment and more from a Native/Indigenous perspective. AIR is recorded live in the KZKO RADIO/The Vibe Studio and hosted by Cheryl Lucero and Jared Rains/The Rainman every Wednesday from 6:00-8:00 p.m. AIR's Facebook page is The American Indian Reporter – AIR Radio Show and Twitter account is @IndianReporter.





NONPROFITS & GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

American Indian College Fund

www.collegefund.org

The college fund transforms Indian higher education by funding and creating awareness of the 34 unique, community-based accredited tribal colleges and universities on or near Indian reservations, offering scholarships and student access to knowledge, skills and cultural values that enhance their communities and the country as a whole. Established in 1989 in New York City, the fund moved to Denver in 1995.

Centers for American Indian & Alaska Native Health & Center for Native Oral Health Research

www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/PublicHealth/research/centers/CAIANH/Pages/CAIANH.aspx

The CAIANH promotes the health and well-being of American Indians and Alaska Natives by pursuing research, training, continuing education, technical assistance and information dissemination that recognizes the unique cultural contexts of this population. The CNOHR conducts research to develop culturally acceptable and effective strategies to prevent infectious oral diseases in American Indian and Alaska Native populations. Housed within the Anschutz Medical Campus, the organization also publishes a research journal.

Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs

www.colorado.gov/ccia

The CCIA serves as the official liaison between the Southern Ute Indian and Ute Mountain

Ute Tribes and the State of Colorado, under the Office of the Lieutenant Governor. Made up of 26 members from local, state, and federal agencies and organizations, the commission is committed to working on a government-to-government basis with the tribal governments and to maintaining communication with the state's historic tribes and urban Indian communities. CCIA proactively facilitates communication between state agencies and affiliated groups, the tribes and other American Indian organizations to positively impact Colorado's American Indian communities. The CCIA is served by Executive Director Ernest House Jr., meeting quarterly around the state.

Colorado Two Spirits

Colorado Two Spirits is a social collective of LGBTQ Native Americans who reside in and around Colorado. We aim to restore traditional Two Spirit roles within our respective tribal communities through community support, education and advocacy. For more information: SafiaCastro@gmail.com

Colorado Indian Education Foundation

www.coief.org

The Colorado Indian Education Foundation is a Denver 501c3 that provides scholarships to Native American students who attend state institutions of higher education. CIEF is the administrative distributor of funds raised by the sale of the American Indian Scholars license plate, made possible by state law and a renewed partnership with the Rocky Mountain Chamber of Commerce, along with other donations. To date, this cooperative

has delivered over \$100,000 in scholarships. To learn more, please visit www.coief.org and follow the foundation on Facebook. For a minimum \$25 donation, you can purchase the American Indian Scholars certificate for a license plate on the RMICC website.

Denver American Indian Commission

www.denvergov.org/NativeAmerican

The DAIC mission is to enhance communications between the Denver American Indian community and the City and County of Denver, to advocate for social and cultural awareness, and to promote economic and political equality. The DAIC strives to create a positive, visible Native presence by promoting indigenous perspectives. Formed in 2007, the DAIC is the proud co-host of a monthly Indigenous film series at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science and the annual One Gathering Skate for Life event and Pathways to Respecting American Indian Civil Rights conference.

Denver March Powwow Inc.

www.denvermarchpowwow.org

Since 1974, the Denver March Powwow committee has been staging one of the nation's largest indoor powwows. The annual three-day gathering is held in the Denver Coliseum and includes singing, dancing, storytelling, food, art and more. The powwow draws more than 1,600 dancers from 100 tribes in 38 states and Canada. Beginning as a grassroots event, the award-winning powwow has established an international reputation with exhibits in the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian's National Museum of the

American Indian. The powwow conveys the message that the American Indian culture is alive and thriving in America today.

First Nations Development Institute **www.firstnations.org**

Founded in 1980, FNDI began its national grantmaking program in 1993. Since then it has provided over \$20 million in grants to over 1,000 Native programs and projects in 38 states. FNDI's mission is to strengthen American Indian economies to support healthy Native communities: Building Assets, Building Futures. FNDI believes that when armed with the appropriate resources, Native Peoples hold the capacity and ingenuity to ensure the sustainable, economic, spiritual and cultural wellbeing of their communities. Headquartered in Longmont, Colorado, FNDI celebrated its 35th Anniversary in 2015.



The Four Winds **American Indian Council** **www.facebook.com/Four-Winds-** **American-Indian-Council-** **1566481996902838**

Four Winds, at 201 W. 5th Ave. in Denver, is a meeting place for Native people that offers a Native "Talking Circle" sobriety circle, Indigenous permaculture workshops, arts/craft groups and a Zumba class.

Indigenous Collaboration Inc. **www.facebook.com/indcollab**

Indigenous Collaboration is a 100% Native-owned consulting and business services corporation providing event facilitation, organizational tools, and technologies that support engagement and collaboration within Tribal governments, Native nonprofits, communities and enterprises that contribute to the well-being of Indigenous peoples.

International Institute for **Indigenous Resource Management** **www.iiirm.org**

The law and policy research institute, established in Denver in 1997, offers a cadre of internationally based legal scholars and researchers who work on cutting-edge projects designed to empower native peoples by examining the role the law can play in establishing and enhancing indigenous peoples' control over and management of their lands and resources. Since 2004, the institute has presented an annual Indigenous Film & Arts Festival that features film by and about indigenous peoples. Since 2012, the IIIRM has partnered with the DAIC to present a monthly Indigenous Film Series that offers film and facilitated discussion about indigenous issues from an indigenous perspective.

National Native American **AIDS Prevention Center** **www.nnaapc.org**

The NNAAPC, based in Denver, is the national leader in addressing HIV/AIDS issues in Native communities. Founded in 1987 by American Indian and Alaska Native activists, social workers and public health professionals, the NNAAPC seeks to address these issues through public health, community advocacy and mobilization, training and technical assistance, and communications/media. The NNAAPC assists organizations that serve Native communities to plan, develop and manage HIV/AIDS prevention, intervention and care/treatment programs.

National Native American **Boarding School Healing Coalition** **www.boardingschoolhealing.org**

Incorporated in June 2012 under the laws of the Navajo Nation, the mission of NABS is to

work to ensure a meaningful and appropriate response from responsible agencies for those Native American individuals, families, and communities victimized by the United States' federal policy of forced boarding school attendance and to secure redress from responsible institutions in order to support lasting and true community-directed healing. NABS was an initiative of the Native American Rights Fund, located in Boulder. NABS hired its first staff in December 2015.

Native American Bank NA **www.nabna.com**

A certified Community Development Financial Institution headquartered in downtown Denver, the NAB is owned by 33 investors, including seven Alaska Native corporations, 18 American Indian Tribes and five Native American owned enterprises. Its primary mission is to assist American Indians and Alaskan Native individuals, enterprises and governments to reach their goals by providing affordable and flexible banking and financial services. NAB concentrates on pooling Indian economic resources to increase Indian economic independence by fostering a climate of self-determination in investment, job creation and sustainable economic growth. As the only Native American owned nationwide financial institution, the future holds great promise for this organization as it continues its mission to serve Native America.

Native American Cancer **Research Corporation** **www.natamcancer.org**

Based in Denver, the NACR is an American Indian operated community-based 501c3 nonprofit whose mission is to reduce cancer incidence and increase survival among Native Americans. NACR's priority is to implement cancer research projects involving prevention, health screening, education, training, control, treatment options and support.

Native American Fish **and Wildlife Society** **www.nafws.org**

Headquartered in the Longmont/Broomfield area, NAFWS is a nonprofit and a national tribal organization established informally in the early 1980s. NAFWS was incorporated in 1983 to develop a national communications network for the exchange of information and management techniques related to self-determined tribal fish and wildlife management. For up-to-date information on events and program applications, please follow NAFWS on Facebook.

Native Women's House of the Rockies

www.nativewomenshouse.org

This Denver-based startup nonprofit is dedicated to providing safe transitional housing that supports and maintains cultural identity, self-esteem, and independence for Native women and their dependents. NWHR is not yet fully operational and in the process of securing funding. To learn more, please contact info@nativewomenshouse.org.

Our Native Healing Center

[www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/OurNativeHealingCenter?ref=stream)

[OurNativeHealingCenter?ref=stream](https://www.facebook.com/OurNativeHealingCenter?ref=stream)

Founded in 2011, ONHC serves the American Indian community of Denver by providing competent and ethical therapists who are able to intervene in the trauma cycle to help people become who they are meant to be. Culturally sensitive services are provided to heal and strengthen Native individuals and families, thus transcending the historical trauma imposed on Native people via colonization. Through traditional models of health and wellness, ONHC integrates mind, body and spirit using holistic, indigenous and western healing methods. Services offered include psychological counseling, massage therapy, substance abuse counseling, herbal knowledge and referral to traditional healers. ONHC is native owned/operated and is located in the Denver Highlands.

Red Wind Consulting Inc.

www.red-wind.net

Red Wind Consulting is a Colorado Springs-based nonprofit dedicated to strengthening tribal programs and Native organizations' ability to develop/enhance local responses to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. A nationally recognized training, technical assistance and evaluation organization, Red Wind has an all Native board of directors with more than 70 years experience working to end violence against Indigenous women. Red Wind provides advocacy for Native victims of domestic violence and sexual assault through its Haseya Advocacy Program and offers Tribal Advocate training through its National Tribal Advocate Center.

Rocky Mountain Indian Chamber of Commerce

www.rmicc.org

Founded in Denver in 1989, RMICC works with American Indian businesses, professionals, students, tribes and non-Native partners to promote commerce that benefits American Indian communities. Assistance is provided



via training and community development programs, such as tax workshops, business legislation workshops, elders progressive, entrepreneurial programs and more. RMICC also provides platforms such as the Indian Biz Expo, Natives Go Global, American Indian Golf Fundraiser, American Indian Achievement Awards, and other networking events and programs to allow American Indian professionals to highlight their businesses and network with key industry leaders.

NONPROFITS & GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

White Bison Inc.

www.whitebison.org

Located in Colorado Springs, White Bison is a nationally recognized American Indian nonprofit that has been offering sobriety, recovery, addiction prevention and wellness learning resources since 1988. The "Wellbriety" movement is dedicated to providing culturally based healing to Indigenous people. The word Wellbriety means to be sober and well and promotes the ideas that participants must find sobriety from alcohol and other drugs and recover from their harmful effects on individuals, families and whole communities.

Society of American Indian Government Employee

www.saige.org

Incorporated in 2002, SAIGE is a national nonprofit with roots in Denver since 2000. SAIGE's mission is to promote the recruitment, retention, development, and advancement

of American Indian and Alaska Native government employees and work to ensure their equal treatment under the law; to educate federal agencies in the history and obligations of Federal Indian Trust Responsibility and to assist them in its implementation; to assist government agencies in the development and delivery of initiatives and programs that honor the unique federal-tribal relationship; and to provide a national forum for issues and topics affecting American Indian and Alaska Native government employees.

University of Colorado Centers for Excellence in the Elimination of Disparities

www.ucdenver.edu/academics

As part of the Centers for American Indian and Alaska Native Health at the Colorado School of Public Health, the CEED addresses the contributions of discrimination and related stress to the increased risk of cardiovascular disease and discontinuities in care for urban American Indians and Alaska Natives through three interrelated projects: a community-based study to better understand AI/ANS' experiences with discrimination and implications for chronic stress and cardiovascular disease; a clinic-based study to improve communication and engagement with medical care among AI/ANS; and a clinic- and community-based study to develop an interactive voice response system to better communicate with AI/AN patients by phone and text to help them obtain and engage with medical care. The emerging collaborations from this work promise to build and broaden a research enterprise of growing importance to this and other underserved populations.

YOUTH & PERFORMERS

American Indian Youth Leadership Institute

www.bvsd.org/americanindianeducation

Since 2004, AIYLI has successfully partnered with Boulder Valley School District to unite, instill pride, and support communication between American Indian students and the broader community. AIYLI provides youth the opportunity to learn about contemporary and historical issues, to develop leadership skills and be inspired to reach their full potential. Since 2007, the University of Colorado Boulder has hosted the AIYLI conference, typically in April. Follow AIYLI on Facebook for event information and photos.

Café Cultura

www.cafecultura.org

Café Cultura is an award-winning arts, culture, and youth development organization that promotes unity and healing among Indigenous peoples through creative expression while empowering youth to find their voices, reclaim oral and written traditions, and become community leaders. Café Cultura hosts one of the best open mic venues in the area, the only space focused on family and youth. Café Cultura conducts culturally relevant spoken word/poetry workshops for underserved youth throughout Colorado and partners with organizations and schools to teach spoken word classes, publish youth poetry and organize participant showcases. The group also coordinates a summer youth leadership program for Indigenous youth.



The Denver Singers

F5SHERWOOD@hotmail.com

The Denver Singers is a collective Intertribal group of traditional Native powwow singers/drummers known for their superior powwow singing. Formed over thirty years ago, this all-male group, representing tribes throughout the U.S., sings both Southern and Northern style powwow songs and features dancers from various dance styles for both men and women. Contact Francis at F5SHERWOOD@hotmail.com for booking information.

Medicine Heart Dancers

www.themedicineheartdancers.org

MHD is a Native nonprofit created to carry on the cultural traditions of Indigenous Nations

and keep them alive for future generations. MHD, whose motto is To Dance Is to Pray, To Pray Is to Live, organizes performances by youth, complete with dancers and drummers. Demonstrations include interactive dance/drumming explanations that encourage questions. MHD holds weekly classes and awards the annual Lance Allrunner Memorial Scholarship to a deserving Native student.

Tocabe: An American Indian Eatery

www.tocabe.com

Tocabe is the only American Indian owned and operated restaurant specializing in American Indian cuisine in the Denver area. Since 2008, with the original location in North Denver and a second in Greenwood Village as of March



CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

2015, Tocabe serves delicious Native inspired foods such as Indian tacos, bison and wojapi (berry sauce). Tocabe has been featured on the Food Network's "Diners, Drive-ins and Dives." No reservations are needed because of Tocabe's fast-casual dining style.

Mile High UNITY

www.facebook.com/Mile-High-UNITY

Since 2014, this officially recognized chapter of United National Indian Tribal Youth is a youth-led organization that serves American Indian/Alaska Native youth ages 14-24 in the Denver area. Mile High UNITY has over 50 youth representing 25 tribal nations. The organization's goal is to build leadership skills and promote volunteerism in the community.

Red Feather Woman

www.redfeatherwoman.com

Red Feather Woman, "Rose Red Elk" (Assiniboine/Lakota), is a traditional storyteller/singer songwriter/author, award winning recording artist available for special events, assemblies and presentations. For more info: info@redfeatherwoman.com.

Seven Falls Indian Dancers LLC

www.sevenfallsindiandancers.com

Seven Falls Indian Dancers is a family dance troupe representing four generations of American Indian dancers from the Pawnee, Flandreau Santee Sioux tribes. Both educational and entertaining, their program presents social and exhibition dances from several different tribes. This troupe has been dancing throughout Colorado since 1985. They have danced every summer at Seven Falls in Colorado Springs from Memorial Day through Labor Day for 29 years. Currently they are performing at the Garden of the Gods Visitor Center by appointment. For more info: carrie@sevenfallsindiandancers.com.

Stronghold Society Inc.

www.strongholdsociety.org

The Stronghold Society is best known for staging the annual One Gathering Skate for Life skateboarding competition in Denver as well as building world-class skate parks on the Pine Ridge reservation. The society's mission is to inspire confidence, creativity, hope and ambition in the youth of Native and non-native communities through empowerment, arts programs, skateboarding, and athletic activities while encouraging youth to take action to live a healthy life in mind, body and spirit. Stronghold Society promotes a constant message of Live Life Call to Action in response to Native youth suicides.

Denver American Indian Festival

www.denveramericanindianfestival.org

DAIF promotes acceptance & understanding of American Indian culture and heritage. A free family festival on Sept. 24-25, 2016, will offer music, dance, storytelling, arts, crafts and native foods at Good Shepherd United Methodist Church in Thornton. Started in 2013 by Native Americans and others in the Methodist Church to show the culture and help with the needs of Native Americans, 23 tribes have been represented, and 2,000 people of all nationalities attended. Lynne Holman, Cherokee, serves as festival director.

Colorado Indian Market

www.indianmarket.net

Held the third weekend of January, this annual Indian market hosts hundreds of award-winning Native and non-native artists from across the nation. The Colorado Indian Market usually

page Navajo in the City.

Native American Collections

www.nativepots.com

NAC is a unique, contemporary gallery showcasing the finest Pueblo pottery. Their potters use traditional techniques and materials, digging the clay, using the coiling methods, natural pigments and paints, and firing outside. NAC has traditional Zuni Fetishes as well as beautiful handmade Indian jewelry. Contact jillspots@aol.com for inquiries or to arrange for private showings.

Native American Trading Company

nativeamericantradingcompany.com

Located in a historic mission-revival townhome built in 1906, NATC is one block from Denver Civic Center. The gallery includes treasures such as mid-19th century Saltillo serapes and chiefs' blankets. Germantown



features popular American Indian entertainers, such as Brule', Bill Miller and Moses Brings Plenty. For more information, please contact indianmarket@sbcglobal.net.

Diné Bizaad Online Store

www.dinebizaadgc.com

Davina Harrison wants to live in a world where love letters are brave and every Yá'át'ééh (hello) and Ahxéeheé (thank you) greeting card includes a sincere scribble from the heart to the hand. With the goal of promoting and preserving the Diné language, Davina's upcoming online store will delight many with modern specialty cards written in Diné Bizaad. Harrison has also been applauded and spotlighted for her Facebook

colors of Navajo weavings brighten the walls. Authentic pottery from native pueblos of New Mexico and from the village of Mata Ortiz in Mexico fill windows, shelves and beautiful antique display cases. NATC offers a selection of authentic handmade American Indian art at prices that are very good values, as well as depicting important lessons in the history and culture of the American West. NATC is open Wednesday through Saturday (or by appointment).

Native Art Network

www.nativeart.net

Since 1998, NAN has strived to showcase the finest examples of Native American art

directly from the artists, while helping others learn about the arts, culture and history of North American indigenous peoples. NAN, which is 100% Native American owned and operated, features authentic traditional and contemporary Native American art of the highest quality. The network represents individual Native American artists and families from the United States and Canada.

Native Gorilla

www.native-gorilla.com/news

NG is a Denver-based graphic tee clothing line established in 2009 by Lakota artist/entrepreneur/activist and former professional snowboarder Lakota Sage, who believes his creations inspire peace, love, and spirit through arts, action sports, music and creative movements. NG was featured in the November 2015 edition of Native Max Magazine, highlighting NG's philosophy and commitment to being Native inspired, eco-friendly and locally produced. Follow and shop NG on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter.

One Earth Future Foundation

www.oneearthfuture.org

OEF, a private foundation based in Broomfield, leads initiatives to improve systems that prevent conflict. OEF has been working with Gov. John Hickenlooper, the Colorado Commission for Indian Affairs, the Northern Cheyenne, Northern Arapaho, and Southern Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes to build a memorial to victims of the Sand Creek Massacre on the Colorado Capitol grounds. The memorial will be built by Cheyenne/Arapaho artist Harvey Pratt of Oklahoma and is set to be completed by fall 2017. Visit remembersandcreek.org for news and events.

One Nation Walking Together

This allied group is committed to making a difference in the lives of Native American Indians living on reservations as well as providing programs for urban Indians. One Nation sponsors many programs and



CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

activities contributing to their mission of helping Native Americans, including collecting, sorting and shipping donations.

Tesoro Indian Market & Powwow

This annual celebration of American Indian art and culture is Colorado's largest authentic American Indian art show, featuring nationally acclaimed Indian artists who demonstrate and sell their

juried art throughout the weekend. Over 50 intertribal American Indian dancers and drum groups share their heritage through traditional dance and regalia. The market features interactive exhibits on American Indian culture, HawkQuest and more. Delicious cuisine from The Fort Restaurant and the Northern Colorado Intertribal Powwow Association will be available for purchase. This event from the Tesoro Foundation is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, May 14-15, 2016, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at The Fort Restaurant in Morrison.



EDUCATION PROGRAMS

American Indian, Native Hawaiian & Alaska Native Education (Title VII) cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/ov/tvii

Title VII is designed to ensure that American Indian, Native Hawaiian, and Alaska Native students meet challenging state academic content and student academic achievement standards, with their cultural, social-emotional and linguistic needs met. On Dec. 10, 2015, President Obama signed into law the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which aims to maintain the important civil rights components from No Child Left Behind while providing greater flexibility and discretion to states and school districts. ESSA amends the Indian education programs in the Office of Indian Education as Title VII, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The following Colorado school districts host Title VII programs: Aurora, Adams 12, Boulder, Colorado Springs, Cortez, Denver and Durango. For more information on the Title VII, Indian Education Formula Grant, which provides supplemental funding to regular school programs, please visit the Colorado Department of Education.



These university programs provide proactive American Indian/Alaska Native staff support to students, including assistance with academics, financial aid and personal development planning:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 <i>The University of Colorado Denver
American Indian Student Services</i>
www.ucdenver.edu</p> | <p>3 <i>University of Northern Colorado
Native American Student Services</i>
www.unco.edu</p> |
| <p>2 <i>Colorado State University Native
American Cultural Center</i>
www.nacc.colostate.edu</p> | <p>4 <i>Fort Lewis College Native
American Center</i>
www.fortlewis.edu/NAC</p> |



LEGAL RESOURCES

American Indian Law Clinic at CU www.colorado.edu/law/academics/clinics/american-indian-law-clinic

The American Indian Law Clinic, established at Colorado Law/University of Colorado-Boulder in 1992, one of the first of its kind, provides quality legal representation to low-income clients with Indian law related problems. Many in the Denver region have limited access to legal assistance, and that access is further restricted when the issue involves Indian law, leaving many with nowhere to turn when certain rights, some guaranteed by treaty, are denied. The clinic's student attorneys provide hundreds of hours of pro bono legal work, assist with direct legal assistance when possible and act as a referral source.

Colorado Indian Bar Association www.facebook.com/coloradoindianbar

The Colorado Indian Bar Association is a professional organization of American Indian lawyers, law students and practitioners of Indian Law.

Native American Rights Fund www.narf.org

Founded in 1970, the NARF is the oldest and largest nonprofit law firm dedicated to asserting and defending the rights of Indian tribes, organizations and individuals nationwide. NARF's main office is located in Boulder, with additional offices in Washington, DC, and Anchorage, AK.

Private firms that practice Native American law in the Denver area:

Arnold & Porter LLP
www.arnoldporter.com

Bruce R. Green & Associates LLC
www.greenlawyer.com

McElroy, Meyer, Walker & Condon P.C.
www.mmwclaw.com

Faegre Baker Daniels
www.faegrebd.com/Indian-Tribes

Fredericks Peebles & Morgan, LLC
www.ndnlaw.com

Greenberg Traurig LLP
www.gtlaw.com

Smith Shellenberger & Smith LLC
www.ssslawyers.com

Tilden McCoy + Dilweg LLP
www.tildencooy.com/attorneys/mark-c-tilden

FEDERAL AGENCIES

Several federal agencies focus on American Indian/Alaska Native issues, primarily the U.S. Department of Interior, Department of Justice, Office of Tribal Justice, Department of Health & Human Services and Department of Housing & Urban Development. Those with local offices working collaboratively with tribal community and Native organizations are listed here:

Tribal Energy Program in Golden **www.energy.gov/indianenergy/office-indian-energy-policy-and-programs**

Provides financial and technical assistance that enables tribes to evaluate and develop their renewable energy resources and reduce their energy consumption through efficiency and weatherization. The program, which is part of the National Renewal Energy Laboratory

under the U.S. Department of Energy, also offers education and training opportunities designed to foster clean energy technology adoption, promote green jobs and growth, and strengthen native communities.

Northern Plains Office of Native American Programs **www.portal.hud.gov**

The NPONAP administers housing and community development programs that benefit American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments, tribal members, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Native Hawaiians and other Native American organizations. Part of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the mission is to increase the supply of safe, decent,

and affordable housing available to Native American families; to strengthen communities by improving living conditions and creating economic opportunities for tribes and Indian housing residents; and to ensure fiscal integrity in the operation of the programs it administers.

Division of Energy and Mineral Development **www.bia.gov/WhoWeAre/AS-IA/IEED/DEMD**

Part of Indian Affairs in the U.S. Department of the Interior, the DEMD provides special services to the Indian energy and mineral owner that are unique within the Department of the Interior. The primary goal of the division, which is located in Lakewood, is to provide the best possible technical, engineering, and economic advice to Indian landowners seeking to manage and develop their energy and mineral resources.

TRIBES

Southern Ute Indian Tribe **www.southernute-nsn.gov**

Reservation extends into three Colorado counties (La Plata, Archuleta and Montezuma) and is located in the Southwestern portion of our state. Tribal headquarters are in Ignacio, and the tribe's current chairman is Clement Frost. Each spring and summer the tribal community celebrates the Ute Bear Dance (Memorial Day Weekend) and Southern Ute Fair Powwow (second weekend of September), which is open to the public. Visitors are encouraged to stay at the Sky Ute Casino and Resort, which features world-class gaming, lodging and entertainment.

Ute Mountain Ute Tribe **www.utemountainutetribes.com**

The Ute Mountain Ute Tribe's headquarters is in Towaoc, which is about 11 miles south of Cortez. The reservation forms the southwest boundaries of our state and also extends into both New Mexico and Utah. The tribe's chairman is Manuel Heart and vice chairwoman is Juanita Plentyholes. The tribe's Ute Bear Dance typically takes place during the third weekend of May; for 2016, it will happen during the fourth weekend. The tribe is nationally known for its pottery. It operates the Ute Mountain Casino, Hotel & Resort, the largest casino in the Four Corners region.



ANCESTRY

National Archives at Denver **www.archives.gov/denver**

Now located in Broomfield, this regional facility houses federal records received from nearly 80 federal agencies and courts that date from 1847 to the 1990s. The National Archives and Records Administration, Rocky Mountain Region, serves the geographic areas of Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming. Records are diverse in content, including those relating to homesteading, mining, Indian agencies, railroads, construction of dams, nuclear energy research, national parks and forests, naturalizations, the home front during World War II and the proceedings of territorial courts. Specifically, records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs related to conflicts, compromise over issues of land, property rights, education and tribal customs.

U.S. Department of Interior/Bureau of Indian Affairs **www.bia.gov/FOIA/Genealogy**

Does not conduct genealogical research or maintain a database but does provide a great guide to tracing your American Indian ancestry.

