



BVSD Title VII Indian Education Newsletter
November-December **Issue 1,**

Save the date!

November 16th, 2006
American Indian Technology Journey
 (Ed. Center, 6:30pm, See attached)

This newsletter has been brought to you by:
 Department of Institutional Equity & Multicultural Education

For additions, announcements, or comments, please feel free to contact Ryan Findley at:

(303) 447-5296
 Ryan.Findley@bvsd.org

Hello parents,

I wanted to take this opportunity to inform you about our upcoming **Public Hearing in January**. The goal of this meeting is to look at the Title VII Grant that the Boulder Valley School District receives and make important decisions about its use. It would be great to have as many people as possible attend so that we are able to make best use of the funds and maximize the benefits to the American Indian Community. With your input, we can effectively allocate and disperse the **\$20,000** (generally more) given by the U.S. Government, via the Title VII Grant. Furthermore, we are required to have parent participation and who better to decide how to use the funds in the future than you, who best understand your children? We would really love to have you at our meeting!

506 forms

This will probably not be the last time I mention these and the importance of their completion. If your child(ren) was missing his/her 506 form, you should have received a letter indicating such and a blank 506 form. If not, your child(ren) is on record.

Funding for this program is directly related to the number of complete 506 forms on file. Since we lost last year's seniors, our program will actually lose funding; unless we receive forms from the existing students who have not turned in forms. If we received forms from every American Indian student in the district, we could double our budget and improve programs and services vastly.

Please take a moment to send in your student's completed form. We do not check on numbers or relationships, we just need paperwork indicating your self-identification.

Many thanks! Happy upcoming Holidays!

Ryan Findley
 Community Liaison

Good Quality Reading...

The Equity Office just received the Annual Indian Books Catalog. With hundreds of titles, the catalog has something for every reader at every level. Whether looking for a story to take you away or a solid non-fiction, you can find it here. Best of all, the books are all by and for American Indians. Visit catalog online at: www.fourwindsINDIANbooks.com

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Front Range Community College is hosting Native American Awareness Month activities from November 1-15th, see page 3 for details

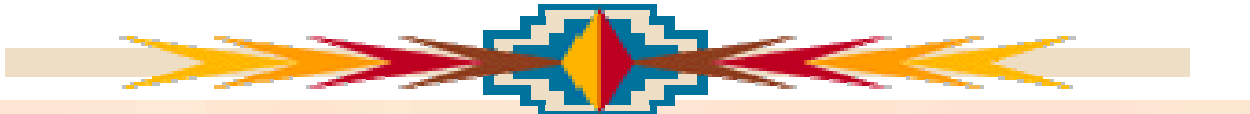
**Did you know?**

*Less than half of the American Indians students in the district have completed 506 forms.*

That means our tutoring program could **double** our budget next year if we collect those missing forms. Please send your student's form in today!

Contact Ryan Findley with questions  
 (303-447-5296)





## The more you know...

### The American Indian College Fund\*

In 1968, the Navajo Nation created a first-of-its-kind educational institution - a college controlled by the tribe, located on the reservation and established specifically to provide higher education to tribal members. With that monumental event, the Tribal College movement was born. Since then, the number of Tribal Colleges and universities has grown to 32, [located in 11 states](#) and serving more than 250 American Indian Nations from every geographic region in the United States. The organization is headquartered in Denver, Colorado.

#### The facts

- ✦ 25.7% of all American Indians and Alaska Natives living *below the poverty line*. In contrast, the national poverty rate was only 12.4%. (Census Bureau)
- ✦ 56% of Tribal College graduates go on to a four-year institution, a far greater number than the transfer rate of community colleges in general.
- ✦ Tribal Colleges allow students to take subjects like Biology and Astronomy in their native language
- ✦ 90% of Tribal College attendees finish their degree
- ✦ The average rate of transfer students from Tribal Colleges to four-year universities exceeds the national average of community college transfers
- ✦ 91% of Fund scholarship recipients are "non-traditional" students - they have dependents, are older than 24, work full-time - or a combination of these characteristics.
- ✦ Between 1997 and 2002 enrollment of American Indian students at Tribal Colleges grew by 32%, compared to 16 % enrollment growth in higher educational institutions overall.
- ✦ The American Indian College Fund is the largest provider of private scholarships in the United States.
- ✦ Tribal College students want to use their education to help others. 73% percent of graduates attend college to make a better life for their families; 64% percent want to use their education to help their people.
- ✦ 80% of Tribal College graduates take jobs that benefit their cultural communities
- ✦ American Indians share a long history of philanthropy. Whether generosity was demonstrated by holding a giveaway or a potlatch, a person's value was measured not by what they owned, but rather what they gave away.


Most Tribal Colleges operate on Indian reservations-providing access to higher education for those seeking an educational experience where cultural knowledge is as valued as rigorous academic standards. Tribal Colleges are fully accredited institutions with the same academic standards as all other colleges and universities.

Most of the Fund's scholarship recipients attend college while supporting a family at the same time.

The award-winning advertising agency [Wieden+Kennedy](#) has served as the creative force behind the American Indian College Fund's public education campaign for 15 years. The same agency that brought you Nike's "Just Do It" campaign has just launched the Fund's [latest campaign](#).



\*Adapted from [www.collegefund.org](http://www.collegefund.org)





## **Announcements**

### **Native American Family Technology Journey Night**

IBM is sponsoring a night for AI families to come together and receive technology training. The event will follow the AI Parent Committee meeting, at 6:30pm in the Education Center. For more details, email Ime Salazar at: [salazarp@us.ibm.com](mailto:salazarp@us.ibm.com). Come take advantage of this great opportunity.

### **Front Range Community College' Indigenous Voices & Visions (Native American Awareness Month)**

November 2nd—Indigenous People and the United Nations (12pm-1pm)

November 6th—Contemporary Native Music of Calvin Standing-Bear & the Chasing Hawks (11:30am)

November 7th—Native American Rights Fund (12pm-1pm)

November 8th—World War II Navajo Code-Talker— SGT. Allen Dale June (12pm)

November 13th—Star Knowledge of Native American (11:45am-1:15pm)

November 14th—Lakota Spirituality presented by Lee Plenty-Wolf (12pm-1pm)

November 15th—Contemporary Native Paintings of Bunky Echo-Hawk (12pm-1pm)

\*\*For more locations and more specifics, contact Student Organizer Darrick Silversmith at [dare\\_101@hotmail.com](mailto:dare_101@hotmail.com) or Student Activities Coordinator Steven McGaughey at 303-404-5081

*Wednesday, November 8, 2006*

### **11th Annual Flame of Hope Gala for the American Indian College Fund**

Native American art auction, cocktails, Native inspired cuisine and cultural performances. (Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers, in New York City, NY.)

Contact Bunky Echo-Hawk at (303) 426-8900 or [bhawk@collegefund.org](mailto:bhawk@collegefund.org) for more information.

*Thursday, November 9, 2006 (6:30-9:30 p.m)*

### **Rocky Mountain Indian Chamber of Commerce Annual Gala and American Indian Scholars Presentation.**

Tickets are \$55. Corporate tables are \$800.

(Four Points by Sheraton, Denver, CO. Southeast (6363 E. Hampden and 1-25)).

Look at <http://www.rmicc.org> or call Kim Cameron at the Rocky Mountain Chamber of Commerce at (303) 629-0102 for more information.

*Saturday, November 11, 2006 (7pm)*

### **Arvel Bird w/One Nation Band and Red Feather Woman**

A meet and greet reception to help support the Denver Indian Family Resource Center before the Boulder Unity show from 5:30-6:30 p.m.. Tickets are \$40. General admission is \$15.

(Unity Church, 2855 Folsom Street, in Boulder, CO)\*\*

*Sunday, November 12, 2006, (7 p.m.)*

### **Arvel Bird w/One Nation Band and Red Feather Woman**

Tickets are \$10 & \$20. Tickets can be purchased through [TicketWeb.com](http://TicketWeb.com) or any Ticketmaster outlet or at the Buffalo Indian Room, 165 2nd Avenue, Niwot, CO 80544, Phone (303) 652-1757.(Cheyenne Mountain Resort, 3225 Broadmoor Valley Rd., in Colorado Springs, CO 80920)\*\*

\*\*Contact Rose at (303) 665-1139. They will have new CD releases. Look at [www.redfeatherwoman.com](http://www.redfeatherwoman.com)

### **Coming up down the road...**

*January 10-11, 2007*

### **No Child Left Behind: AI Education Symposium (Prior Lake, MN)**

<http://www.colostate.edu/programs/EAC> (click NCLB: American Indian Education Symposium)

*May 4, 2007*

### **AIYLI 2007 Conference**

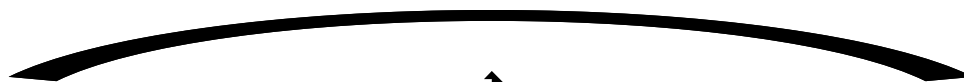
University Memorial Center; University of Colorado at Boulder

*June 16-20, 2007 and June 23-27, 2007*

### **Pre-College Workshop for Native American Students**

[www.collegehorizons.org](http://www.collegehorizons.org) for more information (\$150+airfare; scholarships available)





## Book Reviews



### **“Less Than Half, More Than Whole”**

***Kathleen and Michael Lacapa, 1994***

#### **Story Synopsis:**

Three young friends are playing at a lake, when they happen to observe their facial reflections in the still water. When the friends notice their differences, the full blooded Indian states to his friend: “You’re not like me- I’m all Indian; I think you’re only half or less than half.”

These comments evoke an identity struggle and sadness for the mixed-blood boy, Tony, who feels dejected. His grandparents from various ethnicities guide him through his identity crisis. The grandparents show him photos of all his relations, a painted pony, multi-colored corn, and butterflies of various colors to help him accept himself as rich in this aspect of self.



### **“Knots on a Counting Rope”**

***Bill Martin, Jr. and John Archambault***

#### **Story Synopsis:**

In this poignant story, the counting rope is a metaphor for the passage of time and for the boy’s emerging confidence in facing his greatest challenge... his blindness. The powerful, spare, poetic text is done full justice by Ted Rand’s full color illustrations. The love, hope, and courage expressed are universal. A rich tale of intergenerational love and respect. A moving collaborative effort that reverberates long after the book is closed.

“Tell me who I am?” This powerful question to a Southwestern Native boy’s grandfather opens this story with the importance of the grandmother’s blessing at his birth and grandfather’s prayer “this boy will not die, the great blue horses have given him the strength to live.” In a beautifully provocative style in word and art, this wise grandfather “heals” the boy’s physical self-image and gives him the courage to live fully. The grandfather in a sense “heals” his grandson’s physical challenge and enriches all who read.

***Note to students and parents:*** There is a lending library at the Education Center located at 6500 Arapahoe where you can find the books above along with many more focused on American Indian culture and awareness. Feel free to stop by at any time and check one out. The library has reading for both children and adults available at no cost!

