2018 ENDURING SPIRIT AWARD NOMINATIONS OPEN

HONORING THE LIFETIME CONTRIBUTIONS OF NATIVE WOMEN

Native Action Network is hosting its 14th Annual Native Women’s Leadership Forum that will take place in August at one of Washington’s Tribally owned facilities. During this day and a half conference, women of all ages will gather together for fellowship, learning, and sharing of life experiences through general assembly sessions, workshops, and our Enduring Spirit Honoring Luncheon.

The Enduring Spirit Award recognizes the lifetime achievements of Native women who through their commitment of time, energy, and volunteerism contribute to healthy communities. The issues they champion are varied and include: environment, education, youth and family, holistical health (mind, body, spirit), continuation and retention of culture, preservation of treaty rights, sacred sites, and economic empowerment to name a few.

Nominations are now being accepted for the 14th Annual Native Women’s Leadership Forum & Enduring Spirit Honoring Luncheon scheduled for late summer.

If you know an auntie, a mother, a grandmother, sister, or a dear friend who has devoted her life to strengthening Native communities, we invite you to submit a nomination for the 14th Annual Enduring Spirit Award. Nominations will be accepted until May 15, 2018.

Past Enduring Spirit Honorees:

2002 Adeline Garcia (Haida), Joan Staples Baum (Ojibwe), Maiselle Bridges (Puyallup), Gina George (Yakama), Jeannie Halliday Thomas (Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs)
2003 Ramona Bennelt (Puyallup), Virginia Cross (Muckleshoot), Joy Kelah (Blackfeet), Marilyn Wandy (Suquamish)
2004 Johanna Cabaug (Tlingit), Lillian Chappel (Yakama), Julie Johnson (Lummi), Marie Zackuse (Tulalip)
2006 Carol Craig (Yakama), Theresa Parker (Makah), Dr. Lee Piper (Chinook), Emma Sweet Baxter (Snoqualmie), Lois Sweet Dorman (Snoqualmie)
2007 Debora Juarez (Blackfeet), Ivy Chayney (Suquamish), Ellen Hope Hayes (Tlingit), Diane Vendiola (Swinomish)
2008 Special Recognition and presentation of the Sister Spirit Award to Mary Kim Titla (Apache) Double check
2008 - Viole Riebe (Hoh), Juanita Jefferson (Lummi), Charlotte Kalama (Quinault), Wilma Arquette (Eastern Shoshone)
2010 - Marlene Spencer Simia (Yakama), Ileen Sylvester (Yup’ik, Athabascan, Aleut), Gloria Simpson (Confederated Tribes of Colville – Chief Joseph Band of Nez Perce), Deborah Parker (Tulalip)
2011 Mary A. Miller Marchand (Colville), Pearl Capoeman Baller (Quinault), Dr. Verna Bartlett (Puyallup), Dr. Cheryl Crazy Bull (Lakota)
2011 Special Recognition and presentation of the Sister Spirit Award to Eloise Cobell (Blackfeet)
2013 Virginia Bill, (Upper Skagit), Beverly Peters (Swinomish), Patsy Whitefoot (Yakama) Teri Gobin (Tulalip)
2014 Ramona Ahto, (Yakama), Dianne Allen (Coeur d’Alene), Darlene Miller (Seneca), Earlene Balla (Seneca)
2015 Robbie Paul (Nez Perce), Mary Ann Pettier (Chippewa & Assiniboin Sioux), Yvonne Peterson (Chehalis), and Frances G. Charles (Lower Elwha Klallam)
2016 Peggy McCloud (Puyallup); Sue Henry (Suquamish); Emma Medicine Whitecrow (Cherokee/Comanche); Maria Pascua (Makah); and, Charlanne Quinto (Colville)
• 2017 Laverne Lane (Lummi); Theresa Sheldon (Tulalip); LaVerne Wise (Tlingit); Gail T. Morris (NaaChahNulth); Cecilia Fire Thunder (Oglala Sioux)
If selected, you and your honoree will share a complimentary hotel room at our host hotel and can attend the Leadership Forum at no charge. In addition, the honoree can invite two guests to join her for the luncheon and presentation of awards.

We receive many more nominations than we can award. Please be sure to provide a complete packet with all of the requested information:

1) Nominators Name, address, phone and email contact info. Please note that the primary nomination should come from community members rather than family.

2) Your Nomination Packet should include:
   • Nominee’s name, tribal affiliation, and contact info
   • Length of time you’ve known nominee
   • Reason for your nomination and how they have inspired others
   • Specific examples of nominee’s lifetime accomplishments (Very important – detailed information helps the selection committee as they make their final determination.)
   • Specific examples of how your nominee’s contributions are positively impacting and contributing to the health and vitality of their community or the issues they are championing
   • Nominees volunteer activities
   • Newspaper articles, or other documentation in support of nomination

Email inquiries should be directed to: info@enduringspirit.org. Be sure to include Enduring Spirit Award in the subject line.

Honorees will be announced on our website at www.enduringspirit.org during mid-June 2018.

The event is organized by the Native Action Network—a dedicated, proactive group of Native women committed to building strong, healthy Native communities through leadership development and civic participation. We have organized twelve previous and successful leadership development forums and have reached over 2,700 participants from the northwest region.

The purpose of this gathering is to unite Native women of all ages and create a forum that recognizes the power that women have in creating positive change within their families and communities. Our target audience for this conference is Native women—daughters, mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers—from across the northwest.

Our goals for the gathering are to:
   • Promote strong female role models
   • Provide leadership development
   • Share knowledge between generations
   • Encourage fellowship among Native women of all ages & tribal backgrounds

Our planning committee is made up of Native women who volunteer their time to bring this memorable experience to our community. In addition to our women’s conference, we work to register voters, and provide forums for Native women to involve themselves in local, state and national affairs. We also host honoring dinners, and Native socials to unite our community and provide an opportunity for members to share their talents and experiences in strengthening our Native community.

Mail your nomination packet to:

Native Action Network
815 1st Ave. #113
Seattle, WA 98104

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