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Program



AISES

AISES NATIONAL CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 3 - 5, 2024 | SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Safe Camp and Code of Conduct

All conference participants are expected to adhere to the AISES standards of conduct. We invite all those who participate in any AISES event to help us create safe and positive experiences for everyone.

Safe Camp

AISES events are a “Safe Camp,” meaning this is a welcoming, inclusive, supportive, and safe environment for all our AISES family members regardless of race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, or gender expression/identity. Safe Camp includes recognizing the AISES Code of Conduct and anyone found violating the code will be asked to leave the conference immediately. Please contact any AISES staff member or board member if you have any questions.

Code of Conduct

AISES was established with the goal of developing Indigenous professionals and leaders in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math. Considering this goal, the first student leaders of AISES developed a set of principles that prohibited alcohol, illegal drugs, and harassment. These principles have become core values of the organization and are incorporated as the Code of Conduct.

The AISES Code of Conduct promotes professional development and personal growth by strictly prohibiting the use of intoxicating drugs or alcohol, all forms of harassment and discrimination, and encourages respectful and civil dialog and group discussions. The Code is meant to reflect the ideals of our Indigenous communities by establishing an expectation that we agree to protect and promote the well-being and growth of all people.

The Code is expected to be honored when individuals are representing the AISES organization and by all persons participating in AISES activities, events, and conversations. To this end, each person is asked to consider the spirit of the Code and promote its intent by refraining from prohibited activities and encouraging others to do the same.

AISES will continue to maintain the Code of Conduct as a symbol reflective of the teachings and values of our ancestors. The Code of Conduct represents the ideas and visions set-forth by the AISES founders and the student leadership. AISES values and respects the rights and privileges of others and asks that you honor the AISES organization, its mission, and the family of AISES by adhering to the Code of Conduct.

Land Acknowledgement

The 2024 AISES National Conference takes place on the traditional lands of the Lipan Apache, Tonkawa, Caddo, Jumanos, and Tāp Pīlam Coahuiltecan Nations. We extend our respect to the citizens and ancestors of these Nations who carry themselves strong. We acknowledge the historical and contemporary challenges faced by these communities and emphasize the need for understanding, systemic change, and truth telling.

AISES values the culture and traditions of all Indigenous peoples. We acknowledge the importance of land and language in shaping identity, and we reaffirm our commitment to supporting Indigenous scientists and leaders.

Indigenous peoples are frequently marginalized. We encourage you to take a moment to honor the original stewards of the spaces you inhabit, recognizing the deep and ongoing connection Indigenous peoples have with their traditional lands. Land acknowledgment is both a recognition of the ongoing presence of Indigenous peoples and a call to integrate their perspectives into our government, academic, corporate, and cultural institutions.



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Volunteers

Volunteers are vital to supporting the successful implementation of the annual AISES National Conference. We appreciate volunteers who are willing to spend their time supporting the event to create and strengthen community. AISES would like to express its gratitude for the all the hard work from our AISES family, partners, and AISES College and Professional Chapters for their service!

Nancy Papineau, Pugot Sound AISES Professional Chapter, AISES Conference Volunteer Coordinator

Alex “Panda” Armendariz, CSU San Bernardino, Admissions & Student Recruitment, AISES Social Powwow Coordinator

Alana Reed, Retired, AISES Registration Desk Coordinator

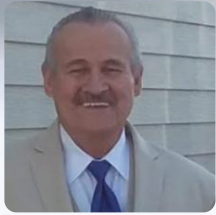
Frances Dupris, Retired USAF Master Sergeant, AISES Color Guard Coordinator

Ramon D. Vasquez, Community Engagement Manager, American Indians in Texas at the Spanish Colonial Missions

Diana Moreno-Reyes, President, San Antonio Mission Indian Descendants

In Memoriam

“In memory of a life well-lived.”



John L. Brewer
Oglala Lakota

John L. Brewer was a passionate activist in the struggle for equal rights who participated in historic events like the occupation of Alcatraz and fishing rights for the Nisqually and Puyallup Tribes. A dedicated high school educator, Brewer was instrumental in bringing AISES to the local school system. For many summers he taught enrichment classes for AISES at the University of Iowa.



Sam English, Jr.
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, Turtle Mountain Bands of Chippewa Indians

Sam English was a dedicated friend and integral member of the AISES family who donated his art, which was widely admired on National Conference posters and *Winds of Change* magazine covers. His extraordinary works Year of the American Indian and Restoring the Earth were the 14th and 15th annual National Conference poster.



Jack Dwayne Farmer
Cherokee and Chickasaw Nations

Dr. Jack Farmer was a professor of Geobiology in the School of Earth and Space Exploration at Arizona State University. He was extensively involved with NASA mission planning in the 1990s and in the selection of the landing sites for Mars Pathfinder and Mars Exploration Rovers. Jack co-founded the Northern California Professional Chapter of AISES and was an AISES Sequoyah Fellow. He most recently attended the 2021 AISES National Conference in Arizona.



Bill Richardson
Hispanic

Bill Richardson had a notable career marked by his diverse roles and achievements. His tenure as a U.S. Congressman, governor, and ambassador to the United Nations showcased his ability to navigate complex political landscapes and work across party lines. His support as an AISES Sequoyah Fellow showed his commitment to enhancing opportunities for Native American students and professionals in science and engineering fields.



Joanne Whiterabbit
Winnebago Tribe

Joanne Whiterabbit's decades-long tenure as the Executive Director of the Minnesota American Indian Chamber of Commerce exemplified her deep commitment to advancing Native American business. She contributed her time and expertise to AISES as a Sequoyah Fellow. Her legacy reflects a remarkable blend of professionalism and personal warmth, leaving a lasting impression to everyone around her.



Peterson Zah
Diné

Peterson Zah was a remarkable figure in Native American leadership and advocacy. As the first president of the Navajo Nation, his tenure from 1990 to 1995 marked a significant period in the tribe's history. His commitment to education and his role as a special advisor to the president of Arizona State University underscored his dedication to improving opportunities for Indigenous peoples. Zah was an AISES Sequoyah member who was deeply involved in supporting and mentoring individuals to pursue STEM and fostering a strong Indigenous presence in these areas.



A Warm Texas Welcome to San Antonio!

We're thrilled you're able to join us at the 2024 AISES National Conference at the Henry B. González Convention Center! You'll see that the conference theme "Rivers of Resilience: Sustaining Indigenous Innovation" is reflected in the agenda, which is packed with an impressive lineup of events, sessions, excursions, and networking opportunities designed to help you connect with old friends and meet many new ones.

Whether you're interested in resume building, research, student gatherings, or exploring careers and culture, there's something for everyone. From hands-on workshops to fascinating tours and technology showcases, the 2024 National Conference is ready to exceed your expectations. And don't miss this year's exciting new addition: the inaugural Indigenous beauty red carpet fashion show. Featuring renowned fashion icons Dante Biss-Grayson, Brocade Stops Black Eagle, and Cora Kay Chandler, this breakout showcase will highlight stunning designer clothing that's sure to captivate. For a rundown of all that's in store, refer to the program, the National Conference app, and the AISES Nation app.

For free time, San Antonio offers a wealth of experiences beyond the convention center. Enjoy the city's justly famous Tex-Mex cuisine, stroll along the Riverwalk, visit the historic Alamo, or explore the city's zoo, museums, and botanic gardens. There's no shortage of memorable activities in San Antonio.

"Knowledge is our treasure," according to a wise member of the Council of Elders at AISES, where we are celebrating our 46th year of bringing together top Indigenous STEM talent. After more than four decades, we understand the importance of sharing that knowledge and supporting each other on this life path.

We want to give a grateful bow to everyone who makes the National Conference such a unique event — the AISES staff, sponsors, exhibitors, vendors, Board of Directors, advisory council members, powwow participants, and attendees from all over the U.S. and Canada. Special thanks go to our esteemed Council of Elders for all they do to create the confidence that we can achieve all we set out to do! It takes family!

We hope you have a fantastic time and make the most of all that AISES and San Antonio have to offer!

Warmly,

Gary Burnette (Cheroenhaka Nottoway)
AISES Board Chair

Sarah EchoHawk (Pawnee)
President



Mistress of Ceremonies

Lillian Sparks Robinson

Lillian Sparks Robinson is the CEO and Owner of Wopila Consulting, LLC, an American Indian and woman owned small business that provides a wide range of specialized consulting and strategic development services to federal, state, and tribal government clients.

A member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Lillian has worked in Washington, D.C. for nearly 20 years, devoting her career to supporting the educational pursuits of Native American students, protecting the rights of indigenous people, and empowering tribal communities. In 2010, Lillian was appointed by President Obama, and confirmed by the U.S. Senate, to serve as the Commissioner for the Administration for Native Americans. In this role, she worked on programs and policy impacting Native languages and education, social development, and economic development for American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian and Pacific

Islander communities. Prior to her service at ANA, Lillian served as the Executive Director of the National Indian Education Association (NIEA), where she worked extensively on education policy and appropriations impacting American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian students. A former staff attorney at the National Congress of American Indians, Lillian has received numerous awards and recognition, including being named as one of seven young Native American Leaders by USA Today Magazine, one of “40 Under 40” from the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development, and American Indian Woman of the Year.

A graduate of Morgan State University and Georgetown University Law Center, Lillian resides in Baltimore, Maryland with her husband, Corey and son, Connor.

Opening Ceremony Conversation

Join AISES President Sarah EchoHawk and the 2024 Professional of the Year, Sunny Myers, for a compelling one-on-one conversation about Native women in STEM. They will delve into strategies for inspiring Indigenous youth to pursue STEM fields, share insights on breaking barriers within Indigenous STEM communities, and highlight significant work being done in this area. This engaging discussion promises to offer valuable perspectives and inspiring stories—it's an opportunity you won't want to miss!



Sunny Myers

Sunny Myers is a dynamic leader with a proven track record in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging (DEIB), Business Strategy, and Social Impact at industry giants like Palo Alto Networks, Amazon, and Fastly. With a strong background in engineering and technology, she excels in stakeholder management, data-driven decision-making, and leading impactful programs.

She volunteers her expertise with organizations such as the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) - Luce Rematriation program, Reboot Representation, Last Mile Education Fund, Rewriting the Code, and Triangle Women in STEM. She has also advised leaders and organizations including Melinda French Gates, Forbes, and McKinsey & Company.

Sunny is a proud member of the Lumbee and Sappony tribes of North Carolina and is passionate about spending time with her family, engaging Native youth in STEM, elevating womxn in tech, and expanding her earring and sneaker collections.

AISES Indigenous Fashion Show

For this year's Closing Banquet, AISES proudly presents the Sky Eagle Collection Brand (Dante Grayson Biss) & Brocade (Brocade Stops Black Eagle) as they showcase their Indigenous Fashion brands that are infused with tradition, elegance and contemporary wearable art, all set to music by the entertaining DJ Element. Their wearable artwork utilizes science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) in creating their one of a kind looks that are trending across Turtle Island.

The fashion show producer and designers invite you to step inside their world on Friday, October 4 at 1:00 p.m. in room 217C to hear this panel share their insights as to what it takes to create the wearable art, and you also hear from a producer on how the shows are procured and brought to life. This panel will take a look into the dynamic world of Indigenous Fashion and how it infuses STEM to create spectacular and creative Indigenous spaces.



Sky-Eagle Collection

Dante Biss-Grayson

Osage
Sky Eagle Collection
Fashion Designer

Dante Biss-Grayson is a versatile artist and fashion show designer who is committed to pushing the boundaries of Native American art and fashion. His classical techniques and contemporary vision enable him to create unique art pieces that transcend mediums such as painting, holographic sculpture, poetry, and fashion design. He studied at the Gerrit Rietveld Academy in Holand and IAIA in Sante Fe, N.M., and apprenticed with Earl Biss, his adopted father, to further develop his skills.

Dante's fashion brand, The Sky-Eagle Collection, is Native American and Veteran-owned. It reflects his belief in the power of clothing to inspire and empower. The collection is contemporary, modern, and aims to draw attention to the issues that are often overlooked. Dante's mission is to inspire a new generation of warriors who walk in the modern world. His message is simple but powerful; WE ARE STILL HERE!

Dante's brand has been featured in various publications and events. His work has been showcased in Cannes Runway show during the Cannes Film Festival, and in 2022, his fashion show in Sante Fe, "New Native Fashion: Empower" had two sold-out runway shows. Dante's brand has been shown at New York Fashion Week and he has been a featured panelist for Native American-owned brands. He has been recognized for his contributions to the fashion industry by various publications, including Cowgirl Magazine and Tribal Business News.

Dante has completed several collaborations, including the "Warrior Wool Blanket" collaboration with 8Gen, which honors veterans and warriors. He is committed to using his art to bring attention to critical issues impacting Native communities. In 2023, he presented the "Native Avant-Garde" runway show in Sante Fe, which showcased one hundred looks. Dante's work has been featured in various media outlets, including NM PBS, Indian Country Today, YAHOO!, In the Know, NBC-LA, and his brand has been recognized for its contributions to Native American Fashion. Dante Biss-Grayson is an Osage artist, activist, and veteran who uses his art to create a new narrative for Native American Fashion.



Brocade

Brocade Stops Black Eagle

Crow-Mandan-Hidatsa

**Brocade
Fashion Designer**

Brocade Stops Black Eagle was born and raised on the Crow Indian Reservation where she currently resides with her husband and three sons (Danger, Rivers and Crimson). Brocade worked as a Registered Nurse for more than a decade providing an invaluable service for her Native Community. Taught by her mother at an early age, Brocade has been beading and honing her craft for over 30 years.

Brocades ready-to-wear apparel are a direct reflection of her beadwork and lifestyle. Brocades beadwork is inspired by old Crow geometric designs and color palate. Brocade is a Mountain Ultra Trail Runner and outdoor enthusiast, having to date accomplished several ultra marathons.



Cora Kay Chandler

Aaanih and Descendant of the Cree people

Fashion Show Producer

Cora Kay Chandler is an enrolled member of the Aaanih and a descendant of the Cree people. She makes her home in Billings, Montana, with her family. Her career has been as executive assistant to the CEO @ IHS-Billings area for 6 years, Native American Development Corporation for 4 years serving MT, WY, ND, and SD tribes in economic development, and the Business Manager for the 8(a) Company-American Indian Consulting Services for 3 years. She was an employee at Island Mountain Development Group as the Talent Development Manager, Communications and Marketing Manager, Director of Public Relations and is now the Business Development Coordinator at Montana Native Growth Fund. Her education is an A.A. and she is currently enrolled at MSU-Billings, and her major is Organizational Communications.

**Mountain
Fashion Show**

She has been the owner of Cora Kay Productions since 2016. Her mission has been to uplift Indigenous people who are in business and artists in fashion, comedy, music, and art by creating and hosting large-scale events throughout Indian Country. Cora Kay participates in community engagement with her volunteer-based, urban Indigenous powwow-style dance group for the past 7 years, producer of Big Sky Indigfest 2021-23, Big Sky Indigenous Women’s Gala 2022, featured in Yellowstone Valley Women’s magazine, hosts Indigenous community art markets. She also served as the Vice President of the MNGF CDFI Board of Directors, Indian Education Parent Committee, Billings First Church Board Member, Apsaalooke Native American Church Board Member. Indigenous Fashion Collective Board.

Served the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development’s Reservation Economic Summit ‘s (RES) 2021-24 as the Co- Producer of the Indigenous Fashions show producer. Her hobbies are sewing, beading, dancing, NAC, golf and traveling.



DJ Element
Salt River Indian Community
Conference and Fashion Show DJ

el·e·ment [el-uh-muhnt] – noun. A component or constituent of a whole or one of the parts into which a whole may be resolved by analysis.

DJ Element is an eclectic DJ from Phoenix, Arizona with a repertoire to encompass hip-hop, funk, soul, neo-soul, reggae, EDM, moombahton, trap, twerk, 80’s, electro and everything in between. He has guested at worldwide events and venues in Korea, Japan, United Kingdom, Spain, Italy to name a few. He has opened for heavy hitters such as James Brown, A Tribe Called Quest, Nas, Krs-One, De La Soul, Big Daddy Kane, Rakim, Slick Rick, The Roots, Jane’s Addiction, Incubus, and Audioslave. DJ Element was named the B-Boy City King of Scratch Champion in 2019 and recognized in 2015 by the Native American Heard Museum in Phoenix, Arizona for his contribution and dedication to music. Notably, DJ Element was the official 2020-2021 tour DJ for Supaman. DJ Element is a member of the Salt River Indian Community and began his career in 1996.



Professionals Networking Reception Entertainment

Guadalupe Dance Company

The Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center was founded in 1980 as a nonprofit, multidisciplinary organization. Located in the heart of San Antonio's Westside, the Guadalupe is one of the largest community-based, multidisciplinary organizations in the U.S. The Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center cultivates, promotes, and preserves traditional and contemporary Chicano, Latino and Native American arts and culture through multidisciplinary programming. Through Chicano, Latino and Native American arts and culture, the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center revolutionizes how we imagine the world.

The Guadalupe Dance Company (GDC) of San Antonio, TX, founded in 1991, is the resident professional dance company of the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center. Under the direction of Jeannette Chavez and Belinda Menchaca, they are committed to maintaining its rich cultural traditions and artistic excellence. Unique among the nation's dance ensembles, the Company creates and performs both original and traditional works in Mexican Folklorico and Flamenco dance. The history of the Dance Company is rich, and complex born out a vision for locally based, professionally trained Mexican American Folklorico Dance Company to represent South Texas, locally and abroad.



Photo Credit: Paul Casanova Garcia

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Additional Sponsors

Educational Programming and Academic Competitions

Graduate Student Research Oral and Poster Competitions

Burroughs Wellcome Fund

Undergraduate Student Research Oral and Poster Competitions

Integra Foundation

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Educational Sessions and Workshops

Session Tracks

College and Career Readiness- United States Coast Guard

Computer and Information Science Engineering- Battelle, operator of Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Engineering - AIAA

Geosciences – NV5, Inc.

Health and Medical Sciences – The National Institutes of Health

Professional and Workforce Development – Boston Scientific

STEM and Business – Boston Scientific

STEM Activities Day

The Boeing Company

Event Sponsorship Opportunities

Resume Room

Lawrence Livermore National Labs

The Boeing Company

Student Awards Luncheon

The United States Department of the Air Force

Corporate Advisory Council and Tribal Nations Advisory Council Luncheon

Cisco

Kick-off Event

Berkshire Hathaway Energy

Student Social

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Graduate Student Mixer

Department of Energy National

Renewable Energy Laboratory

Department of Energy Office of Energy

Efficiency & Renewable Energy

Professional Networking Reception

The Clorox Company

Networking Hospitality Suites

American Chemical Society

Booz Allen

Chevron

General Motors

Micron Technology

National Labs

Navajo Transitional Energy Company

National Science Foundation

TC Energy

USDA NRCS

VISA

Wellness Activity

FBI

Other Exciting Sponsorship Opportunities

Mobile App Sponsorship

Peace Corps

Hackathon

Chevron

Elders Lounge

We are Healers

Student Study Lounge

Chevron

Snack Break

Merck

Coffee Break

Intuit

Water Bottles

The AES Corporation

Footprints

Boston Scientific

Student Travel Scholarship

Dragonfly Consulting LLC

Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

FanDuel

Koniag Government Services

Micron Technology

Microsoft

Sealaska

USDA NRCS

Media Patners

DiversityComm

Winds of Change Magazine

DIVERSITYCOMM
MEDIA

winds
OF CHANGE
ADVANCING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN STEM



Celebrating tomorrow's change makers.

Apple proudly supports the American Indian Science and Engineering Society's work to uplift Indigenous STEM students, connecting them with the support and access they need to become the leaders of tomorrow.

Conference Logistics

Note: All times are Central Daylight Time (local time)

AISES National Conference Wi-Fi

Network: AISES Password: AISES24

AISES National Conference Mobile App

The AISES National Conference App, sponsored by the Peace Corps, will allow you to get up-to-date notifications, connect with other attendees, post messages, complete session and post-conference evaluations and plan your visit to the college and career fair and more! The app is available on Android and Apple devices.

To download the app visit: www.aises.org/app

To access the mobile app, you will need:

- Email address: **Used during registration**
- Event Password: **Conference registration reference number**

If you require technical help with the AISES mobile app, please email app@aises.org.

AISES Council of Elders Lounge

Sponsored by We are Healers

Stop by Room 208 in the Henry B. González Convention Center to seek wisdom, strength, love, or personal guidance from our Elders.

AISES Merchandise

AISES gear gets scooped up fast! Make sure to stop by the AISES Merchandise Booth located near the conference registration desk in the West Registration lobby (outside Exhibit Hall 4B) to purchase AISES-themed items.

Wednesday, October 2 from 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Thursday & Friday, October 3 & 4

from 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 5 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

AISES Photographer and Videographer

We enjoy capturing the “faces of AISES” throughout the National Conference. Therefore, an official professional photographer and videographer will be on-site during major conference ceremonies, meetings, and sessions. Images and video will be used for AISES promotional purposes only.

Closing Ceremony

The Closing Ceremony will feature the AISES Indigenous Fashion show and pay tribute to the AISES Professional of the Year and Service Award recipients on **Saturday, October 5 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

College and Career Fair

AISES hosts the largest College and Career Fair in Indian Country. The Fair attracts professionals and college recruiters from over 300 corporations, government agencies, and colleges and universities. This mix encourages mentoring and sharing that is unparalleled at any other event. Check out the [booths](#) on the exhibit floor. **Interact with exhibitors on Friday, October 4 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Conference Name Badges

Your name badge allows you access to all daily conference functions, including Saturday night’s Closing Banquet. **Please always wear your badge.** If you lose your badge, please go to the conference registration desk for a replacement at a \$5 charge.

Feedback and Prizes

Your feedback and observations are important to us as we continue to design programs and events to best serve our members and friends. Please take our National Conference post-conference survey to be eligible to win prizes after the conference. The post-conference survey is available on the conference mobile app. Also, complete the evaluations at the end of each session to participate in drawings for great prizes which will be announced through the mobile app!

Industry Partner Site Tours

All attendees who have registered for a tour will meet outside at the main entrance of the Henry B. González Convention Center on Market St. to check in and begin the tours. All other tours depart at 1:30 pm. Be early!

Native Artisan Marketplace

Artisan booths will be in the Parkview Registration Lobby located on the meeting level floor of the Henry B. González Convention Center. Get a jumpstart on your holiday shopping or just indulge yourself with a treat from the AISES Marketplace where Native artisans have wonderful items available for purchase.

Thursday – Saturday, October 3 to October 5 from 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Conference check-in Desk and AISES Membership Information

The conference check-in and registration desk will take place in the West Registration lobby (outside Exhibit Hall 4B) Henry B. González Convention Center. Stop by to pick up your conference badge or connect with event staff or volunteers with questions. Your name badge allows you access to all daily conference functions, including Saturday night's Closing Banquet. Your badge must be always worn during the conference activities.

Resume Room

Sponsored by Lawrence Livermore National Labs and The Boeing Company

The Resume room is available for students to fine tune their resumes for upload to the AISES Career Hub and to distribute at the National Conference College and Career Fair. The room will be equipped with computers and printers and staffed by experts from sponsor organizations to help you polish your resume.

Thursday, October 3 from 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Friday, October 4 from 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Safe Camp

The AISES National Conference is a “Safe Camp,” meaning this is a welcoming, inclusive, supportive, and safe environment for all our AISES family members regardless of race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, or gender expression/identity. Safe Camp includes recognizing the AISES Code of Conduct and anyone found violating the code will be removed from the conference. Please see the conference website for a copy of the [AISES Code of Conduct](#). Visit the Safe Camp Zone located by the conference registration desk for refuge, and useful information to make your time in San Antonio and at the Conference more comfortable.

Sessions Tracks

Although all sessions fall within a specific track, track designations are only a suggestion! We encourage you to read through the program, especially the session descriptions, and attend ANY session suited to your interests. There are many sessions to choose from, so plan carefully, be strategic, and most importantly engage with your fellow conference attendees and presenters.

Student Research Presentation Competition

Middle School, High School, Undergraduate, and Graduate students will showcase their STEM research at oral and poster presentation sessions during the AISES National Conference on **Friday, October 4**. We encourage all conference participants to show their support by attending the oral presentations (see agenda for scheduled times and locations) and poster presentations are in Exhibit Hall 3 next to the College and Career Fair exhibit floor.

Oral Presentations

Presentations will take place on **Friday, October 4 between the hours of 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

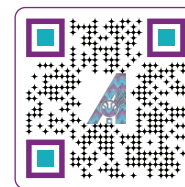
Poster Presentations

Presenters are expected to setup their posters on **Friday, October 4, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.** in Exhibit Hall 3 of the Henry B. González Convention Center.

Presenters must be present at their poster during the entire presentation time, **9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. on Friday, October 4.**

All posters are to be removed by the presenters on **Friday, October 4, between the hours of 5:00 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.**

Scan this QR code to download the conference app



National Conference Floor Plans

Henry B Gonzalez Convention Center

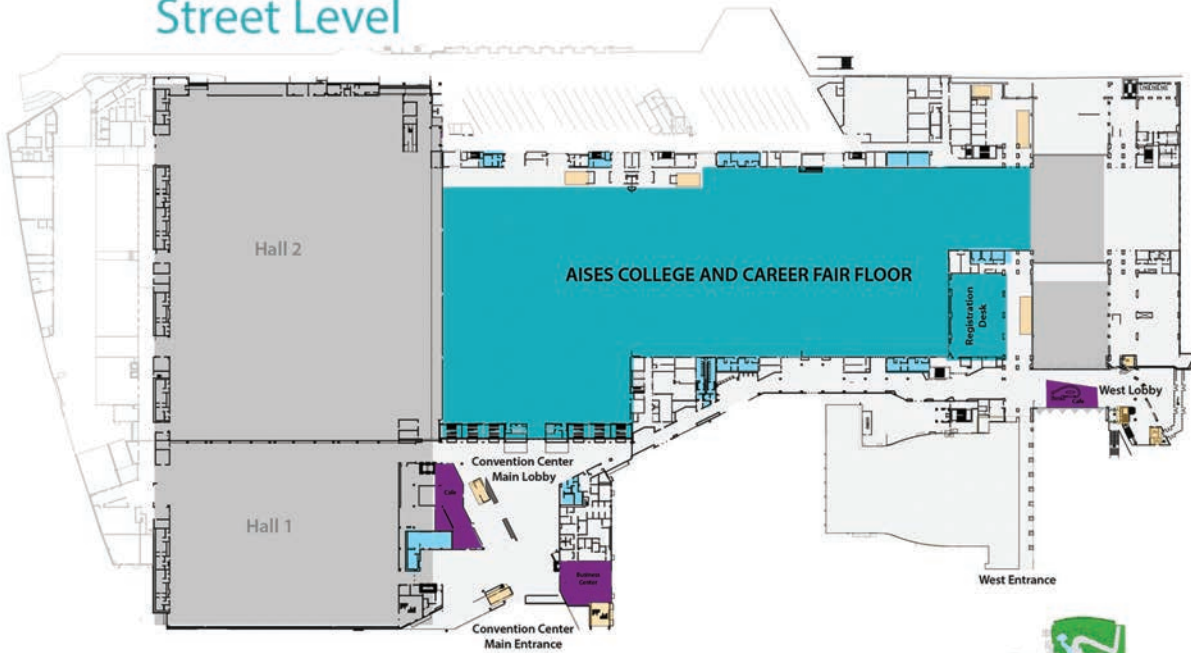
Ballroom Level



Meeting Level



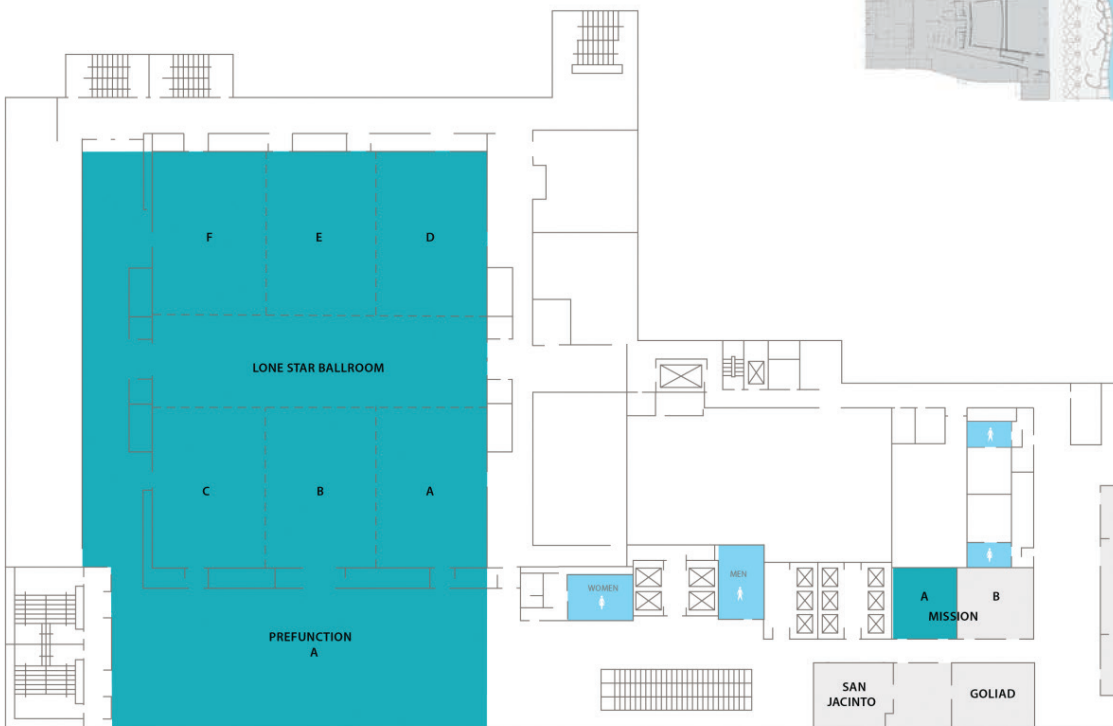
Street Level



River Level



Grand Hyatt San Antonio River Walk



Conference Highlights

Wednesday, October 2 (Pre-conference)

- AISES Merchandise Booth Opens
- Conference Check-in and Registration Opens
- Kick-off Event - All Attendees
- Pre-College Student Gathering
- STEM Activities Day (middle and high school students)

Thursday, October 3

- Academic Advisory Council (AAC) Meeting
- Canadian Indigenous Advisory Council (CIAC) Meeting
- Corporate Advisory Council (CAC) Meeting
- Gemstone Sponsor Reception (Invitation Only)
- Government Relations Council (GRC) Meeting
- Graduate Student Mixer
- Inclusion and Belonging Advisory Council (IBAC) Meeting
- Industry Partner Tours
- Native Artisan Marketplace
- Networking Suites
- Opening Ceremony
- Professional Chapters Council (PCC) Meeting
- Resume Room
- Sessions for All Tracks
- State of AISES by President (Invitation Only)
- Student Orientation
- Student Hackathon (high school and college students)
- Student Study Lounge
- Talking Circles
- Tribal Nations Advisory Council (TNAC) Meeting
- Veterans Gathering

Friday, October 4

- Chapter Advisors Meeting
- College and Career Fair
- College Student Regional Networking
- Morning Blessing Ceremony
- Professional Networking Reception
- Resume Room
- Sessions for Selected Tracks
- Student Poster and Oral Research Presentations and Competition
- Student Study Lounge
- Student Social
- Wellness Activity

Saturday, October 5

- AISES Indigenous Fashion Show
- AISES Members Meeting
- Canadian Members Meeting
- Closing Banquet
- Closing Talking Circle
- Sequoyah Fellows Breakfast & Ceremony
- Sessions for All Tracks
- Student Awards Luncheon
- Student Study Lounge
- Traditional Native Social Powwow
- U.S. National College Student Caucus
- Wellness Activity





FANDUEL

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ADVANCING INDIGENOUS
PEOPLE IN STEM



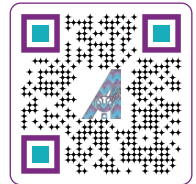
CONFERENCE AGENDA

All times listed are Central Daylight time (local time).

All events are in the Henry B. González Convention Center unless noted after the room number or name.

Although all sessions fall within a specific track, track designations are only a suggestion! We encourage you to read through the program, especially the session descriptions, and attend ANY session suited to your interests. There are many sessions to choose from, so plan carefully, be strategic, and most importantly engage with your fellow conference attendees and presenters.

Full descriptions of the sessions and events are listed further on in this program, at <https://conference.aises.org/agenda> or on the conference Mobile App



Start End	Session Name	Session Location	Session Tracks
Wednesday, October 2			
9:00 am - 6:00 pm	AISES Merchandise Booth	West Registration - Outside Exhibit Hall 4B	
9:00 am - 6:00 pm	Conference Check-in and Registration	West Registration - Outside Exhibit Hall 4B	
9:00 am - 6:00 pm	Volunteers Check-in Desk	West Registration - Outside Exhibit Hall 4B	
12:00 pm - 4:00 pm	STEM Activities Day (Registration required)	Lone Star Ballroom ABC - Grand Hyatt Hotel	STEM Activities Day
4:30 pm - 6:00 pm	Pre-College Student Gathering	Room 214CD	
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Kick-off Welcome Event	Hemisfair Ballroom Lobby	
Thursday, October 3			
7:00 am - 5:00 pm	AISES Merchandise Booth	West Registration - Outside Exhibit Hall 4B	

Start End	Session Name	Session Location	Session Tracks
7:00 am 5:00 pm	Conference Check-in and Registration	West Registration - Outside Exhibit Hall 4B	
7:00 am 5:00 pm	Volunteers Check-in Desk	West Registration - Outside Exhibit Hall 4B	
7:00 am 9:00 pm	Student Study Lounge	Room 210	
8:30 am 10:45 am	Opening Ceremony	Hemisfair Ballroom	
8:30 am 5:30 pm	Native Artisan Marketplace	Parkview Registration Lobby - Meeting Level Floor	
11:00 am 11:30 am	State of AISES by President (Invitation only)	Room 213	
11:00 am 11:50 am	AISES Nation: Histories and Mysteries LIVE	Room 217B	STEM & Business
11:00 am 11:50 am	Elevate Your Impact: Harnessing Cultural Strengths for Your Personal Brand	Room 214CD	Professional & Workforce Development
11:00 am 11:50 am	Inclusion and Belonging Advisory Council (IBAC) Meeting	Room 218	
11:00 am 11:50 am	NEW - Native Financial Cents Digital Platform Reveal	Room 215	Education and Student Success
11:00 am 11:50 am	PhD! Why not me?	Room 211	College & Career Readiness
11:00 am 11:50 am	RISE UP – A Panel of Innovative Gaming Industry Leaders	Room 217A	Professional & Workforce Development
11:00 am 11:50 am	The Basics of Negotiating Anything	Room 217D	Health & Medical Sciences
11:00 am 12:00 pm	Student Orientation	Room 212	
11:00 am 12:15 pm	Tribal Nations Advisory Council Meeting (TNAC)	Room 209	
11:00 am 12:40 pm	LinkedIn and Resume Workshop for Careers in STEM	Room 217C	Professional & Workforce Development
11:00 am 5:00 pm	AISES Council of Elder’s Lounge - One on One	Room 208	
11:00 am 6:00 pm	Resume Room	Room 216AB	
11:15 am 12:05 pm	Federal Employee Resource Groups: Best Practices to Building Equitable and Diverse Workspaces	Hemisfair Ballroom	Professional & Workforce Development

Start End	Session Name	Session Location	Session Tracks
12:00 pm 12:50 pm	Anishinaabe Ogimaawiwin (American Indian Leadership)	Room 217D	Education and Student Success
12:00 pm 12:50 pm	Engineering in Indian Health Service	Room 215	Engineering
12:00 pm 12:50 pm	Engineering with Nature® with US Army Corps of Engineers	Room 218	Environmental Science and Sustainability
12:00 pm 12:50 pm	Enhancing Cyber Resilience in a Dynamic Threat Landscape	Room 211	Computer and Information Science Engineering
12:00 pm 12:50 pm	Growing Your Career	Room 217B	Professional & Workforce Development
12:00 pm 12:50 pm	Rooted in Wellness: Cultivating Native Plants for Health, Culture, and STEM Education in Tribal Communities	Room 213	Indigenous Knowledge
12:00 pm 12:50 pm	Using the fun Makey Makey invention kit to teach Indigenous STEAM concepts	Room 217A	Education and Student Success
12:30 pm 1:30 pm	TNAC & CAC Luncheon Mixer (Invitation only)	Lone Star Ballroom DEF - Grand Hyatt Hotel	
1:00 pm 1:50 pm	Clean Energy: What's in your backyard?	Room 212	Environmental Science and Sustainability
1:00 pm 1:50 pm	Materials Engineering and Apple	Room 217A	Engineering
1:00 pm 1:50 pm	Mathematics as the Gateway for Student Success & Social Justice	Room 217D	Mathematical and Physical Sciences
1:00 pm 1:50 pm	STEM with Smartphones	Room 213	Education and Student Success
1:00 pm 2:40 pm	From Sky to Space with America's Airmen and Guardians	Room 209	College & Career Readiness
1:00 pm 2:40 pm	Interested in environmental careers? Learn how to find them and what you need to enter the field.	Room 211	Biological Sciences
1:00 pm 2:40 pm	What you need to know about voter ID, getting out the vote, and staying engaged beyond the 2024 election	Room 215	Community Building
1:30 pm 5:15 pm	San Antonio Zoo Tour	Convention Center Main Entrance (Market Street)	
1:30 pm 5:30 pm	The Boeing Company SAMSAT Area 21 Tour	Convention Center Main Entrance (Market Street)	
1:45 pm 3:00 pm	Canadian Indigenous Advisory Council Meeting (CIAC)	Room 218	
1:45 pm 3:00 pm	Corporate Advisory Council Meeting (CAC)	Room 217B	

Start End	Session Name	Session Location	Session Tracks
1:45 pm 3:00 pm	Government Relations Council Meeting (GRC)	Room 217C	
2:00 pm 2:50 pm	Acing the Job Interview	Room 217A	College & Career Readiness
2:00 pm 2:50 pm	AISES - Internships & Scholarships Info Session	Room 212	Education and Student Success
2:00 pm 2:50 pm	Capacity Building through Entrepreneurship	Room 217D	STEM & Business
2:00 pm 2:50 pm	Empowering Indigenous Scholars: Navigating NIH Career Pathways	Room 213	Health & Medical Sciences
3:00 pm 3:50 pm	Career Pathways in Aerospace	Room 211	Engineering
3:00 pm 3:50 pm	Geothermal Energy: Introduction, Industry Evolution, and Career Paths	Room 213	Geosciences
3:00 pm 3:50 pm	Managing the Corporate Ladder Ascent	Room 217D	Professional & Workforce Development
3:00 pm 3:50 pm	Shaping Your Destiny – Your Career Journeys Begin With You	Room 209	Education and Student Success
3:00 pm 4:30 pm	LGBTQIA2S+ Talking Circle	Room 214CD	
3:00 pm 4:30 pm	Men’s Talking Circle	Lone Star Ballroom AB - Grand Hyatt	
3:00 pm 4:30 pm	Women’s Talking Circle	Room 214AB	
3:15 pm 4:15 pm	Academic Advisory Council Meeting (AAC)	Room 215	
3:15 pm 4:15 pm	Professional Chapter Council Meeting (PCC)	Room 212	
4:00 pm 4:50 pm	Career Readiness in Aerospace	Room 217B	College & Career Readiness
4:00 pm 4:50 pm	Demystifying the Pharmaceutical Industry – Internship and Job opportunities	Room 213	Health & Medical Sciences
4:00 pm 4:50 pm	Inside the Navy’s Operations & Culture of Excellence	Room 211	Engineering
4:00 pm 4:50 pm	Introduction to the RISE Program	Room 217A	Professional & Workforce Development
4:00 pm 4:50 pm	Sports Betting’s Technology Frontier	Room 217D	STEM & Business

Start End	Session Name	Session Location	Session Tracks
4:00 pm 4:50 pm	Taking Ownership of Your Career Path	Room 217C	Professional & Workforce Development
4:30 pm 5:20 pm	Getting to Know AISES and a Guide to Chapter Success	Room 218	Education and Student Success
4:30 pm 5:30 pm	Higher Education Committee Meeting	Room 209	
4:30 pm 9:30 pm	Student Hackathon with Dinner (Registration required)	Room 206A	
5:00 pm 6:00 pm	Veterans' Gathering	Lone Star Ballroom C - Grand Hyatt Hotel	
5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Networking Suites	Locations listed in session description.	
6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Judges Orientation for Research Presentations	Room 213	
7:30 pm 9:00 pm	Gemstone Reception (Invitation only)	Lone Star Ballroom DEF - Grand Hyatt Hotel	
7:45 pm 9:15 pm	Graduate Student Mixer	Lone Star Prefunction A - Grand Hyatt Hotel	

Friday, October 4

7:00 am 8:00 am	Morning Blessing Ceremony with the AISES Council of Elders	Lone Star Ballroom ABC - Grand Hyatt Hotel	
7:00 am 9:00 am	Wellness Activity - True Colors: Art Therapy for Personal Values	Mission A - Grand Hyatt Hotel	
7:00 am 5:00 pm	AISES Merchandise Booth	West Registration - Outside Exhibit Hall 4B	
7:00 am 5:00 pm	Conference Check-in and Registration	West Registration - Outside Exhibit Hall 4B	
7:00 am 5:00 pm	Volunteers Check-in Desk	West Registration - Outside Exhibit Hall 4B	
7:00 am 9:00 pm	Student Study Lounge	Room 210	
7:30 am 5:00 pm	Resume Room	Room 216AB	
8:00 am 9:00 am	Poster Research Presentations Setup	Exhibit Hall 3	
8:30 am 9:20 am	AISES PK12 Opportunities	Room 218	Education and Student Success

Start End	Session Name	Session Location	Session Tracks
8:30 am 9:20 am	Apply to the National Science Foundation to Fund your Research and Education Activities	Room 214CD	Professional & Workforce Development
8:30 am 9:20 am	Finding Balance: Native STEM Students Navigating Mental Health	Room 217A	Education and Student Success
8:30 am 9:20 am	From STEM to Federal Service: Career Pathways in Regulatory Science, Public Health Communication, and Policy at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration	Room 217D	Professional & Workforce Development
8:30 am 9:20 am	Protecting Communities from Risk: Exploring STEM Careers in Insurance	Room 217B	College & Career Readiness
8:30 am 9:20 am	We R Native: Tips and Tools for Choosing your Own Path	Room 214B	Health & Medical Sciences
8:30 am 9:50 am	Making Money From Problem Solving and Patents in Indian Country	Room 214A	STEM & Business
8:30 am 5:30 pm	Native Artisan Marketplace	Parkview Registration Lobby - Meeting Level Floor	
9:00 am 9:15 am	College and Career Fair Ribbon Cutting Ceremony	Exhibit Hall 4	
9:00 am 12:00 pm	Poster Research Presentations	Exhibit Hall 3	
9:00 am 4:00 pm	College and Career Fair	Exhibit Hall 4	
9:30 am 10:20 am	3D printing overview	Room 217D	Engineering
9:30 am 10:20 am	Creating Sustainable Indigenous Designs with Mass Timber	Room 214B	Art, Architecture, and Design
9:30 am 10:20 am	Native FEWS Student Success: Reflections of the Native American/Indigenous Student Experience in the Nexus of Food, Energy, and Water Systems	Room 217C	Education and Student Success
9:30 am 10:20 am	Preserving and Advancing Indigenous Language, Culture, and Knowledge with Technology	Room 214CD	Indigenous Knowledge
9:30 am 10:20 am	Shape the Future of Health: Join NIH Training and Workforce Programs	Room 217B	Health & Medical Sciences
9:30 am 10:20 am	So you want to be a hacker?	Room 217A	Computer and Information Science Engineering
9:30 am 11:30 am	Chapter Advisors Meeting	Room 218	
9:30 am 11:30 am	Oral Research Presentations	See online agenda and mobile app for locations	
10:00 am 11:40 am	Maa abáari: Braiding STEM	Room 214A	Education and Student Success

Start End	Session Name	Session Location	Session Tracks
10:00 am 5:00 pm	AISES Council of Elder's Lounge - One on One	Room 208	
10:30 am 11:20 am	Bridging Oceans with Numbers: Youth Dialogue in Pacific Ethnomathematics	Room 217B	Indigenous Knowledge
10:30 am 11:20 am	Chart Your Course: Develop Top Leadership Traits	Room 217A	Professional & Workforce Development
10:30 am 11:20 am	Native American Youth in Agriculture Resources (Tribal Agriculture Fellowship & Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative)	Room 217C	College & Career Readiness
10:30 am 11:20 am	Preparing for a Career the Health Professions: Why Applying to SHPEP Should Be Your First Step	Room 217D	Health & Medical Sciences
10:30 am 12:10 pm	Star Wars: Solving for R2	Room 214CD	Mathematical and Physical Sciences
10:30 am 12:10 pm	Storytelling with The Elders	Room 214B	Indigenous Knowledge
12:15 pm 1:15 pm	College and Career Fair Lunch	Exhibit Hall 4	
1:00 pm 1:50 pm	Centering the edges: The simple steps we all can take to make our science communication more accessible for everyone	Room 218	Communications and Marketing Branding
1:00 pm 1:50 pm	Converging Indigenous Knowledge and Agriculture Sciences	Room 217B	Indigenous Knowledge
1:00 pm 1:50 pm	Indigenous Health, Relationality, and Social Media: Indigenous Health Information Sharing on TikTok	Room 217A	Computer and Information Science Engineering
1:00 pm 1:50 pm	Renewable Energy Education and Workforce Development: A Pathway for Tribal Energy Sovereignty	Room 214A	Professional & Workforce Development
1:00 pm 1:50 pm	The Etiquette Edge: Effective Communication and Conduct for Young Professionals	Room 214CD	Professional & Workforce Development
1:00 pm 1:50 pm	Visions for the Future: Exploring Environmental Justice in Indigenous Communities through Science, Storytelling, and Art	Room 214B	Environmental Science and Sustainability
1:00 pm 1:50 pm	Wearable Art - Panel with Designers and Fashion Show Producer	Room 217C	Art, Architecture, and Design
1:00 pm 5:00 pm	Oral Research Presentations	See online agenda and mobile app for locations	
2:00 pm 2:50 pm	AISES Nation: IndigiNerd Forge	Room 214CD	Art, Architecture, and Design
2:00 pm 2:50 pm	Am I Fit? A Dive into My Life-changing Health Journey	Room 217D	Social & Behavioral Sciences
2:00 pm 2:50 pm	Ancestral Roots, Migratory Routes: Re-centering Pasifika Cultural Practice in the Diaspora	Room 217C	Indigenous Knowledge

Start End	Session Name	Session Location	Session Tracks
2:00 pm 2:50 pm	Are You Ready to Compete in College and at the Workplace?	Room 217B	College & Career Readiness
2:00 pm 2:50 pm	Harmonizing Indigenous and STEM Identities: Creating Inclusive Educational Environments	Room 217A	Education and Student Success
2:00 pm 2:50 pm	Indigenous Success in Education Driving Unique Pathways to Leadership	Room 214A	College & Career Readiness
2:00 pm 2:50 pm	Protecting Traditions Through Modern Science	Room 214B	Environmental Science and Sustainability
3:00 pm 3:50 pm	AISES/USDA Indigenous Knowledge Research Program	Room 217B	Indigenous Knowledge
3:00 pm 3:50 pm	The ABCs of Networking for Students and Early Career Professionals	Room 214B	Professional & Workforce Development
3:00 pm 3:50 pm	The Energy Transition & Tribes- Looking Forward to a Clean Energy Future	Room 217A	STEM & Business
3:00 pm 3:50 pm	The National Map from USGS: Your Source for Topographic Information	Room 214CD	Geosciences
3:00 pm 3:50 pm	Transforming Indigenous Healthcare by Addressing Gaps in Physician Diversity and Training through an Indigenous School of Medicine	Room 217C	Health & Medical Sciences
3:00 pm 3:50 pm	Unlocking Federal Career Opportunities	Room 217D	Professional & Workforce Development
3:00 pm 3:50 pm	W. L. Gore & Associates: Empowering Innovation	Room 218	Engineering
3:00 pm 4:40 pm	Creating Your First Video Game: A Journey Through Code and Culture	Room 214A	Computer and Information Science Engineering
4:00 pm 4:50 pm	A Panel Session for those Considering or Pursuing an Academic Career: Voices of the AISES Academic Advisory Council	Room 218	Education and Student Success
4:00 pm 4:50 pm	Infusing Native Languages and STEM	Room 217A	Community Building
4:00 pm 4:50 pm	NASA MAIANSE+AISES: Forging a Path with NASA	Room 214CD	College & Career Readiness
4:00 pm 4:50 pm	Oceans Apart, Connected at Heart: Marine Conservation Curriculum for K-12	Room 214B	Education and Student Success
4:00 pm 4:50 pm	Protecting Our People and Homelands- How working for the U.S. Intelligence Community can create a safer and more just future	Room 217B	Professional & Workforce Development
4:00 pm 4:50 pm	Resilience in Transition: An Anishinaabe Engineer's Approach to Energy Transition Pathways in Oil and Gas	Room 217D	Engineering
4:00 pm 4:50 pm	Support Food Systems and Improve the Environment with a Career at the Natural Resources Conservation Service	Room 217C	Professional & Workforce Development

Start End	Session Name	Session Location	Session Tracks
5:00 pm 6:30 pm	College Student Regional Networking	Locations listed in session description.	
6:30 pm 8:30 pm	Professionals Networking Reception (Ticket purchase required)	Lone Star Ballroom DEF - Grand Hyatt Hotel	
7:30 pm 9:00 pm	President’s Reception (Invitation only)	The LDR - River Level	
8:00 pm 10:30 pm	Student Social - DJ and Dance	Hemisfair Ballroom	

Saturday, October 5

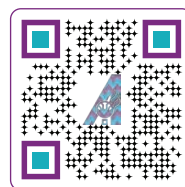
6:30 am 9:15 am	Sequoyah Fellows Breakfast & Ceremony (RSVP required)	Lone Star Ballroom DEF - Grand Hyatt Hotel	
7:00 am 9:00 am	Wellness Activity - Jingle Dance Instruction/Exercise	Mission A - Grand Hyatt Hotel	
7:00 am 3:00 pm	Student Study Lounge	Room 210	
7:00 am 3:00 pm	Volunteers Check-in Desk	West Registration - Outside Exhibit Hall 4B	
8:30 am 5:30 pm	Native Artisan Marketplace	Parkview Registration Lobby - Meeting Level Floor	
9:30 am 10:20 am	Exploring Indigenous Brilliance	Hemisfair Ballroom	
9:30 am 11:30 am	AISES Adventure Game-Come test your budgeting skills!	Room 214CD	Education and Student Success
10:00 am 4:00 pm	AISES Merchandise Booth	West Registration - Outside Exhibit Hall 4B	
10:00 am 5:00 pm	AISES Council of Elder’s Lounge - One on One	Room 208	
10:30 am 11:20 am	AISES Student Leadership Panel	Room 217A	Education and Student Success
10:30 am 11:20 am	Blood Quantum, Identity, and Belonging	Room 214A	Indigenous Knowledge
10:30 am 11:20 am	Chip Camp: A Step Inside Semiconductor Manufacturing	Room 212	Engineering
10:30 am 11:20 am	EDMAP: Geoscience Students Support Native and Tribal Communities While Building Geologic Mapping Skills	Room 214B	Geosciences
10:30 am 11:20 am	Environmental Science of sustainability in action: insects we can eat (Entomophagy) and mealworms that eat Styrofoam™.	Room 217C	Environmental Science and Sustainability

Start End	Session Name	Session Location	Session Tracks
10:30 am 11:20 am	Expanding AISES Communities in Biological Societies	Room 211	Biological Sciences
10:30 am 11:20 am	Increasing Representation in STEM starts in K-12	Room 209	Education and Student Success
10:30 am 11:20 am	Indigenous Connections through Career Opportunities in the USDA Forest Service	Room 213	College & Career Readiness
10:30 am 11:20 am	Making a Positive Impression at Lunch/Dinner Interviews (Dining Etiquette)	Room 217D	Professional & Workforce Development
10:30 am 11:20 am	U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science – Highlights of Career-focused STEM Training and Workforce Development	Room 215	Professional & Workforce Development
10:30 am 12:10 pm	Indigenizing Your Leadership Presence Through a Strong Personal Brand	Room 217B	Professional & Workforce Development
11:45 am 1:15 pm	Student Awards Luncheon (Registration required)	Lone Star Ballroom DEF - Grand Hyatt Hotel	
1:30 pm 2:20 pm	A Journey to Medicine: Pathways for AI/AN Students into Health Careers	Room 217B	Health & Medical Sciences
1:30 pm 2:20 pm	Adulting 101: Navigating College to Career with Ease	Room 214B	College & Career Readiness
1:30 pm 2:20 pm	Canadian Members Meeting	Room 218	
1:30 pm 2:20 pm	Empowering Global Financial Futures with Visa: Kickstarting Prosperity through Education and Football!	Room 217C	College & Career Readiness
1:30 pm 2:20 pm	Engineering, Research and Development with the US Army Corps of Engineers	Room 209	Engineering
1:30 pm 2:20 pm	Global STEM Opportunities with the U.S. Department of State	Room 217A	STEM & Business
1:30 pm 2:20 pm	Introduction to Environmental Enforcement (Enforcement 101)	Room 211	Environmental Science and Sustainability
1:30 pm 2:20 pm	Knowledge Transfer: Wisdom and Guidance for Management Success	Room 214A	Professional & Workforce Development
1:30 pm 2:20 pm	Preparing to work for the CIA	Room 212	College & Career Readiness
1:30 pm 2:20 pm	STEM @ NSA	Room 215	Professional & Workforce Development
1:30 pm 2:20 pm	Tobacco: From Traditional Use to Commercial Abuse [How it started. How it's going.]	Room 217D	Health & Medical Sciences
1:30 pm 2:20 pm	U.S. National College Student Caucus	Room 214CD	

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Start End	Session Name	Session Location	Session Tracks
1:30 pm 2:20 pm	White House Initiative for Native Americans and Tribal Colleges and Universities Listening Session for a Comprehensive Education Study	Room 213	Education and Student Success
2:30 pm 3:20 pm	A Career with Boundless Opportunity - Presented by Northrop Grumman	Room 215	Professional & Workforce Development
2:30 pm 3:20 pm	AISES CAC ERG Best Practices	Room 209	Community Building
2:30 pm 3:20 pm	AISES Members Meeting	Room 212	
2:30 pm 3:20 pm	College and Career Readiness	Room 214B	College & Career Readiness
2:30 pm 3:20 pm	Empowering Future AI/AN Oral Health Professionals: A Journey of Support and Growth	Room 211	Health & Medical Sciences
2:30 pm 3:20 pm	Google Leadership Roundtable	Room 217A	Professional & Workforce Development
2:30 pm 3:20 pm	Healing Indigenous Communities: Exploring Possibilities in Veterinary Medicine	Room 217B	Education and Student Success
2:30 pm 3:20 pm	Intertribal/Corporate Networking Workshop	Room 214A	Professional & Workforce Development
2:30 pm 3:20 pm	Owl Springs Way Bridge Replacement Project - Pueblo of Jemez	Room 217C	Engineering
2:30 pm 3:20 pm	Seeding Innovation: Learn how we started High School CS courses across Turtle Island!	Room 218	Computer and Information Science Engineering
2:30 pm 3:20 pm	Supplier Diversity: Building Community Through Economic Opportunity	Room 213	STEM & Business
2:30 pm 4:10 pm	Pattern Evidence Forensic Science Examinations at the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)	Room 214CD	Mathematical and Physical Sciences
3:30 pm 5:00 pm	Closing Talking Circle (All welcome)	Lone Star Ballroom ABC - Grand Hyatt Hotel	
6:00 pm 8:30 pm	Closing Banquet	Hemisfair Ballroom	
9:00 pm 11:30 pm	Traditional Native Social Powwow	Exhibit Hall 4B	

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RESEARCH AGENDA

Thank you to our research sponsors!



All events are in the convention center unless noted after the room number or name.

Full descriptions of the oral research presentations and presenter biographies can be found online at <https://conference.aises.org/agenda>

Check the online agenda and mobile app for the most up to date information.

Start End	Session Name	Session Location	Session Tracks
Friday, October 4			
9:30 am 9:50 am	Base Editing Approach for eQTL Validation	Room 213	Research: Life Sciences
9:30 am 9:50 am	Evaluating the antimicrobial effectiveness of native medicinal plant extracts against clinically important pathogens	Room 212	Research: Life Sciences
9:30 am 9:50 am	No More Skeletons in the Closet: How Active Learning Revives Anatomy Courses	Room 209	Research: STEM Education
9:30 am 9:50 am	Workplace Experiences of Indigenous Women Park Rangers	Room 211	Research: Other
10:00 am 10:20 am	Chirping for Change	Room 209	Research: Health Sciences
10:00 am 10:20 am	Crosscutting Red Pedagogy, STEM Education, Deaf Education, and Native Signs	Room 213	Research: STEM Education
10:00 am 10:20 am	Indigenous Students in Computer Science and Engineering Transitioning to the Workplace: The Role of Two-Eyed Seeing and Giving Back	Room 211	Research: STEM Education
10:30 am 10:50 am	Investigating the Quantification Capabilities of a Nanopore-based Sequencing Platform for Food Safety Application via External Standards of Lambda DNA and Lambda Spiked Beef	Room 211	Research: Life Sciences
10:30 am 10:50 am	Mechanistic characterization of profibrotic macrophages in progressive pulmonary fibrosis.	Room 213	Research: Health Sciences
10:30 am 10:50 am	Pèci wicêwin! Exploring Neutron Bubble Multiplicity in Dark Matter Detection	Room 209	Research: Physical Sciences
10:30 am 10:50 am	Utilizing Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning for Advanced Weather Pattern Predictions: An Improvement in Weather Forecasting	Room 212	Research: Engineering

11:00 am 11:20 am	Direct Functionalization of Polymers Containing Acidic C–H Bonds Via Reverse Polarity Hydrogen Atom Transfer	Room 211	Research: Other
11:00 am 11:20 am	Effects of Cultural Syndromes on Giving and Receiving Feedback	Room 212	Research: Psychology
11:00 am 11:20 am	The polluted unregulated water sources on the Navajo reservation and the community health	Room 209	Research: Health Sciences
11:00 am 11:20 am	User Gender Classification Based on twitter Data	Room 213	Research: Computer Science
1:00 pm 1:20 pm	Examining the Lived Experiences of Native Americans Affected by Poultry Farms in Cherokee Nation Reservation: An Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis	Room 209	Research: Health Sciences
1:00 pm 1:20 pm	Exploring riparian species diversity in northern Colorado with Native sciences	Room 211	Research: Life Sciences
1:00 pm 1:20 pm	Four Corners Indigenous Farm Assessment: Soil, Land-use, Controlled Environment Agriculture and COVID-19 Impacts on Navajo farmers in the San Juan River Valley.	Room 213	Research: Life Sciences
1:00 pm 1:20 pm	Operationalizing Tribal Sovereignty as a Tool for Understanding the Decisions of Students and Organizations in STEM Education	Room 212	Research: STEM Education
1:30 pm 1:50 pm	Carbon Fluxes from Hydrologically Disturbed Peatlands	Room 211	Research: Life Sciences
1:30 pm 1:50 pm	Crab Engineering: Aerogel Solution for Coastal Conservation in British Columbia	Room 213	Research: Engineering
1:30 pm 1:50 pm	From Truth to Reconciliation: An Examination of Geophysical Perspectives & Knowledge Stewardship	Room 212	Research: Geosciences
1:30 pm 1:50 pm	Rivercane Restoration: Incorporating Traditional Ecological Knowledge into Nature-Based Solutions	Room 209	Research: Life Sciences
2:00 pm 2:20 pm	Assessing Material Efficiency in Solar Water Heaters	Room 213	Research: Engineering
2:00 pm 2:20 pm	Bridging the Gap: From Information Theory to Quantum Optics and Beyond	Room 209	Research: Computer Science
2:00 pm 2:20 pm	Cultivating Engagement, Empowering Change: Inquiry-Based Environmental Health Education In The Arizona Copper Corridor	Room 211	Research: STEM Education
2:00 pm 2:20 pm	Small matrix path integral studies of energy transfer with distance-dependent coupling	Room 212	Research: Other
2:30 pm 2:50 pm	Data Parsing for Software-Defined Radio Communications	Room 212	Research: Engineering
2:30 pm 2:50 pm	Electrodiffusion: Relevance to Epilepsy and Neuromorphics	Room 209	Research: Engineering
2:30 pm 2:50 pm	Holistic and academic support mechanisms for Native Adolescence in Minnesota.	Room 213	Research: Health Sciences

2:30 pm 2:50 pm	Mycobacterium avium subspecies paratuberculosis (MAP) infection in goats results in widespread infection and pathology in atypical organs	Room 211	Research: Life Sciences
3:00 pm 3:20 pm	Inclusive genetics curriculum for high school students in the Kuskokwim Basin, Alaska	Room 212	Research: STEM Education
3:00 pm 3:20 pm	Indigenous Knowledge: The Key to Restoration Efforts in Hawai‘i	Room 209	Research: Life Sciences
3:00 pm 3:20 pm	Mapping burn severity and meeting wildlife management needs for a tribal landscape in New Mexico	Room 211	Research: Life Sciences
3:00 pm 3:20 pm	Single Cell Approaches to Studying Neuro-Psychiatric Diseases	Room 213	Research: Life Sciences
3:30 pm 3:50 pm	Embracing Matariki: Integrating Māori Knowledge in Aotearoa New Zealand’s Education System.	Room 209	Research: STEM Education
3:30 pm 3:50 pm	Inclusive Pathways: Nurturing Indigenous Wisdom for Sustainable Futures- A case study of the Indigenous Ogiek and the Mijikenda of the Coastal region of Kenya	Room 212	Research: Other
3:30 pm 3:50 pm	Mycoremediation of Nitrate Using Pleurotus ostreatus: a microcosm experiment	Room 211	Research: Other
3:30 pm 3:50 pm	Temperature-Dependent Suppression of Ca²⁺ Signaling During Effector-Triggered Immunity in Plants	Room 213	Research: Life Sciences
4:00 pm 4:20 pm	Caffeine: Effects on SKOV-3 Human Ovarian Cancer Cells	Room 211	Research: Life Sciences
4:00 pm 4:20 pm	Channel Geometry and Vegetation Establishment in Idealized Salt Marsh Systems: Insights from Numerical Modeling	Room 213	Research: Engineering
4:00 pm 4:20 pm	Metagenomic Analysis of Microbiome and Cytoprotective Capacity Gene Expression in the Ileum of Heat-Induced Oxidative Stress in Broilers With Dietary Use of Astaxanthin-Rich Haematococcus pluvialis Microalgae	Room 212	Research: Life Sciences
4:00 pm 4:20 pm	Subsurface water in M’Chigeeng First Nation	Room 209	Research: Geosciences
4:30 pm 4:50 pm	Antimicrobial Properties of Silver Nanoparticles Conjoined with Self-assembling Peptides	Room 211	Research: Physical Sciences
4:30 pm 4:50 pm	Highly water stable Ultrathin 2D Metal organic framework-based membrane for molecular separation	Room 213	Research: Other
4:30 pm 4:50 pm	Impactful Research in Calcite Geochronology: Understanding Mudstone Evolution through Time	Room 209	Research: Geosciences
4:30 pm 4:50 pm	Opportunities and Barriers for Agrivoltaics on Tribal Lands	Room 212	Research: Life Sciences
4:30 pm 4:50 pm	Plants of My Ancestors: Healing Communities Through Indigenous Alliances	Room 209	Research: Psychology, Research: Social Sciences



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREST SERVICE CAREERS

REAL JOBS REAL IMPACT

Since 1905, the Forest Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, has brought people and communities together to answer the call of conservation.



EXPLORE STEM WITH THE FOREST SERVICE

Learn how Forest Service STEM professionals make a difference in communities and help steward the Nation's forests and grasslands.



Scan the QR code or visit fs.usda.gov/working-with-us to learn about Forest Service careers.

Connect with the Forest Service during the **American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) Conference:**

October 3, 5:00–7:00 p.m. CT

Student Networking Suite, Room 006C

October 4, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. CT

College and Career Fair, Booth 907

October 5, 10:30–11:20 a.m. CT

Panel Session: Indigenous Connections through Career Opportunities in the Forest Service, Room 213



Although all sessions fall within a specific track, track designations are only a suggestion! We encourage you to read through the program, especially the session descriptions, and attend ANY session suited to your interests. There are many sessions to choose from, so plan carefully, be strategic, and most importantly engage with your fellow conference attendees and presenters.

All presenter biographies are listed at <https://conference.aises.org/agenda/presenters>

3D printing overview

ENGINEERING

FRIDAY • 9:30 am - 10:20 am

Edward Rabideaux (*Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa*)

Advanced Manufacturing Engineer, Modine Manufacturing

This session will cover the basics of 3D printing. What is the point of 3D printing? How do I get started with printing? What do I have to get to have a successful first couple of prints? What printers are on the market, benefits and disadvantages of each? What should I be looking out for when setting up and starting prints? These questions aim to have novice users become successful with 3D printing. Along with educating intermediate users on the industry and expose them to options they may not have known previously.

A Career with Boundless Opportunity - Presented by Northrop Grumman

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SATURDAY • 2:30 pm - 3:20 pm

Kurby Hodges

Sr. Manager, Strategic Partnerships & Conferences, Northrop Grumman

Whether you're an aspiring engineer ready to embark on a rewarding career, or an experienced STEM professional looking to solve the world's toughest challenges, you have the ability to define your journey at Northrop Grumman. Hear from leaders who dreamed of pushing the boundaries of possible – their drive and passion inspired them to seek out opportunities to develop cutting edge technologies across air, cyber, sea and space. Learn how you can use your expertise and unique insights to deliver innovative solutions, advance human exploration and reimagine the technological landscape.

A Journey to Medicine: Pathways for AI/AN Students into Health Careers

HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES

SATURDAY • 1:30 pm - 2:20 pm

Dr. Bret Benally Thompson (*White Earth Nation*)

Director of Indigenous Health and Cultural Guidance, PI and Clinical Associate Professor, Native American Center for Health Professions, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

Dr. Cristi Pinela (*Raramuri/Tarahumara*)

Assistant Director and Faculty, Wy'east Post-Bacc Pathway, Northwest Native American Center of Excellence (NNACoE), Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU)

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Brianna Wing (*Mashpee Wampanoag*)

Wy'east Nursing Pathway Assistant Director, Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), School of Nursing

Jeremiah Wistrom

Communications Manager and Design Lead, Native American Center of Excellence (NNACoE), Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU)

Daniellej Yancey (*Menominee and Santee Sioux Nations*)

Director, Native American Center for Health Professions, Native American Center for Health Professions (NACHP), University of Wisconsin Madison School of Medicine and Public Health

The Northwest Native American Center of Excellence (NNACoE) at Oregon Health & Science University and the Native American Center for Health Professions (NACHP) at University of Wisconsin – Madison collectively hold nearly 20 years of experience in increasing the numbers of AI/ANs in the health professions. Both NNACoE and NACHP have developed pathways into health careers that we will highlight in this session. First, you will hear from NACHP, one of the members of the Great Lakes Applicant Workshop, which features mini sessions on application process, MCAT, and personal statement topics and an AI/AN physician keynote address. Then, you will learn about the NNACoE Wy'east pathways, which are tuition-free post-baccalaureate programs ranging from 3-10 months in duration. Successful Wy'east scholars earn conditional acceptance to OHSU. In sum, we will highlight the range of ways that AI/AN learners can enter training and ultimately succeed in the health professions.

A Panel Session for those Considering or Pursuing an Academic Career: Voices of the AISES Academic Advisory Council

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

FRIDAY • 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

Dr. Tim Anderson (*Pokagaw Band of Potawatomi*)

Chair, Dept of Engineering and Technology Management, Portland State University

Dr. Joseph Bull (*Delaware Tribe of Indians*)

H. Chik M. Erzurumlu Dean, Portland State University

Dr. Ryan Emanuel (*Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina*)

Associate Professor, Duke University

Dr. Mary Jo Ondrechen (*Mohawk*)

Professor, Northeastern University

Dr. Aaron Thomas (*Dine'*)

Professor, University of Montana

Dr. Robert (Bob) Whitman (*Dine' (Navajo)*)

Emeritus Teaching Professor, University of Denver

Dr. Velinda Locklear Woriox (*Lumbee*)

Chair, Biology Department, University of North Carolina at Pembroke

Members of the AISES Academic Advisory Council come from a range of institutions, fields, and levels of experience but are united in helping encourage and support the future AISES STEM academics to serve as role models for the generations to come. In this session, members of the council, along with colleagues, will share their experience and advice for those on the path to academic careers or those considering it.

Academic Advisory Council Meeting (AAC)

THURSDAY • 3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

The Academic Advisory Council (AAC) provides advice and guidance to AISES regarding academic matters such as grant proposal writing, educational and research project design, faculty careers, college admissions and financial aid, postgraduate study and fellowship opportunities, research opportunities, and other higher education opportunities.

If you are interested in joining the AAC, contact Dr. Tiffany Smith, Director of Research and Career Support at TSmith@aises.org.

Acing the Job Interview

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

THURSDAY • 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm

Katie Bigelow

Systems Engineer, Merck

Sonni Tadlock (Colville)

Project Manager, Merck

This presentation will demystify the job interview path, provide tips on how to stand out as a job applicant, discuss methods for preparing and answering interview questions, and define best practices for interviewing. The session will include practical examples to implement interviewing skills and allow for Q&A at the end of the presentation.

Adulting 101: Navigating College to Career with Ease

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

SATURDAY • 1:30 pm - 2:20 pm

Vince Bond

VP, Leadership Programs and Early Career, Synchrony

Alexandra Reap

Campus Recruiter, Synchrony

Heather Taylor

Analyst Workforce Planning Operations, Synchrony

Jillian TopSky – Baptiste

Business Leadership Program – Sales and Relationship, Synchrony

Are you getting ready for an internship or job post-college? Are you thinking about what post-grad life is like? Join Synchrony in an empowering presentation tailored to help prepare students to transition smoothly from college life to their professional careers. This comprehensive session covers a wide range of essential topics, including prioritizing mental health, how to get the most out of your company's benefits package, effective networking strategies, time management, budgeting & financial goal setting. Join us for this informative presentation to gain the tools and confidence needed for a successful post-college journey.

AISES - Internships & Scholarships Info Session

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

THURSDAY • 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm

Dr. Johnny Poolaw (Delaware, Chiricahua Apache, Comanche, Kiowa)

Director of Student Success, AISES

Dr. James Wagnon (Cherokee Nation)

Student Success Senior Program Officer, AISES

In this session, we will provide an overview of the scholarships and internship opportunities offered through the American Indian Sciences and Engineering Society (AISES). We will cover essential

details, including deadlines, various scholarships available, and key elements of a strong application. Additionally, attendees will have the chance to ask the current Director and Program Officer of Student Success any questions about the processes and other related inquiries.

AISES Adventure Game-Come test your budgeting skills!

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

SATURDAY • 9:30 am - 11:30 am

Ruth Blackhawk Cameron (Mnikowozu Lakota/Hocagana)

Director of Curriculum & Instruction, AISES

Katherine Jacobs (Eastern Band Cherokee/Cherokee Nation)

Curriculum & Instruction Program Officer, AISES

Kathleen Sharbono

Curriculum and Instruction Program Manager, AISES Native Financial Cents

The Native Financial Cents AISES Adventure is a real-world money management simulation. In this activity, students are given roles to play and fake money where they must make informed spending decisions to purchase a car, get housing, groceries, taxes, student loans, etc. This workshop teaches important financial education concepts like budgeting, comparison shopping, and evaluating needs, wants, and tradeoffs in a relevant and engaging way. This opportunity is highly engaging and beneficial for students to gain a deeper understanding of financial literacy through an Indigenous lens.

Space is limited please arrive early!

AISES CAC ERG Best Practices

COMMUNITY BUILDING

SATURDAY • 2:30 pm - 3:20 pm

Brodie Gullic (Cherokee Nation)

Software Engineer, Pinterest

Jennifer Mayberry (Chippewa Cree of Rocky Boys Reservation)

Visa Inc Senior Director, Visa

Alice Sanchez (Pomo, Choctaw and Hawaiian)

Security Engineering Technical Leader, Cisco

The AISES CAC ERG Best Practices team will discuss the playbook as a whole but highlight the following areas: How to start and grow your ERG, Allyship, Cultural Awareness Training, and Professional Workforce development.

AISES Council of Elder's Lounge - One on One

THURSDAY • 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

FRIDAY - SATURDAY • 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Stop by the Elder's Lounge to seek wisdom, strength, love, or personal guidance from a member of the AISES Council of Elders.

AISES Members Meeting

SATURDAY • 2:30 pm - 3:20 pm

Meet the new Individual Membership Team and engage in the business of the membership. The meeting is open to all conference registrants but only members are eligible to vote in-person on the meeting agenda and the previous year's minutes, or online on resolutions approved by the AISES Board of Directors. The meeting will be live streamed via Zoom for those members who cannot attend the conference. Look for an announcement with a Zoom meeting link, the resolution(s) for members' consideration and vote, and a time frame for the vote.

AISES Merchandise Booth

WEDNESDAY • 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

THURSDAY - FRIDAY • 7:00 am - 5:00 pm

SATURDAY • 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Buy AISES branded apparel and accessories at the merchandise booth, including the official AISES National Conference t-shirt!

Cash and credit cards are accepted for all purchases.

AISES Nation: Histories and Mysteries LIVE

STEM & BUSINESS

THURSDAY • 11:00 am - 11:50 am

Shayna Dix*Individual Membership Manager, AISES*

Join us for an unforgettable session filled with intellectual thrill at the AISES Nation: Histories and Mysteries LIVE event! Explore the wonders of STEM while solving mind-bending puzzles and uncovering historical Indigenous mysteries.

AISES Nation: IndigiNerd Forge

ART, ARCHITECTURE, AND DESIGN

FRIDAY • 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm

Shayna Dix*Individual Membership Manager, AISES*

Stop in and game with the best at the AISES Nation: IndigiNerd Forge event! This session will feature opportunities to forge new friendships while participating in an epic video gaming battle. Join us for a bit of friendly competition, camaraderie, and fun with our special IndigiNerd guests: Brittney Raines and Shana Leigh.

AISES PK12 Opportunities

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

FRIDAY • 8:30 am - 9:20 am

Tesia Zientek (*Citizen Potawatomi Nation*)*Senior Director of Programs, AISES*

This session will give a broad overview of the AISES opportunities offered to K-12 students and teachers. Attendees will learn about programs that provide hands-on financial literacy activities, culturally-relevant engineering and computer science for middle and high schools, our National Native American Science and Engineering Fair, our STEM-centered college and career readiness guide, educator professional development opportunities, and more! Each of these programs comes with special perks that we are excited to share.

Join us if you want to learn more about AISES opportunities!

AISES Student Leadership Panel

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

SATURDAY • 10:30 am - 11:20 am

Join us to hear from AISES student representatives. Moderated by representatives from the AISES CAC and GRC, student leaders will discuss their academic paths, career aspirations, and how their involvement in AISES has impacted their journeys.

AISES/USDA Indigenous Knowledge Research Program

INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

FRIDAY • 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

Jeffrey Harris*Program Analyst, USDA Office of Tribal Relations***Satema Lopez** (*Apache*)*Student, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)***Lisa Yellow Luger** (*Standing Rock Sioux*)*Deputy Director, Tribal College Program, USDA Office of Tribal Relations*

USDA and AISES work together to elevate projects that focus on the intersection of Indigenous knowledge and western science. Indigenous knowledge is a body of observations, oral and written knowledge, innovations, practices, and beliefs developed by Tribes and Indigenous peoples through interaction and experience with the environment. This program is for high school, undergraduate, and graduate students to develop and conduct Indigenous knowledge research projects. Students from past years have conducted research projects on topics such as ethnobotany, mental health, and traditional medicine. Selected applicants will be supported in their project and skill development journey through a stipend to support IK research project activities, monthly webinars on IK topics from leaders in the field, and access to IK resources and Indian Country and USDA mentors.

Am I Fit? A Dive into My Life-changing Health Journey

SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

FRIDAY • 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm

Dr. Thomas Reed (*Hopi*)*Principal Electrical Engineer - MMIC Design, RTX*

Health challenges including obesity-related diseases are not rare in Indigenous communities. I always thought I was overweight and believed media's messages about overweight people. My path was a rollercoaster that came to a point of low mobility, chronic health issues at over 300 lbs. How could I balance health with school, work, and family? Over the last 3 years, my journey has brought some incredible changes allowing me to experience health and balance I haven't had my entire life. This talk will share my journey to understanding more about myself, spot generational trauma, and realize that the reason I struggled so much with healthy behaviors was much deeper than I could have imagined. After this session, you will be able to begin taking steps to own your own journeys, ask for help possibly for the first time, and finally accept that you are worth it.

Ancestral Roots, Migratory Routes: Re-centering Pasifika Cultural Practice in the Diaspora

INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

FRIDAY • 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm

Joshua Ching (*Kanaka Maoli (Native Hawaiian)*)*Student, Yale University***Dr. Lelemia Irvine** (*Kanaka 'ōiwi (Native Hawaiian)*)*Assistant Professor of Physics, University of Hawai'i– West O'ahu***Dane Keahi** (*Kanaka Maoli (Native Hawaiian)*)*Student, Yale University***Jairus Rhoades** (*American Samoa*)*Student, Yale University*

In 2020, the U.S. Census found that more Native Hawaiians live in the contiguous U.S. than Hawai'i—a microcosm of increasing migration rates of Pasifika people to the continent. In this expanding diaspora, cultural disconnection and feelings of disbelonging become especially salient. From university to the workforce, Indigeneity, in STEM and beyond, is not just an identity marker—it's a way of life that needs to be actively practiced, especially in spaces where our numbers are few. Across the East Coast, diasporic Pasifika youth are building communities on college campuses that preserve those connections. Last year at Yale, Pasifika students organized the region's first intercollegiate Pasifika Fest, hosted countless events and

leaders from the Pacific, and held our University accountable for its problematic history on our islands. In partnership with our local AISES chapter, we hope to share lessons and pathways for maintaining Indigenous culture and identity in the diaspora.

Anishinaabe Ogimaawiwin (American Indian Leadership)

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

THURSDAY • 12:00 pm - 12:50 pm

Dr. Mark Bellcourt (*White Earth Nation*)

Elder/BOD, Indigenous Minds

Most western leadership theories are inconsistent from the leadership worldviews of diverse communities. "...American Indian culture impels a leadership form that centers on communal responsibilities, a concern for the welfare of the tribe, and stewardship for all life..." (Bordas, 2012). During this session, we will how changing "I" to "we," creating intergenerational leadership, involving "all my relatives," and gratitude are better aligned with Indigenous values. Bordas, Juana. (2007). *Salsa, soul, and spirit: leadership for a multicultural age*. San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler Publishers

Apply to the National Science Foundation to Fund your Research and Education Activities

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

FRIDAY • 8:30 am - 9:20 am

The U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) is the federal agency that supports research and education/training programs in STEM. Come to this session to hear about programs we support in all STEM fields – biosciences, geosciences, computer and information science and engineering, mathematical and physical sciences, STEM education, and social and behavioral sciences. The session will also cover programs in the new Technology, Innovation and Partnerships (TIP) directorate. A short presentation will highlight the programs that are most pertinent to Indigenous students, faculty, and administrators. The overview will be followed by discussions in small groups that focus on your specific interests. Inform NSF of the needs in your communities, come with your questions, hear about recently announced programs, and learn how best to prepare your ideas for successful submission to receive NSF funding.

Are You Ready to Compete in College and at the Working place?

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

FRIDAY • 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm

John Sun

Co-Founder, Tribal Aid Benefit Concerts

Erica Sun

CEO, Sun Curating Group

To not only be ready for college and professional career but also to be prepared to compete for the best institutions and positions. Building confidence, leadership skills, communication skills, management skills, and be trusted by your peers are important traits needed in order to succeed in both college and the workplace.

Blood Quantum, Identity, and Belonging

INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

SATURDAY • 10:30 am - 11:20 am

Norbert Hill, Jr. (*Oneida*)

AISES Council of Elders, AISES

Blood quantum has shaped Native identity in the United States as one of the primary determinants in deciding "Who is (and isn't) an Indian" for many tribal nations for well over a century. It is a system that is unsustainable and will result in Indigenous self-termination; it is one of, if not the, biggest threats to tribal sovereignty. We are living in challenging circumstances when it comes to navigating

what it means to be Native. Daily, we are confronted with stories of tribal disenrollment, DNA testing, egg and Sperm banks, pretendians, online dating, debates over sports mascots...all challenging Indigenous core values and definitions of what it means to belong to a tribal nation and community. This is a leadership moment for AISES students. You can't run from who YOU are or WHERE you came from. This session will inform and explore the issues surrounding blood quantum, identity, and belonging. Students will have a greater understanding of their responsibilities to their families, nations, and communities. What does it mean to be a Native student? A Native Engineer? A Native Scientist, Doctor, or Businessperson?

Bridging Oceans with Numbers: Youth Dialogue in Pacific Ethnomathematics

INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

FRIDAY • 10:30 am - 11:20 am

Marnita Coenraad

Project Specialist, Juneau School District

Kate Cruz

Learning Strategist, Soaring Crane Solutions LLC

In the Chatham School District of Alaska, ethnomathematics is creating a bridge that integrates Indigenous knowledge with contemporary mathematical education. This approach highlights the social, political, and economic factors shaping our communities while celebrating the rich histories and identities of our students and educators. By grounding mathematics in the resurgence of Indigenous watercrafts, food sovereignty, and language revitalization, students understand math's relevance and its crucial role in improving the health of their lands and communities.

Inspired by the University of Hawai'i Ethnomathematics program and the Polynesian Voyaging Society, our commitment has transformed educational practices, leading to an annual ethnomathematics symposium. This event brings together Indigenous youth and educators from Alaska, BC, and Hawai'i, empowering them as thought leaders and active participants in shaping the future of math education. Students gain new skills and see their communities as vibrant centers of mathematical thought and Indigenous innovation.

Canadian Members Meeting

SATURDAY • 1:30 pm - 2:20 pm

All Canadian AISES members and conference attendees are welcome to gather, network, discuss and learn about future opportunities and events happening in Canada.

Capacity Building through Entrepreneurship

STEM & BUSINESS

THURSDAY • 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm

Stephanie Bostwick (*Amskapi Pikuni (Blackfeet Nation)*)

Tribal College and University Coordinator, U.S. Department of Energy

Rick Kempinski

Director for Fellowship Recruitment, Activate Global

Encouraging collaboration between STEM and Business majors promotes opportunities for STEM-related business development that can expand workforce development and economic growth for communities. Entrepreneurship can serve as the key to building capacity in Tribal communities by starting businesses, while also creating new economic and workforce opportunities. Attend this session to hear about the experiences of entrepreneurs, researchers, and program managers in their pursuit of capacity building, and explore the various entrepreneurship-related prizes, funding solicitations, and fellowships available at the U.S. Department of Energy.

Career Pathways in Aerospace

ENGINEERING

THURSDAY • 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

Pablo Bueno

Lead Engineer, Southwest Research Institute

Brian Calvary

Director of Membership, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics

Many people picture an astronaut in a spacesuit when they think of a career in aerospace. But the truth is there are hundreds of jobs in the aerospace fields. One of them may be perfect for you. Today's aerospace professionals design, develop, test, and supervise the manufacture of aircraft, spacecraft, satellites, missiles, and more. They develop new technologies for use in aviation, defense systems, and space exploration. They specialize in areas such as aerodynamics; structural design; guidance, navigation, and control; thermal dynamics; propulsion; information systems; and production methods and more. They use computer-aided design software, robotics, lasers, and advanced electronics. Join us and learn about how you can have a career in aerospace!

Career Readiness in Aerospace

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

THURSDAY • 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

Kurby Hodges

Sr. Manager, Strategic Partnerships & Conferences, Northrop Grumman

The United States must continue to innovate at the speed of relevance to take us safely into the future. Nations, governments and commercial airlines alike rely upon the aerospace industry to be robust and forward thinking in developing new capabilities. The workforce must have the desire and capability to translate technology into products and services that meet the ever-changing needs of commercial, civil and government needs. In this interactive session, aerospace industry leaders will discuss what knowledge, skills, and abilities are required from engineers and technical experts to meet these demands. The audience will hear tips and experiences from those who have journeyed down this path and will learn what it takes to be an engineer in the future of aerospace. (Panelists will be from Boeing, Lockheed Martin Northrop Grumman and RTX.)

Centering the edges: The simple steps we all can take to make our science communication more accessible for everyone

COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING BRANDING

FRIDAY • 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm

Racquel Jemison

Assistant Director, American Chemical Society

Over 15% of the world's population have some form of disability. This increases when adding people experiencing aging-related conditions, temporary or episodic disabilities, and people that do not disclose disabilities. This makes accessible communication and digital environment design incredibly important. Historically, digital and print environments are designed for the alleged "average" user. This often results in products that are incompatible with assistive technologies. This presentation will cover simple steps that all of us as scientists and science communicators can take to improve accessibility of posters, oral presentations, and even social media posts. With planning, people with low or no vision, who are hard of hearing or Deaf, have mobility or fine motor challenges, or/and have cognitive disabilities can participate in STEM. We'll discuss the ways in which many accessibility modifications can benefit all. Topics include

alternative text for images and non-text, use of color with data, formatting, and presentation techniques.

Chapter Advisors Meeting

FRIDAY • 9:30 am - 11:30 am

All AISES college chapter advisors are invited to join this meeting. This is a time to network with other chapter advisors and discuss best practices, ideas, and concerns involving advising an AISES college chapter.

Chart Your Course: Develop Top Leadership Traits

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

FRIDAY • 10:30 am - 11:20 am

Lana Port

CWO2, US Coast Guard

Corylee Redhorse

YN2, US Coast Guard

Exhibiting leadership qualities can help you excel at and advance in your career. Developing leadership traits can also improve your professional marketability, whether you're starting out on your career journey or looking for new opportunities. In this workshop, presented by U.S. Coast Guard leaders, we'll explore the traits of effective leaders. You will learn how to grow your leadership traits, prioritize learning and professional development, find a mentor, and improve your communication and interpersonal relationship skills.

Chip Camp: A Step Inside Semiconductor Manufacturing

ENGINEERING

SATURDAY • 10:30 am - 11:20 am

Robert Simmons

Director of Social Impact & STEM Programs, Micron Technology

Discover the fascinating world of semiconductor chips in this interactive workshop. We will demystify the technology that powers everything from smartphones to satellites. Through hands-on activity and discussions, participants will explore how chips are designed, manufactured, and integrated into everyday devices. It's a unique opportunity to understand the critical role of semiconductors in modern technology and to ignite a passion for innovation in the next generation of engineers. Join us for an engaging session that bridges theory with practical insight into the building blocks of our digital world.

Clean Energy: What's in your backyard?

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

THURSDAY • 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm

Tanya Martinez (*Mi'kmaq First Nation*)

Senior Director of Development, AES

We are currently being confronted with the realities of climate change and need swift, innovative, solutions. We are going through a significant transformation in energy generation, resulting in a major "energy transition" from fossil fuels to clean renewable energy resources. Let's talk about existing clean energy opportunities and how one might assess what potential energy resources you may have in available in your backyard. In this session, we will discuss the steps necessary to determine if you have a viable energy resource. Perhaps there is a potential opportunity with your Tribal Nation you are considering exploring that may also be an opportunity for economic development. Let's chat about the initial steps one must take to assess the resources that may be available in your backyard!

Closing Banquet

(SATURDAY • 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm)

For this year's Closing Banquet, AISES proudly presents the Sky Eagle Collection Brand (Dante Grayson Biss) & Brocade (Brocade Stops Black Eagle) as they showcase their Indigenous Fashion brands that are infused with tradition, elegance and contemporary wearable art. Their wearable artwork utilizes science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) in creating their one of a kind looks that are trending across Turtle Island. The Banquet also pays tribute to the AISES Professional of the Year Award winners, and Partner Service Award recipients!

Closing Talking Circle (All welcome)

(SATURDAY • 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm)

Facilitated by the honored AISES Council of Elders, the closing talking circle is a unique opportunity to know each other deeply, support each other, collaborate on an idea, and learn from one another about the National Conference or other experience. Bring your authentic self to reflect and listen to each other with our hearts and hold space for one another. Listen to others as they contribute a story, a song, or a point of view. Everyone can participate in complete honesty. Enter with an open heart and emerge with something useful for yourself, your community or global vision.

College and Career Fair

(FRIDAY • 9:00 am - 4:00 pm)

AISES hosts the largest College and Career Fair in Indian Country that is for Indigenous professionals, high school, and college students from the U.S. and Canada. The Fair attracts professionals and college recruiters from 235 corporations, government agencies, and colleges and universities. This mix encourages mentoring and sharing that is unparalleled at any other event.

College and Career Fair Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

(FRIDAY • 9:00 am - 9:15 am)

Join us for the annual ribbon cutting and official opening of the AISES College and Career Fair. Our Council of Elders and Student Reps will share a blessing with all attendees for a successful and fruitful fair, sending attendees and employers with luck for all future opportunities.

College and Career Readiness

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

(SATURDAY • 2:30 pm - 3:20 pm)

Brandi Hendrickson

Director, Talent Acquisition, Aristocrat

Join us for an engaging session focused on empowering professionals and students to enhance their career readiness. We'll explore key skills like effective communication, critical thinking, and adaptability, alongside practical tips for crafting standout resumes and acing interviews. Attendees will learn to leverage networking opportunities and embrace lifelong learning to stay competitive in an evolving job market. This session is ideal for anyone looking to gain a strategic edge in their career journey.

College Student Regional Networking

(FRIDAY • 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm)

AISES students are invited to gather by region to discuss issues of interest as well as plan for their upcoming regional conference. Led by the Regional Student Representatives, this is a time for students to meet other students and professionals in their region. This is a student event, but professional members and corporate partners are welcome to attend to network. College Student

Region 1 Convention Center Location: 007A

Region 2 Convention Center Location: 007B

Region 3 Convention Center Location: 007C

Region 4 Convention Center Location: 007D

Region 5 Convention Center Location: 008A

Region 6 Convention Center Location: 008B

Region 7 Convention Center Location: River Lobby - (outside 008B)

Conference Check-in and Registration

(WEDNESDAY • 9:00 am - 6:00 pm)

(THURSDAY • - FRIDAY • 7:00 am - 5:00 pm)

All conference attendees must be registered and your conference name badge worn at all times. Access to conference events will only be granted with your conference name badge. Pick up your name badge and other important conference materials at the conference registration desk. Exhibitors who ordered lead retrieval devices may pick them up at the ATS tech table near the conference registration desk on Friday at 7:30 am. AISES offers membership for individuals as well as for high schools, colleges and universities and professional groups. Student membership is FREE. Visit the AISES Membership booth for more details and to sign up!

Conference Plenary Session

(SATURDAY • 9:30 am - 10:20 am)

All conference attendees are invited to attend this amazing session. Details to be announced!

Converging Indigenous Knowledge and Agriculture Sciences

INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

(FRIDAY • 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm)

Summer Wilkie (Cherokee Nation)

Youth Coordinator, IFAI

Millenia of data collection and innovation across the continent led to the sustainable practices and Indigenous Knowledge that continue to aid and inform Tribal food systems to this day. In this session, the Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative's Summer Wilkie (Cherokee Nation) will explore connections between Indigenous Knowledge and STEM fields, including agriculture and natural resource management. Seeking input and examples from participants, Summer will present resources and solutions to support the perpetuation of Indigenous Knowledges, cultures, languages, and foodways. This session will propose Indigenous Knowledge is key to ensuring our communities have access to the food and fiber necessary to survive for generations to come.

Corporate Advisory Council Meeting (CAC)

(THURSDAY • 1:45 pm - 3:00 pm)

The AISES Corporate Advisory Council (CAC) is a professional association of corporate representatives who support AISES in its mission of increasing the number of Native people in STEM. The CAC provides industry advice and counsel for the AISES Executive Leadership and the Board of Directors and contributes to advancing the AISES mission by: Providing scholarships, internship programs and/or employment opportunities to college students and professionals. Supporting the development and implementation of programs that engage PK-12 students, teachers, and families in the STEM fields. Participating in and supporting AISES events through sponsorships, presentations, and providing career information and resources. Supporting and engaging the student and professional chapters in their local areas. Providing industry expertise and guidance related to current/projected employment trends and needs. Developing support for AISES consistent with individual company capabilities, including financial contributions, in-kind gifts

and human resources. Assisting AISES in fundraising efforts through networking and participation. Facilitating effective public relations for AISES activities via coverage in company publications.

If you are interested in being involved in the Corporate Advisory Council, please contact Kellie Jewett-Fernandez, Vice President of Business Development at kjfernandez@aises.org

Creating Sustainable Indigenous Designs with Mass Timber

ART, ARCHITECTURE, AND DESIGN

FRIDAY • 9:30 am - 10:20 am

Katie Fernholz

Forester, Dovetail Partners

Susan Jones

Architect, atelierjones

Janelle Leafblad

Wood Science Engineer, WoodWorks

Kevin Naranjo (*Santa Clara Pueblo*)

National Program Manager, USDA Forest Service

Architects create designs for the built environment, while considering the natural environment, community values, and climate change. This moderated panel will focus on three aspects important to climate resilient design. Susan will describe the collaboration with the Maidu tribe in California, to design and build a new Roundhouse Council Youth Education Center. Built out of lower-carbon and carbon storing mass timber, the project is directly inspired by indigenous models of Maidu community structures in California. Janelle will connect low embodied carbon materials such as mass timber to the sustainable built environment. Building with mass timber lowers global warming potential and decreases the risks of climate change for future generations. Katie will present the importance of Tribal Forests, forest management and the opportunity that innovative materials like mass timber can provide. Tribal forests and the products and services they provide offer career opportunities that connect science, climate resiliency, and community values.

Creating Your First Video Game: A Journey Through Code and Culture

COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCE ENGINEERING

FRIDAY • 3:00 pm - 4:40 pm

Gillian Vaughn (*Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians*)

Software Engineer, Microsoft

Join us for a fun and hands on workshop to create your very own video game centered around an Indigenous story! Video games are becoming a medium for telling our stories and making our way of life more accessible to everyone. From creation stories to the story of the three sisters and stories we tell around the fire, Indigenous people have so many oral stories we can make into art! This session introduces basic programming concepts and game development fundamentals. The workshops begins with a storytelling session, connecting traditional stories with modern game design. Students will learn coding basics and use these skills to create their own simple games inspired by the shared story. Learn about how Indigenous storytelling and computer science meet.

Demystifying the Pharmaceutical Industry – Internship and Job opportunities

HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES

THURSDAY • 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

Dr. Tannia Mair (*Dine' (Navajo)*)

Scientist, Eli Lilly and Company

The pharmaceutical industry, often shrouded in mystery, plays a crucial role in developing life-saving medications and advancing healthcare. It is a dynamic field that combines science, technology, engineering, and innovation. Join us in demystifying the field and discover the world of life-saving research, breakthrough medications, and global health impact. Also, learn about how you can become a part of a diverse and innovative workforce that is shaping the future of medicine. Internship opportunities in the pharmaceutical industry offers a unique opportunity to gain hands-on experience in drug development, clinical trials, regulatory affairs, manufacturing, quality control, and more. Your talents, unique perspectives, and participation can contribute to developing medicines that are more inclusive. Let's create a brighter, healthier future for our communities together.

EDMAP: Geoscience Students Support Native and Tribal Communities While Building Geologic Mapping Skills

GEOSCIENCES

SATURDAY • 10:30 am - 11:20 am

Kate Ritzel

Physical Scientist, US Geological Survey

The educational component of the USGS National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program (EDMAP) plays a pivotal role in promoting geologic mapping by funding upper-level undergraduate and graduate geoscience students. EDMAP helps students develop the skills necessary for producing geologic maps and related datasets that address various societal and economic issues. This session highlights two EDMAP projects involving students at the University of New Mexico (UNM) and Alaska Pacific University (APU). UNM EDMAP students will conduct geology field mapping along the Colorado River Corridor (Arizona) that will provide geologic information to Tribal communities along the Middle Granite Gorge of the Grand Canyon. Likewise, Alaska Regional Corporations can use APU EDMAP students' temporal glacier mass calculations and digital elevation models to develop meltwater management strategies and assess impacts of lake level change in the Bradley Lake watershed, Alaska. These projects exemplify how EDMAP contributes to local geologic knowledge and can support Tribal communities.

Elevate Your Impact: Harnessing Cultural Strengths for Your Personal Brand

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

THURSDAY • 11:00 am - 11:50 am

Dr. Dayna Martinez

Senior Director of Research & Impact, Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers

Dr. Stephani Page

Director for Strategic Initiatives, Women in Engineering ProActive Network

Dr. Roberta Rincon

Director for Research and Impact, Society of Women Engineers

Dr. Lola Rodríguez Vargas

Project Director, Women of Color in Engineering Collaborative

Dr. Tiffany Smith (*Cherokee and Muscogee Nations*)

Director of Research and Career Support, AISES

Dr. Rochelle Williams

Executive Director, Graduate Fellowships for STEM Diversity and National Society of Black Engineers

During this session, Indigenous women professionals will learn ways to highlight their cultural, personal, technical, and professional strengths and engage with strategies for effective self-marketing.

The session includes a presentation on cultural strengths, personal branding, and self-marketing. We will have interactive activities focusing on self-reflection, community, and an introduction to a new resource: the Women of Color in Engineering Profiles Database. Participants will identify personal strengths, reflect on their identities, and explore how sharing these strengths can benefit their communities. By the end of the session, attendees will feel empowered to market themselves confidently, utilizing their cultural assets to foster professional growth.

Empowering Future AI/AN Oral Health Professionals: A Journey of Support and Growth

HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES

SATURDAY • 2:30 pm - 3:20 pm

Dr. Tamana (Bunny) Begay (*Navajo Nation, Seneca Nation, Mohawk*)

DDS Supervising Clinical Program Director, Gallup Indian Medical Center; At-Large Board Member, Society of American Indian Dentists, Gallup Indian Medical Center; Society of American Indian Dentists

Dr. Joe Dill

Chief Dental Officer, Delta Dental Plans Association and Head of Dental Science, Delta Dental Institute, Delta Dental Plans Association; Delta Dental Institute

Dr. Rudy Oxendine (*Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina*)

DMD Pediatric Dentists, Eastern Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry; Voting Member, Society of American Indian Dentists, Eastern Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry; Society of American Indian Dentists

Dr. Teague Rutherford (*Aaniiih and Nakoda Tribes of Fort Belknap Indian Community*)

DMD, MPH candidate, General Practice Resident, Community Regional Medical Center; Student Member, Society of American Indian Dentists, General Practice Resident, Community Regional Medical Center; Student Member, Society of American Indian Dentists

Join us for a panel discussion exploring the unique experiences of AI/AN oral health professionals. In this session, we will discuss:

- Prioritizing your health: Understand the importance of oral health and its integral role in overall health.
- Advancing your career: Discover pathways for advancement and opportunities available to help you reach your goals, whether pursuing a career in oral health, health care, or STEM.
- Activating your network: Explore how the AI/AN community can help uplift each other personally and professionally and the available resources and support to help you do so.

This panel features established and new dentists sharing their perspectives. We will expand beyond oral health professions and discuss the broader cultural impact of supporting the overall health and well-being of AI/AN communities.

Empowering Global Financial Futures with Visa: Kickstarting Prosperity through Education and Football!

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

SATURDAY • 1:30 pm - 2:20 pm

Enrique Dominquez

Director, Global Inclusion & Diversity, People Team, Visa

Jennifer Mayberry (*Chippewa Cree of Rocky Boys Reservation*)

Visa Inc Senior Director, Visa

Elli Reese (*Muscogee-Creek Nation*)

Senior Program Manager, Visa

Get ready for a thrilling dive into finance with 'Empowering Global Financial Futures with Visa: Kickstarting Prosperity through Education and Football!' This isn't your everyday seminar. We're turning learning into an adventure, focusing on life at Visa, a leader in digital payments. Unravel the mysteries of financial responsibility and credit, arming yourself with savvy decision-making skills. The highlight? A riveting game of "Financial Football", an interactive challenge blending the thrill of a "touchdown" with money management to learn how to tackle finance. So, gear up for a unique opportunity to combine fun, learning, and a sneak peek into potential career paths at Visa!

Empowering Indigenous Scholars: Navigating NIH Career Pathways

HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES

THURSDAY • 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm

Dr. Kayla Davis (*Osage Nation*)

Health Science Policy Analyst, National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Michael Hahn

Tribal Engagement Branch Director, National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Explore the diverse paths and experiences of Indigenous scholars in National Institutes of Health (NIH) health research careers. This engaging panel discussion features Native researchers who will candidly share their journeys, insights, and perspectives from the biomedical and public health fields. Gain a better understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities faced by Indigenous researchers navigating careers at the NIH and beyond. The session also includes an exclusive showing of the short documentary 'detetsi vo'i oninjakan (Winding Path),' which premiered at the 2024 Sundance Film Festival. Don't miss this chance to learn about potential career pathways and connect with leaders in NIH research.

Engineering in Indian Health Service

ENGINEERING

THURSDAY • 12:00 pm - 12:50 pm

Darron Clark (*Navajo*)

Engineer Consultant, Indian Health Service

Melissa de Vera (*Rocky Boy Chippewa Cree*)

Assistant Director, Division of Sanitation Facilities Construction, Indian Health Service

Joseph Jones (*Kaw Nation / Otoe-Missouria Tribe*)

Director, Division of Healthcare Facility Management, IHS, Indian Health Service

Engineering may not be the first STEM career people associate with the Indian Health Service (IHS). IHS engineers work in clinics and hospitals providing healthcare facilities engineering services as well as in field and district offices providing water, wastewater, solid waste engineering services to tribes in the area. This workshop will start with presentations from IHS engineers on the different types of engineering careers and projects in the IHS. The second part will cover the different career tracks, internship opportunities, benefits, and tips on how to apply for jobs on the USAJobs website. There will be a panel of IHS engineers and recruiters who will answer your questions and facilitate open discussion about working in the Agency. This is an interactive and emergent workshop, and students are invited to drop into the session at any time to seek more information and ask questions.

Engineering with Nature® with US Army Corps of Engineers

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

THURSDAY • 12:00 pm - 12:50 pm

Mark Gilfillan (*Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska*)

Senior Tribal Liaison, US Army Corps of Engineers

Michelle Larson (*Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe*)

Program Manager (Tribal Liaison), US Army Corps of Engineers

Engineering With Nature® (EWN) is the intentional alignment of natural and engineering processes to efficiently and sustainably deliver economic, environmental, and social benefits through collaboration. USACE focuses on water resources projects and EWN is a perfect tie-in. EWN focuses on using science and engineering to produce operational efficiencies, using natural processes for maximum benefit, broadening the range of benefits provided by a project, and working collaboratively across organizations and perspectives. EWN ties in well with Tribal communities and viewpoints as Tribes are the original stewards of the United States. Come learn more about our EWN program and how you can become part of it.

Engineering, Research and Development with the US Army Corps of Engineers

ENGINEERING

SATURDAY • 1:30 pm - 2:20 pm

Dr. Andrew Hamblin (*Sac and Fox Nation*)

Research Ecologist, US Army Corps of Engineers

Dr. Simone Whitecloud (*Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa*)

Research Ecologist, US Army Corps of Engineers

The U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) is the premier research and development center for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. We discover, develop, and deliver innovative solutions to the nation's toughest challenges in military engineering, installations and operational environments, civil works, geospatial research and engineering, and engineered resilient systems. This research ranges from coastal & hydraulics, geotechnical, construction, cold regions, environmental, GIS, and information technology. Come learn from Native American researchers who work for ERDC about the fascinating research they're part of.

Enhancing Cyber Resilience in a Dynamic Threat Landscape

COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCE ENGINEERING

THURSDAY • 12:00 pm - 12:50 pm

Kim Eckert

Vice President, Security and Resiliency Global Delivery Practice, Kyndryl

As the digital landscape evolves, governments and regulators worldwide are responding by introducing robust cyber resilience regulations. These regulations compel enterprises to prioritize cybersecurity and resiliency. In this session, we delve into key concepts of cyber resiliency, explore the ever-changing threat landscape, and address critical challenges in incident response. Additionally, we examine regulatory responses to the escalating pervasiveness of cyber threats, focusing on two significant frameworks: DORA (Defense Operations Resilience Assessment) and NIS-2 (Network and Information Security Directive 2). By analyzing commonalities, key concepts, and expanded reach, we equip attendees with actionable insights to enhance their organization's cyber resilience.

Environmental Science of sustainability in action: insects we can eat (Entomophagy) and mealworms that eat Styrofoam™.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

SATURDAY • 10:30 am - 11:20 am

Dr. Craig Wilson

Director USDA Future Scientists Program, USDA/ARS & Texas A&M College of Science

There is insufficient agricultural land to sustain a booming world population. Learn of two very different ways that food shortages and landfill overflow may be alleviated. Practical activities included: Insects are a high quality, efficient and sustainable dietary protein source. They are already part of the traditional diet for 2 billion people in the world. The practice of consuming insects is called entomophagy. Crickets need 1/12 as much feed as a cow to produce the same amount of protein. Crickets use 0.8 gallons of water to produce a gram of protein compared to 15.8 gallons for a cow. Polystyrene (PS) is a durable material and resistant to biodegradation and ends up clogging landfills. Recent research results indicate that when mealworm larvae eat Styrofoam™, it is efficiently degraded in the larval gut. The larvae can then be fed to chickens as the fecal matter is not toxic.

Expanding AISES Communities in Biological Societies

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

SATURDAY • 10:30 am - 11:20 am

Charles Bush (*Oglala Sioux Tribe*)

Regenerative Agriculture Curriculum Developer, Texas Tribal Buffalo Project

Ciarra Greene (*Nimiipuu (Nez Perce)*)

CEO, Sapóoq'is Wít'as Consulting

Dr. Sky Wildcat (*Cherokee/Mvskoke*)

Senior Program Officer, AISES

Cindi Wood (*Muscogee (Creek) Nation*)

Instructor, College of the Muscogee Nation

AISES creates communities that foster relationships, knowledge, and opportunities for Indigenous peoples. While these communities bring comfort in understanding that they were created for Indigenous people, AISES can also provide opportunities to create Indigenous communities in institutions and societies that were not specifically created for Indigenous people. This session will focus on how AISES communities can collaboratively expand into other institutions and societies, particularly related to botany, ecology, and entomology. AISES members will share their stories of challenges and successes in their fields, AISES communities, and involvement in the Botanical Society of America, Ecological Society of America, and Entomological Society of America.

Exploring Indigenous Brilliance

Saturday - 9:30 am - 10:20 am

Join this lively discussion of next-generation Indigenous thinkers sharing their work around STEM, Indigenous science and knowledge, and innovation. Guiding the exploration is "Dr. Indigenerd" **Lee Francis IV, EdD**, an educational entrepreneur who is passionate about such unconventional STEM pathways as pop culture and video gaming. This Laguna Pueblo citizen stages events like IndigiPopX and Indigenous Futurism that are meant to push boundaries of conventional expectations and narratives. **Dr. Kanoho Hosoda**, PhD, is director of the Native Hawaiian Center of Excellence at the University of Hawaii's John A. Burns School of Medicine. Now an assistant professor, Dr. Hosoda's collegiate studies included biology, molecular biosciences, and Hawaiian language. She is invested in a paradigm shift towards the incorporation of

Indigenous knowledge in STEM and medicine. **Dr. Jesse Peltier**, PhD, is the 2024 AISES Most Promising Scientist, who is an assistant professor in Northeastern University's department of chemistry and chemical biology, with an affiliation in the chemical engineering department. The Ojibwe and Nakoda citizen is building a research lab to design new materials for sustainability, specifically targeting applications in energy storage and carbon capture. Both Jesse and Kanoho participated in the AISES Lighting the Pathway program to develop more Indigenous STEM faculty.

Federal Employee Resource Groups: Best Practices to Building Equitable and Diverse Workspaces

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

THURSDAY • 11:15 am - 12:05 pm

Casey Denham

Aerospace Engineer, Aeronautics Systems Analysis Branch at NASA Langley Research Center

Jacqueline Melcher (Oglala Sioux Tribe)

Director, Installation Management Division, Department of the Air Force

Courtney Miller-Hileman (Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina)

Office of Public Affairs, Federal Bureau of Investigations

Hear from a panel of federal agency employees who have paved the way by creating employee resource groups that have been instrumental in strengthening the support of Indigenous talent within their agency. The panelist will share best practices and how their employee resource group was developed with the intention to provide equity within their federal workspace. Understanding that various agencies approach to creating and managing a federal employee resource group can be vastly different based on the level of its placement within the agency and how they are structured. The panelist will share how their agency is committed to providing the opportunity for their Indigenous team members to connect through the employee resource group providing equitable and inclusive workspaces that are critical to providing advancement, growth, and attainment within their federal agency. Moderator: Marcellus Proctor, NASA, GRC Chair

Finding Balance: Native STEM Students Navigating Mental Health

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

FRIDAY • 8:30 am - 9:20 am

Dr. Nuria Jaumot-Pascual

Research Scientist, TERC

Dr. Maria Ong

Senior Research Scientist, TERC

Christina Silva

Research Associate, TERC

Dr. Tiffany Smith (Cherokee and Muscogee Nations)

Director of Research and Career Support, AISES

Dr. Lisette Torres-Gerald

Senior Researcher, TERC

Drawing on data from a longitudinal project, we will describe how Native STEM students experience situations of turmoil and their strategies to solve them and adapt to change. In particular, we will examine how mental health difficulties influence and are influenced by higher education, and how unresolved grief, addiction, and intergenerational trauma contribute to students' turmoil. Session participants will view a display of photographs and captions created by Native STEM students. Participants will respond to the

display with sticky notes and how these photos resonate with their own experiences. Small group work will be facilitated where session participants will outline strategies to support the mental health of Native STEM students.

From Sky to Space with America's Airmen and Guardians

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

THURSDAY • 1:00 pm - 2:40 pm

Jacqueline Melcher (Oglala Sioux Tribe)

Director, Installation Management Division, Department of the Air Force

Go from Sky to Space with America's Airmen and Guardians! Join us for an immersive STEM workshop to explore the various disciplines and career opportunities available within the Department of the Air Force. From designing rockets to performing molecular research, and so many things in between, military and non-uniformed members do it all. Experience using cutting-edge tools and technologies guided by experts who are leading advancements in their respective areas. Come ready to discover, interact and be inspired!

From STEM to Federal Service: Career Pathways in Regulatory Science, Public Health Communication, and Policy at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

FRIDAY • 8:30 am - 9:20 am

Sherry Ayers (Lumbee/Coharie)

Project Manager, US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Dr. LaNissa Brown-Baker

Associate Director for Scientific Staffing, US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

David Cummings (Tuscarora Nation of North Carolina)

Consumer Safety Officer, US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Celene Moorer

Senior Regulatory Health Project Manager, US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

This session aims to create a community of STEM Indigenous regulatory professionals to sustain and cultivate a pathway to working as a regulatory scientist at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) including research opportunities. In this session, the moderator and panelists will give insight into their lives from how they navigated their academic journey to the FDA including how they identified mentors and resources, and how they overcame barriers to become successful leaders in their respective regulatory science fields. Professionals will share their story and career journey, respective to their Center and Office at the FDA, and students will be guided through academic career paths by learning about different opportunities and pathways in the regulatory science field. Join our discussion as we create awareness for regulatory science and discuss the intersection of these fields in STEM, communication, policy, regulatory science and public health in the U.S.

Gemstone Reception (Invitation only)

THURSDAY • 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Open only to conference sponsors and by invitation only.

Geothermal Energy: Introduction, Industry Evolution, and Career Paths

GEOSCIENCES

THURSDAY • 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

Jessica Eagle-Bluestone (*Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation*)

Tribal Community Engagement Manager, Geothermal Rising

Join us for an engaging introduction to geothermal energy, where you'll learn about the basic principles and benefits of this renewable energy source. This session will delve into the advancements and innovations shaping the industry today, illustrating its expanding role in the global energy landscape. We'll also explore a variety of career opportunities within the geothermal sector, ranging from technical positions to roles in community outreach and environmental stewardship. Whether you're a student, professional, or simply curious about renewable energy, this presentation will provide valuable insights into the dynamic world of geothermal energy and how you can contribute to its future.

Getting to Know AISES and a Guide to Chapter Success

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

THURSDAY • 4:30 pm - 5:20 pm

Kaitlan Lyons (*Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa*)

Engagement Officer, AISES

This presentation will give you general information about the AISES organization, opportunities, as well as tips and tricks to starting and maintaining an AISES chapter.

Global STEM Opportunities with the U.S. Department of State

STEM & BUSINESS

SATURDAY • 1:30 pm - 2:20 pm

Daniel Stewart

Diplomat in Residence for Texas, U.S. Department of State

Make a global impact in a career, student program or fellowship with the U.S. Department of State! A thirty-minute PowerPoint presentation with thirty-minute interactive Q&A. Participants will learn about Foreign Service Generalist and Specialist careers, including STEM, engineering and computer science-focused careers that provide the platform for U.S. diplomacy around the world. Participants will also learn about professional development opportunities for continuing full-time students including PAID internships (including cost of travel to the internship and housing) in Washington D.C. and overseas. Participants will also learn about our flagship professional fellowships, for IT/Cyber Security, Diplomatic Security, or Foreign Service Generalist careers, which provide funding for graduate education (approximately \$86,000 for 2-year master's degree) two-paid internships/practicums, and fast track placement in a career as a Foreign Service Specialist or Generalist. www.careers.state.gov.

Google Leadership Roundtable

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SATURDAY • 2:30 pm - 3:20 pm

Blaine Baxter Bilal

Outreach Program Manager, Google

Michelle Roberts

Hiring Equity Program Manager, Google

This panel is meant to feel intimate and interactive, bringing together Native+ leaders from across Google (option to bring in 1-2 panelists from other companies) to provide an opportunity to build community, learn from one another, see representation in tech at the leadership level, get advice, and grow networks.

Government Relations Council Meeting (GRC)

THURSDAY • 1:45 pm - 3:00 pm

The AISES Government Relations Council (GRC) establishes and supports working relationships between Federal government agencies and AISES, and identifies government resources, develops strategies, and promotes government careers in support of the AISES mission by: Assisting in the placement of Native people into government jobs. Supporting the development and implementation of programs that engage and support AISES students and professionals in the STEM fields. Identifying federal internship and employment program for AISES membership. Coordinating and participating in government sponsored workshops at AISES events. Supporting student and professional chapter events. Providing industry expertise and guidance related to STEM education and workforce needs and trends. Identifying federal funding opportunities for AISES. If you are interested in joining the Government Relations Council, please contact Alicia Mitchell, Director of Tribal and Government Relations at amitchell@aises.org.

Graduate Student Mixer

THURSDAY • 7:45 pm - 9:15 pm

Sponsored by Department of Energy National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Graduate and master level college students are invited to be a part of this fun and interactive networking session for graduate level student attendees. Light hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Growing Your Career

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

THURSDAY • 12:00 pm - 12:50 pm

Lisa Schmitt (*Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians*)

Associate Technical Fellow, The Boeing Company

Congratulations, you have your first job! Now what? In this session we will explore career paths and strategies that will help you develop and advance early in your career. Whether you're an early-career professional just starting out in the workforce or a mid-career professional considering a career change, we will cover topics such as mentoring, post-graduate degrees, rotational programs, and Technical Fellowships. We will dive deeper into these topics from the perspective of The Boeing Company and provide insight into specific opportunities at Boeing.

Harmonizing Indigenous and STEM Identities: Creating Inclusive Educational Environments

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

FRIDAY • 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm

Dr. K. Kanoho Hosoda (*Kanaka 'Ōiwi*)

Assistant Professor, University of Hawai'i at M'noa

What are the key components of an Indigenous STEM curriculum? How do we create an educational environment where students can harmonize their Indigenous and STEM identities? In this session, you will hear stories about creating and implementing a K-8 Native Hawaiian place-based STEM curriculum. You will also learn about current research on Indigenous-STEM identity harmony in higher education. Finally, we will engage in a facilitated discussion to highlight the importance of community, family, our natural environment, and cultural practices. Together, we will identify ways to build and maintain these integral parts of an Indigenous identity while pursuing STEM. We hope you walk away from this session with the confidence to be in harmony with your personal Indigenous-STEM identities and be prepared to guide future generations of Indigenous-STEM students towards harmony.

Healing Indigenous Communities: Exploring Possibilities in Veterinary Medicine

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

SATURDAY • 2:30 pm - 3:20 pm

Dr. Kaitlyn Benally (*Navajo Nation*)

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Candidate, blendVET

Dr. Niccole Bruno

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine / CEO & Founder of blendVET, blendVET

Dr. Evelyn Galban (*Washoe/Mono Lake Paiute*)

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, blendVET

Layna Tarpalechee (*Muscogee (Creek) Nation*)

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, blendVET

Join us for an enlightening panel discussion featuring DVMs Evelyn Galban (Washoe/Mono Lake Paiute), Layna Tarpalechee (Muscogee Creek), and Kaitlyn Benally (Navajo/Dine). Together, we will delve into the diverse roles within veterinary medicine, share fascinating cases, and explore avenues for giving back to Indigenous communities. Our esteemed presenters will discuss admission processes, pathway development, and raising awareness of veterinary medicine among Indigenous populations. Drawing from their experiences, they will highlight impactful cases, the journey into veterinary school, and strategies for meaningful contributions to Indigenous communities. Whether considering a career in veterinary medicine or seeking ways to give back, this panel promises valuable insights and inspiration. Take advantage of this opportunity to learn, engage, and collaborate in promoting health and well-being in Indigenous communities through veterinary medicine.

Higher Education Committee Meeting

THURSDAY • 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

This is a new Committee designed to provide support for AISES undergraduate and graduate students as they navigate the pathways to advance in higher education. The committee is open to any AISES member. This meeting is open to the public.

Increasing Representation in STEM starts in K-12

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

SATURDAY • 10:30 am - 11:20 am

Ava Javid

Associate Director of Growth, Beyond100K

Maya Morales Garcia

Chief Program Officer, Beyond100K

This session aims to highlight the critical importance of diversity and representation among K-12 STEM teachers, some of the most influential stakeholders in supporting Black, Latinx, and Indigenous students in pursuing STEM careers. Through personal stories and data-driven insights, we aim to raise awareness about the impact of representation on students' educational experiences and future STEM careers. Our goal is to discuss challenges, showcase effective solutions, and inspire collective action among AISES members to foster inclusivity in STEM education.

Indigenizing Your Leadership Presence Through a Strong Personal Brand

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SATURDAY • 10:30 am - 12:10 pm

Joshua John (*Navajo*)

Senior Systems Engineer, RTX

Nancy Marmolejo (*Mexica/Latinx*)

Instructor, Workshop University®

Are you looking for a strategy to help advance your career, land key projects, and be top of mind for promotions? A strong personal brand can help you do this, acting as your calling card and showcasing your areas of expertise. However, the Western concept of personal branding clashes with indigenous teaching potentially leading to missed opportunities. The good news: it doesn't have to be an either/or! In this highly interactive session, discover how indigenous employees at RTX are advancing their careers by adopting a culturally relevant, "inside-out" approach to personal branding developed by the experts at Workshop University®. Join us to embark on a transformative journey towards authentic leadership presence, where success is defined by staying true to yourself. This session will also feature the AISES Professional Development Committee who will present the current initiatives within the committee and will solicit feedback from AISES members for future programs.

Indigenous Connections through Career Opportunities in the USDA Forest Service

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

SATURDAY • 10:30 am - 11:20 am

Diana Perez

Equity Specialist & Special Emphasis Program Manager, USDA Forest Service

This session will include a video on indigenous voices from within the Forest Service, a panel discussion with professionals from different backgrounds, and a talking circle(s) with ample time for interaction with audience members. The goal of the panel discussion is to have students and professionals learn about a variety of Forest Service disciplines that include tribal relations, research, physical sciences, and natural resources. Indigenous employees will share their personal stories and journey to working for the Forest Service and how they each lead out differently through their identity and authenticity. Speakers will offer tips for success and transitions, and information on how to navigate being Native while working for a public land management agency.

Indigenous Health, Relationality, and Social Media: Indigenous Health Information Sharing on TikTok

COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCE ENGINEERING

FRIDAY • 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm

Tessa R. Campbell (*Tulalip / Tlingit*)

PhD Candidate, Information School, University of Washington

Shayla Chatto (*Navajo*)

PhD Candidate, College of Education, University of Washington

Celena Ghost Dog (*Navajo Nation*)

Adolescent Health Co-Director, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board

Nicole Kuhn (*Skidegate Band, Haida Nation*)

PhD Candidate, Information School, University of Washington

Dr. Shawon Sarkar

Research Scientist, College of Education, University of Washington

Indigenous peoples are the original storytellers. Traditional oral stories have been used since time immemorial to pass on knowledge from one generation to the next. Today, many Indigenous communities, organizations, and online content creators are increasingly leveraging social media platforms to share their stories and promote overall health and wellness. These stories are important and timely as they reflect this generation's experiences accessing, receiving, and sharing stories and information. In this session, we will present the results of our recent study that considers how Indigenous organizations, communities, and influencers are



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advancing innovative digital pathways for sharing culturally relevant health information on the social media platform, TikTok. We will also discuss how these content creators are using the features of this platform to engage both individual users and broader Indigenous communities, highlighting potential opportunities and challenges for sharing health communication on this popular social media platform.

Indigenous Success in Education Driving Unique Pathways to Leadership

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

FRIDAY • 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm

Sky Harper (*Navajo*)

Junior U.S. National Student Representative, Drexel University

Hannah Kirkdeikis (*Anishinaabe, Ojibwe*)

Junior Canadian National Student Representative, University of British

Jayson Pomfret (*Métis Nation of Ontario*)

Senior Canadian National Student Representative, Queen's University

Peter Thais (*Mohawk, Wolf Clan*)

Senior U.S. National Student Representative, Cornell University

Indigenous communities have long faced systemic barriers, though we have begun to see a surge in students excelling academically. As more students explore opportunities and build their networks it is important to acknowledge that success is unique for all. As National Student Representatives, we've garnered experiences that have shaped us into who we are today, and acknowledge the importance of cultural identity, community, and belonging. Through a panel-based discussion, we will offer insight into how we found community and leveraged our experiences to explore opportunity - all while honoring our heritage and identity. Indigenous leadership is crucial for the promotion of social justice and for bridging opportunities for those who come after us. Success in all forms contributes to the resilience of Indigenous communities and the transformative power of education and fosters diversity and inclusion. This underscores the need for continued efforts to support one another and dismantle barriers.

Infusing Native Languages and STEM

COMMUNITY BUILDING

FRIDAY • 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

Melinda Higgins

Director of STEM Programs, U.S. Department of Energy

DOE encourages and supports efforts of Native Americans to use, practice, and develop their languages to promote their rights, freedoms, and sovereignty. We would ask them to consider (when appropriate per Tribal permission) partnering to incorporate Traditional Knowledge (TK) and weave culturally appropriate STEM language and activities with Native Languages. DOE will be respectful, open, and flexible in the approach to collaborate with Tribal Nations, listening to their perspectives and needs, and building from a shared foundation of understanding. In this session, we would invite participants to provide thoughts and feedback as we draft a plan of the Native Languages and STEM engagement effort.

Inside the Navy's Operations & Culture of Excellence

ENGINEERING

THURSDAY • 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

Admiral Foster

Admiral, America's Navy

In this session, we will highlight the Navy's recent initiatives driven by our cluster of excellence advancements and their successful implementation in recent operations. We will explore how cutting-edge technologies and strategic innovations are being developed and deployed to enhance operational effectiveness and security. Emphasizing collaboration and integration, this session will also demonstrate the pivotal role these initiatives play in supporting the mission and goals of the Navy. Attendees will gain insights into the specific technologies and methodologies being utilized, as well as the tangible impacts on recent naval operations. This presentation aims to inspire and engage members of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society by showcasing the intersection of advanced engineering, technological innovation, and strategic military applications. Join us to understand how excellence in engineering and science drives forward-thinking solutions in national defense.

Interested in environmental careers? Learn how to find them and what you need to enter the field.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

THURSDAY • 1:00 pm - 2:40 pm

Teri Harper (*Cherokee tribe of Oklahoma*)

Research Coordinator, Aaniiih Nakoda College Buffalo Research and Education Center

Teresa Mourad

Director, Education and Diversity Programs, Ecological Society of America

Ashley Mueller (*Navajo*)

Education Coordinator, Native American Fish and Wildlife Service

Dr. Elizabeth Waring

Assistant Professor, Northeastern State University

Whether your major or interest is in biology, data science or wildlife, learn about the range of talents and skills sought after by employers in academia, government, industry, and nonprofits in a broad environmental field at all scales and levels. And learn about the different programs, scholarships, and funding opportunities that are available to help you propel your environmental career forward! Careers in environmental science include: agriculture, sustainability, plants, wildlife, soils, insects, energy, or water. Often, opportunities are couched in technical jargon that may draw only those familiar with those specific areas. Join experts from the Ecological Society of America, the Native American Fish and Wildlife Service and other programs, as they run through how to search for opportunities, how to translate your skills, and what opportunities they have for you! Come away with enhanced skills for job/internship searches in new sectors, and ideas to stand out as a candidate.

Intertribal/Corporate Networking Workshop

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SATURDAY • 2:30 pm - 3:20 pm

Dion Smith (*Acoma, Navajo, Picuris*)

Senior Lead Engineer, Booz Allen Hamilton

AISES Corporate Advisory Council presents an Intertribal event of business and professional networking! We'll begin the event with a quick tutorial on giving an "elevator pitch" (60 secs) After which we'll open the floor for anyone to try their pitch/introduction We'll have several of the AISES CAC organizations present to speak about careers or business opportunities! Towards the end of the workshop participants should expect to be up and talking with others, making connections and expanding their network.

Introduction to Environmental Enforcement (Enforcement 101)

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

SATURDAY • 1:30 pm - 2:20 pm

Dr. James McDonald

Senior Advisor, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6

This session will provide attendees a closer look into the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency work as you listen to and learn from a distinguished panel focusing on Environmental Enforcement. Attendees will have an opportunity to gain a basic understanding of various environmental laws and regulations enforced by the U.S. EPA.

Introduction to the RISE Program

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

THURSDAY • 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

Dr. Crystal Lepscier

Program Officer, AISES

Resources for Indigenous STEM Education (RISE), powered by Aristocrat Gaming, engages, and supports Indigenous students, professionals, and tribes by offering exposure, resources, and programming aimed to increase Indigenous talent in tribal gaming education and careers. RISE programming's primary goal is to frame a snapshot of introductions to Gaming STEM careers for our AISES members, students, and professionals and a path to guide them. Through the program, AISES offers multiple areas of connection and opportunity including: Academic Scholarships, Mentorship, Educational Sessions virtually and at AISES events, and travel support to premiere Tribal Gaming convenings. Learn about what RISE has done so far and connect with the exciting opportunities that exist ahead!

Judges Orientation for Research Presentations

THURSDAY • 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

It is mandatory for all research judges to attend EITHER the in-person judges' orientation or the virtual orientation (TBD).

Kick-off Welcome Event

WEDNESDAY • 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Sponsored by Berkshire Hathaway Energy

Come kick-off the AISES National Conference at our social/t-shirt exchange. Please bring any T-shirt related to STEM, Indigeneity, AISES conferences or other Indigenous conferences. We will also have a limited number of Berkshire Hathaway Energy T-shirts to give away. This exchange can also include accessories and jewelry if you want to exchange with others or just donate accessories for others to receive.

Knowledge Transfer: Wisdom and Guidance for Management Success

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SATURDAY • 1:30 pm - 2:20 pm

Marcellus Proctor (*Piscataway-Conoy*)

Associate Division Chief, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

In this interactive session, the audience will have the opportunity to be part of scenarios where they see situations from a manager's point of view. The audience will hear from seasoned managers and gain knowledge about what it takes to be an effective manager and tips in conflict resolution. The audience will come away with what the characteristics are for a successful manager & leader by understanding the importance and function of active listening, providing constructive feedback on employees' performance, and managing conflict from a personnel.

LGBTQIA2S+ Talking Circle

THURSDAY • 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Circles provide space to open up fresh possibilities for connections, collaboration and understanding. Circles can hold the tensions and emotions that contribute to healing and can support people to use the collective energy to take action. It is an opportunity to express your conference experience with complete freedom. It is an effective way to remove barriers and feel the support and energy of all other participants during this moving experience. All are welcome!

LinkedIn and Resume Workshop for Careers in STEM

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

THURSDAY • 11:00 am - 12:40 pm

Evan Hill (*Osage Nation*)

Native Recruitment, Managing Director, Teach For America

Take your resume and LinkedIn to the next level with this curated guide with feedback. See examples and engage with templates, leaving with a fully finished draft of your resume and LinkedIn profile. Learn how to best speak and write about your impact and leadership.

Maaʔabáari: Braiding STEM

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

FRIDAY • 10:00 am - 11:40 am

Kimberlee Blevins (*Mandan Hidatsa Arikara*)

Graduate Student, Sitting Bull College

Indigenous learning diverges from formal classroom settings; and originally occurred through hands-on experiences within families and villages, under the guidance of elders and community members. This approach to learning surpasses classroom methods in actively involving students, improving retention, encouraging practical knowledge application, accommodating diverse learning styles, and fostering creativity. This practice has to be continued into the present and future. In Hidatsa, 'Maaʔabáari' translates to "to grow or to plant," encapsulating the essence of Indigenous educational systems — nurturing the growth and development of the younger generation. Build with us to engineer Mandan Bull boats and test the scientific method while we discuss how 'Braiding STEM' ties mentoring, STEM, and Indigenous knowledge to nurture the growth of future stewards. Each single strand of the braid can be weak, but when braided together they are strong.

Making a Positive Impression at Lunch/ Dinner Interviews (Dining Etiquette)

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SATURDAY • 10:30 am - 11:20 am

Brady Black (*Okanogan Band of the Colville Confederated Tribes*)

Gas Engine Controls Systems Engineer, General Motors

Heather Heckler (*Brothertown Indian Nation*)

Sr. Industrial Engineer, General Motors

Have you ever been out to eat at a nicer restaurant or at a reception and wondered which glass was yours or how you should pass items around a table? What if a potential employer takes you out to lunch or dinner as part of your interview? Do you know what to do? Take time and learn about dining etiquette, what are those extra pieces of silverware, what to do with a napkin if you leave the table, what not to order if you are out to impress. You will walk away with a card to help you be successful as you go out to impress others with your new skills.

Making Money From Problem Solving and Patents in Indian Country

STEM & BUSINESS

FRIDAY • 8:30 am - 9:50 am

Susan Anthony

Tribal Affairs Liaison and Senior Trademark Attorney, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)

Cruz Tecumseh Collin (Oglala Sioux Tribe (OST))

Student, Oregon Institute of Technology

Grant Corboy

Staff Attorney - Patent Pro Bono Program Administrator, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Patrick Coyne

Attorney, Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett and Dunner, LLP

Dr. Jorge Goldstein

Attorney, Sterne Kessler Goldstein and Fox PLLC

Anthony Jones (Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe)

Patent Attorney, Dorsey and Whitney LLP

Jim Patterson

Attorney, Husch Blackwell

Our panel discussion will illuminate the potential for American Indian entrepreneurs - of any age - to harness their intellectual property through the United States Patent and Trademark Office's (USPTO) Patent Pro Bono Program. The panel session will focus on problem-solving and innovation, the role of patenting in invention, the patent application process, and the USPTO Patent Pro Bono Program – all within the context of Indian Country. The Patent Pro Bono Program offers a unified network of regional patent pro bono programs across the nation, providing free legal patent prosecution assistance to under-resourced inventors and entrepreneurs, including those from Tribal Nations and the Native Hawaiian Community. The panelists are patent attorneys who have worked with Indigenous inventors, including innovations involving Indigenous Knowledge. Our session will feature one or more exercises to walk session participants through the innovation and patent processes, with maximum time for questions and answers.

Managing the Corporate Ladder Ascent

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

THURSDAY • 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

Michael Liersch

Head of Advice and Planning, Wells Fargo

Suzanne Randall (Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa)

Managing Director, Accenture

Paula Starr (Cherokee)

Chief Information Officer, Cherokee Nation

The session will feature Indigenous leaders from various corporate and tribal enterprises. Moderated by an AISES National Student Representative, panelists will be asked to provide an introduction about themselves and their leadership journey. Moderator will inquire about challenges, lessons learned, advice to students and young professionals.

Materials Engineering and Apple

ENGINEERING

THURSDAY • 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm

Vanessa Eguavo

Senior Product Design Materials Engineer at Apple, Apple
Apple's Product Design Materials team is responsible for

developing the materials and surfaces that have helped enable the performance and cosmetics of Apple's products, while doing so in a more increasingly sustainable manner. These materials and engineered surfaces including glass and ceramics, alloys such as aluminum and titanium, and polymers that include a range of thermoplastics, adhesives, and coatings. In this talk, a broad overview will be covered of the types of materials used by Apple, and how they are integrated into Apple's products to achieve the iconic performance and beauty they are known for. Specific material project examples will be shared including how Apple evaluates and minimizes environmental impact of materials going as far back as the mining stage of material production and a materials design project related to the level of engineering and artistic detail necessary to make the white, back-lighted keyboard on the recent iPad Magic Keyboard.

Mathematics as the Gateway for Student Success & Social Justice

MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES

THURSDAY • 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm

Dr. Juan B. Gutiérrez

Professor, University of Texas at San Antonio

Substantial evidence demonstrates that underperformance in mathematics from kindergarten through college (K-16) serves as a strong predictor of limited access to opportunities. This effect of this phenomenon is most pronounced in minoritized communities. The primary objective of this session is to quantitatively examine the correlates of student success at both the national level and within the University of Texas at San Antonio. Special emphasis will be placed on the impact of quantitative training in K-12 on college-level education, extending up to the doctoral level. Strategies to enhance exposure to mathematics will be discussed, particularly in light of the growing intersection between artificial intelligence and education.

Men's Talking Circle

THURSDAY • 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Circles provide space to open up fresh possibilities for connections, collaboration and understanding. Circles can hold the tensions and emotions that contribute to healing and can support people to use the collective energy to take action. It is an opportunity to express your conference experience with complete freedom. It is an effective way to remove barriers and feel the support and energy of all other participants during this moving experience.

Morning Blessing Ceremony with the AISES Council of Elders

FRIDAY • 7:00 am - 8:00 am

Start your day in a reverent, meaningful and invigorating way. Join the AISES Council of Elders in welcoming a new day.

NASA MAIANSE+AISES: Forging a Path with NASA

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

FRIDAY • 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

Lisa Winger

Education Specialist, NASA

NASA Minority University Research and Education Project for American Indian and Alaska Native STEM Engagement (MAIANSE) wants to help students apply to the right NASA opportunity. Setting up online profiles and applying takes time and students often have questions about how their application looks to NASA mentors. During this session, the MAIANSE team, NASA mentors, and other NASA experts will be sharing information and hands on assistance for anyone interested in learning more. Stations will be set up around the room to help students and professionals learn how apply to NASA Internships, Pathways opportunities, USA Jobs including federal job skills assessments, and to speak with others curious about how to connect to the agency and add NASA experience to their resumes. Our team is here to support AISES members!

Native American Youth in Agriculture Resources (Tribal Agriculture Fellowship & Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative)

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

FRIDAY • 10:30 am - 11:20 am

April Parrott

Program Coordinator, Tribal Agriculture Fellowship

Summer Wilkie (*Cherokee Nation*)

Youth Coordinator, IFAI

Encouraging young people to pursue opportunities and careers in agriculture is essential to future tribal sovereignty. In this presentation, the Tribal Agriculture Fellowship (TAF) and Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative (IFAI) come together to share some of the diverse career paths in agriculture, including programming, college agriculture majors, and scholarship opportunities available to major in Tribal agriculture. We will discuss how to get involved with program opportunities that IFAI offers along with the TAF scholarship application process.

Native Artisan Marketplace

THURSDAY - SATURDAY • 8:30 am - 5:30 pm

AISES is thrilled to have 22 Native Artisan booths who are technical experts in their chosen arts and crafts style artwork. We strive to have authentic, Indigenous handmade items that support Indigenous art and culture. Handcrafted items can include clothing, jewelry, art, and home goods.

Native FEWS Student Success: Reflections of the Native American/Indigenous Student Experience in the Nexus of Food, Energy, and Water Systems

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

FRIDAY • 9:30 am - 10:20 am

Torran Anderson

Community Outreach Manager, University of Arizona

Ruth Pannill

Research Professional, University of Arizona

Bernice Rodriguez (*Pascua Yaqui*)

Program Coordinator, University of Arizona

The vision of the Native FEWS Alliance is to significantly broaden the participation of Native American students in Food, Energy, and Water Systems (FEWS) education and careers to address critical challenges facing their communities, as well as to co-innovate and deploy Indigenous place-based FEWS education and community partnerships. Through intentional student engagement, the Alliance has developed pathways (K-20) for student success, research and career development. Student panelists from undergraduate & graduate programs will provide flash talks highlighting their area of academic research, educational journeys, experience, and share opportunities for success. This Q&A session will provide knowledge and awareness of contemporary FEWS challenges in Native American/Indigenous communities, as well as highlight the variety of pathways that students' educational journeys can take. This panel will reinforce the importance of Native American mentorship, community engagement, and post-secondary institutions developing efforts to recruit, retain, and matriculate Indigenous students in academic programs related to FEWS.

Networking Suites

THURSDAY • 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Attend the event that has become a favorite among all conference participants! This "buffet-style" networking event offers a series of concurrent receptions. Join conversations and meet others with common interests. This is an opportunity to meet the conference sponsors and exhibitors as well as other conference attendees in a fun and casual environment. Enjoy refreshments, conversation, and make important connections for the Career Fair! It is the perfect wrap-up for your first day. All suites are located in the Convention Center.

American Chemical Society - 006D
Booz Allen - Lobby - Suite 1 - River Level
Chevron - 007A
FanDuel - 006A
General Motors - 007B
Micron - 007C
National Labs - 004A
Native FEWS - 008B
Navajo Transitional Energy Co. - 004C
NSF - 007D
TC Energy - 008A
The Boeing Company - 006B
USDA NRCS - 004D
US Forest Service - 006C
Visa - 004B

NEW - Native Financial Cents Digital Platform Reveal

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

THURSDAY • 11:00 am - 11:50 am

Ruth Blackhawk Cameron (*Mnikowozu Lakota/Hocagana*)

Director of Curriculum & Instruction, AISES

Katherine Jacobs (*Eastern Band Cherokee/Cherokee Nation*)

Curriculum & Instruction Program Officer, AISES

Join AISES in excitement as we kickstart the new digital platform for the AISES Native Financial Cents in partnership with Wells Fargo. In this workshop, you will learn how to explore and utilize the new interactive digital platform for Indigenous middle/high school students, young adults and professionals to easily gain financial literacy knowledge. This revolutionary design will guide you through a personalized experience with the Native Financial Cents culturally contextualized financial literacy to provide relevant resources and tools for Indigenous people to succeed in finance and everyday life. Here's the one stop shop for learning how to manage your credit, start a business, understand taxes, take out a home loan, and more. The power of financial freedom and understanding financial literacy through an Indigenous lens will now be at your fingertips.

Oceans Apart, Connected at Heart: Marine Conservation Curriculum for K-12

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

FRIDAY • 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

Cheyenne Branscum (*Citizen Potawatomi Nation*)

Treasurer, Sierra Club

Between the geographical and socioeconomic barriers as well as the legacy of colonialism in marine sciences, many Indigenous students feel disconnected from our oceans, with little understanding of their own role in marine health. With lessons created using real world experience at Bimini Shark Lab, the presenter will take educators through how they can inspire their students to see the Indigenous cultural connection to our oceans, the local choices that ripple down and impact marine health, and possibly even inspire students to consider a career in marine sciences.

Opening Ceremony

THURSDAY • 8:30 am - 10:45 am

Sunny Myers (*Lumbee and Sappony tribes of North Carolina*)

Join AISES President Sarah EchoHawk and the 2024 Professional of the Year, Sunny Myers, for a compelling one-on-one conversation about Native women in STEM. They will delve into strategies for inspiring Indigenous youth to pursue STEM fields, share insights on breaking barriers within Indigenous STEM communities, and highlight significant work being done in this area. This engaging discussion promises to offer valuable perspectives and inspiring stories—it's an opportunity you won't want to miss!

Oral Research Presentations

FRIDAY • 9:30 am - 5:00 pm

Student and professional researchers are re-indigenizing STEM by sharing their research with other Indigenous STEM students, professionals, and recruiters from top companies and organizations. Student Researchers—Take this opportunity to present your work to a broad audience, practice your presentation skills, add a presentation citation to your resume/CV, and compete for awards and prizes! You have the choice of presenting in either the poster or oral presentation format. Oral presentations are only open to undergraduate and masters/doctoral students. Learn more! Professional Researchers—Share your research with National Conference attendees and help AISES engage students, professionals, partners, and others in the innovative STEM research conducted by AISES professionals! Professionals have the choice to present in either oral or poster presentation format. Learn more!

Owl Springs Way Bridge Replacement Project - Pueblo of Jemez

ENGINEERING

SATURDAY • 2:30 pm - 3:20 pm

Craig Tom (*Dine' (Navajo)*)

Staff Engineer, NV5, Inc

The Owl Springs Way Bridge located in the Pueblo of Jemez, New Mexico is a \$3.8 million-dollar three span bridge over the Jemez River in North Central New Mexico. The Jemez River has annual flow elevation changes of 2 to 13 feet in depth. The project includes the construction of a three span steel girder and concrete bridge and mechanical concrete drive pad, that connects the traditional Pueblo of Jemez with the Pueblos' in use agricultural and cultural resources west of the Owl Springs Way Bridge. The project included three funding sources to include state local government grant funds, tribal transportation program funds, and federal bridge program funds. The project avoided landowner resources, included relocation of overhead power and underground water distribution lines and new Rights of Way Easements for the new structure in accordance with 25 CFR part 169 and part 170 Tribal Transportation Guidelines.

Pattern Evidence | Forensic Science Examinations at the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES

SATURDAY • 2:30 pm - 4:10 pm

Theodore Chavez (*Pueblo of Acoma*)

Physical Scientist Forensic Examiner, FBI

This interactive workshop of activities will include hands-on exercises related to forensic science methods, procedures, communication, and professional development. Learn about pattern evidence examinations and how the scientific method provides a structured and systematic way to conduct examinations within a laboratory setting. Attendees will understand how toolmarks are created, how basic knowledge of coding and computer science can assist with troubleshooting during the 3D printing process, and how a basic knowledge in engineering can have an impact in multiple career

paths. This is also an exclusive opportunity to engage with other subject matter experts and FBI Recruiters who will provide insights into pursuing a STEM career at the FBI as well as shed light on supportive federal networks at the Bureau. Explore how your skills and background In Science + Medicine | Technology | Engineering | Mathematics + Data are essential in creative innovative ways to meet the FBI mission.

PhD! Why not me?

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

THURSDAY • 11:00 am - 11:50 am

Dr. Cammi Valdez

Assistant Dean of Research, Gregg Wadley College of Science and Health Professions; Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Department of Natural Sciences, Northeastern State University

Are you thinking about applying to the PhD? Did you know you could get paid to get your PhD in STEM? Come find out more! During this session, undergraduate students will learn about preparing for graduate school, why graduate school may be a good fit, how to identify graduate programs, and getting organized during the application process. We will also discuss the timeline for applying to graduate programs and spend a majority of our time diving into the application components. There will be an emphasis on the Statement of Purpose and identifying (and requesting!) Letters of Recommendation. This is a DO NOT MISS workshop for undergraduates planning to apply to the PhD!

Poster Research Presentations

FRIDAY • 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Student and professional researchers are re-indigenizing STEM by sharing their research with other Indigenous STEM students, professionals, and recruiters from top companies and organizations. Student Researchers—Take this opportunity to present your work to a broad audience, practice your presentation skills, add a presentation citation to your resume/CV, and compete for awards and prizes! You have the choice of presenting in either the poster or oral presentation format. Oral presentations are only open to undergraduate and masters/doctoral students. Learn more! Professional Researchers—Share your research with National Conference attendees and help AISES engage students, professionals, partners, and others in the innovative STEM research conducted by AISES professionals! Professionals have the choice to present in either oral or poster presentation format. Learn more!

Poster Research Presentations Setup

FRIDAY • 8:00 am - 9:00 am

Participants are expected to mount their posters on Friday. Author(s) must be present at their poster during the judging period.

Pre-College Student Gathering

WEDNESDAY • 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

"Hey students! Here is your chance to get to know AISES better while also getting to know your peers in a fun, interactive environment! Let's kick off the AISES National Conference together and learn how to make the most out of your time here at the conference!" Agenda to include ice-breaker activities, learning about our programs & scholarships, how to navigate the College & Career Fair floor, Resume Room & more! All middle and high school students, their chaperones, PK12 educators, and PK12 advisors are invited!

Preparing for a Career the Health Professions: Why Applying to SHPEP Should Be Your First Step

HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES

FRIDAY • 10:30 am - 11:20 am

Antonio Mancuso

M.Ed., A-CSPO, Association of American Medical Colleges

In an effort to increase diversity, the SHPEP National Program Office has established a national committee for SHPEP that will concentrate on two areas: (1) communications strategy; and (2) building program site capacity to be more inclusive of Native students. Through this collaborative effort, the SHPEP National Program Office aims to implement a communication strategy that leads increased representation Native students in the health professions. In my proposed session, I will discuss how SHPEP can strengthen the academic proficiency and career development of native students who are aspiring healthcare professionals. This session will also address that a path into the health professions looks different for each student, the impact SHPEP had on their careers, and provide strategies for overcoming obstacles that challenge native students.

Preparing to work for the CIA

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

SATURDAY • 1:30 pm - 2:20 pm

Steven Ashlan (*Cherokee Tribe of Oklahoma*)

Native American Outreach Program Manager, Central Intelligence Agency

The presentation will be a panel discussion with experienced CIA officers who will give advice on how to prepare for apply and a career in the CIA. It will allow attendees to learn about the various career opportunities as well as ask questions about the hiring process. This is a interactive class and it is recommended that the attendees visit the CIA website at CIA.GOV/CAREERS to see what they might be most interested in.

Preserving and Advancing Indigenous Language, Culture, and Knowledge with Technology

INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

FRIDAY • 9:30 am - 10:20 am

Hai Ng

Co-founding Director, Project Quipu, Inc.

With recent advances in Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence, we now have the ability to build tools for Indigenous Nations to capture, preserve, collaborate, and progress their unique languages, culture, and knowledge for the benefit of generations to come. This session will introduce the programs Project Quipu is embarking on to use AI tools such as Large Language Models; advanced multi-dimensional multimedia digitization and recognition technologies; and other emerging tools towards this endeavor and more!

President's Reception (Invitation only)

FRIDAY • 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

The President's Reception is hosted by AISES President Sarah Echohawk and is by invitation only. Expect refreshments and hors d'oeuvres, an opportunity to mingle with other members of the AISES family, and a short program presenting the Firekeepers Program. The Firekeepers program is designed to support the future of AISES. Learn more about becoming a Firekeeper at this reception.

Professional Chapter Council Meeting (PCC)

THURSDAY • 3:15 pm - 4:15 pm

The Professional Chapters Council (PCC) consists of representatives of the AISES professional chapters whose goal is to provide guidance and representation for professional chapters, to advise AISES on issues important to professional chapters and members, and to increase opportunities for AISES professionals. If you are interested in joining the Professional Chapter Council, contact Lisa Paz, Managing Director of Engagement and Advocacy at lpaz@aises.org.

Professionals Networking Reception (Ticket purchase required)

FRIDAY • 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Sponsored by The Clorox Company

This fun and interactive event welcomes professional and student members that are about to become professionals to network in a comfortable setting. Students will also be able to interact with Professional Chapter representatives and talk about professional membership. The event is intended for professionals and college students that will soon be entering the work force. Space is limited. Light hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Protecting Communities from Risk: Exploring STEM Careers in Insurance

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

FRIDAY • 8:30 am - 9:20 am

Ravshan Muminov

Actuarial Analyst, AMERIND

Erin Olson

Actuary, Mod Pricing & Modeling, USAA

The insurance industry provides a wealth of different career opportunities, and STEM skills are in especially high demand in this industry. This session will expose students, educators and advisors to actuarial careers and other STEM careers in insurance. Actuaries employ specialized knowledge of math, statistics, finance, and risk on problems faced by individuals and industries. We will discuss how actuaries and other careers within the insurance industry help to promote economic well-being and strengthen communities in the face of new and emerging risks, like cyber risk, climate change, artificial intelligence and automated vehicles. This session is a collaboration between the Casualty Actuarial Society, a leading international organization for credentialing and education of property & casualty actuaries, and AMERIND, the leading provider of insurance services and consultancy for Indian Country.

Protecting Our People and Homelands- How working for the U.S. Intelligence Community can create a safer and more just future

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

FRIDAY • 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

Belinda Gnansounou

Senior Task Manager (Peraton), Intelligence Community

Join us for an engaging and informative session focusing on the crucial role of the U.S. Intelligence Community (IC) in protecting our nation and promoting justice. This presentation will explore how the IC's mission and activities contribute to national security, public safety, and a more equitable society. Learn how you can be part of a mission that not only protects our people and homelands but also champions a safer and more just future for all. Explore how the Intelligence Community's work intersects with the interests and well-being of Native communities and discover opportunities to contribute to this important mission.

Protecting Traditions Through Modern Science

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

FRIDAY • 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm

Julian Cata (*Santa Clara Pueblo*)

Air Quality Technician, Pueblo of Tesuque Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Cameron Conners (*Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo*)

Environmental Technician/ Undergrad at UNM, Pueblo of Tesuque

Jamison Leno (*Pueblo of Tesuque*)

Environmental Technician, Pueblo of Tesuque Department of Environment and Natural Resources

How can the use of modern science promote a positive impact to our way of life in the pueblos? As pueblo people we have always lived very traditional, but as the climate changes, we are learning to implement modern science and technology to enhance our way of life and for those that come after us. The Pueblo of Tesuque created a coalition partnering and collaborating with several other pueblos to share our traditional knowledge to improve the environment and continue our traditional practices. As pueblo people we rely on the surrounding areas for every part of life, so we can leverage traditional ecological knowledge with modern science to ensure the sustainability of these resources.

Renewable Energy Education and Workforce Development: A Pathway for Tribal Energy Sovereignty

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

FRIDAY • 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm

Taylor Kingsbery (*Chickasaw/Choctaw*)

Tribal Major Gifts Officer, GRID Alternatives

Danita Ordaz (*Jicarilla Apache/Lipan Apache*)

Tribal Workforce Coordinator, GRID Alternatives

This session explores the transformative potential of renewable energy and workforce development for achieving resource sovereignty in tribal nations. Through the National Tribal Program, GRID Alternatives partners with Tribal Nations to deliver solar power projects that provide hands-on training and career development for tribal members. Attendees will learn how locally sited and controlled renewable energy empowers tribes to take control of their energy resources, retain local dollars, and long-term environmental and economic benefits. We will discuss the importance of introducing tribes to renewable energy and providing them with practical solar installation skills. By addressing the historical exploitation of tribal energy resources, this session highlights how renewable energy projects can reverse this trend, promoting sustainable development and economic resilience. Join us to discover how mission-driven approach combines training, project development, and strategic support to help tribal nations achieve their vision for a sustainable and sovereign energy future.

Resilience in Transition: An Anishinaabe Engineer's Approach to Energy Transition Pathways in Oil and Gas

ENGINEERING

FRIDAY • 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

Kaella-Marie Earle (*Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory (Ontario)*)

Hydraulic Engineering Designer, Enbridge and Canada Energy Regulator

Join Kaella-Marie Earle for a session titled "Resilience in Transition: An Anishinaabe Engineer's Approach to Energy Transition Pathways

in Oil and Gas. Drawing from her extensive experience in oil and gas transmission systems, pipeline integrity, maintenance, and construction, Earle will illuminate how she integrates her Anishinaabe cultural values into her work in a way that directs the energy transition. Discover how Earle identifies harm-reducing technical alternatives for the energy transition, including methane emissions reduction, energy diversification, frontline reskilling, and expanding safety paradigms in the technical realm. Earle will also share insights into federal and provincial energy regulation as Canada and Indigenous Nations navigate the complexities of energy transition pathways. Don't miss this enlightening session where tradition meets innovation in shaping a sustainable energy future.

Resume Room

THURSDAY • 11:00 am - 6:00 pm

FRIDAY • 7:30 am - 5:00 pm

The Resume Room will be available to students on Thursday and Friday. Come fine-tune your resume and upload it to the AISES resume database (Career Hub) as well as distribute it at the AISES College and Career Fair. The room is equipped with computers, printers and staffed with professional volunteers to answer questions about resume development.

RISE UP – A Panel of Innovative Gaming Industry Leaders

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

THURSDAY • 11:00 am - 11:50 am

Frances Alvarez

Chairwoman, The Tribal Gaming Protection Network (TGPN)

Hai Ng

Co-founding Director, Project Quipu, Inc.

Kordell Schrock

IT Specialist, Meskwaki Nation - Tribal Operations

Drew Shimkowski

Talent Acquisition Partner, Aristocrat

Did you know that the tribal gaming sector is a critical driver of economic activity across the United States? Gaming activity across the country is a growing industry, with many STEM opportunities interwoven in the framework of these career paths. In this session, RISE affiliated professionals will gather to share their expertise, wisdom, experiences, and connections in the gaming industry. Topics of expertise and backgrounds will be shared, and the panelists will answer audience questions throughout their time. Areas highlighted may include; the history of STEM gaming careers, 'Indigenizing' game design, gaming innovations, geo-technology, cybersecurity, sports betting, the tribal gaming regulation industry and more. With STEM at the center of this discussion, join the panel to learn more about a career path in gaming and how RISE can connect you to this educational and professional path.

Rooted in Wellness: Cultivating Native Plants for Health, Culture, and STEM Education in Tribal Communities

INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

THURSDAY • 12:00 pm - 12:50 pm

Dr. Kenneth Bowen (*Lumbee and Pee Dee*)

Board of Directors, AISES

Darlene Graham (*Waccamaw Siouan*)

Elder, Waccamaw Siouan Tribe

This session focuses on tribal communities in southeastern North Carolina, particularly the Waccamaw Siouan Tribe, and their efforts to establish and maintain native and medicinal plant gardens.

Explore how these green spaces promote health, preserve cultural traditions, and enhance STEM education. Learn from the experiences of the Waccamaw Siouan Tribe and other tribal communities in the region, gaining valuable insights into the challenges and successes of cultivating these vital resources. Engage with experts and community leaders to discuss strategies for creating sustainable green spaces that benefit both individuals and communities. Whether you're interested in health, culture, or education, this session offers a unique perspective on the importance of native plants in tribal communities in southeastern North Carolina.

San Antonio Zoo Tour

THURSDAY • 1:30 pm - 5:15 pm

All tours have a \$5 non-refundable commitment fee.

Sponsored by **Tribal Aid Benefit Concerts Foundation**

Transportation provided by **Trolley Tours**

Zoo admission fee covered by Tribal Aid Benefit Concerts Foundation

Join us for discovery and conversation with experts in the following areas of the San Antonio Zoo: Conservation & Research, Construction, Animal Ambassador Team, Animal Care Specialist, Veterinarians, and Finance. Experience videos about the zoo's accomplishments over the past year and how it has been supporting an Indigenous Tribe in Brazil. There will also be a guest speaker from the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts Music Engineer Department.

Agenda of the tour:

- 1:30 pm Depart Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
- 2:00 pm Arrive SA Zoo and check in to the Education Center
- 2:05 pm Break up into 2 groups

Group 1/ Group 2

- 2:10 – 2:20 pm Speaker #1
- 2:20 – 2:30 pm Speaker #2
- 2:30 – 2:40 pm Speaker #3
- 2:40 – 2:50 pm Speaker #4
- 2:50 – 3:00 pm Speaker #5
- 3:05 – 4:40 pm Begin exploring the zoo. The Zoo Engineer will tour the Gorilla Habitat with both groups.
- 4:45 pm Group exits and load bus
- 5:10 pm Arrive at the Convention Center

Seeding Innovation: Learn how we started High School CS courses across Turtle Island!

COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCE ENGINEERING

SATURDAY • 2:30 pm - 3:20 pm

Marie Casao (*Narragansett*)

PK-12 SPO, AISES

Frieda McAlear (*Iñupiaq*)

Director of Seeding Innovation, The Kapor Center

Through our project "Seeding Innovation" (Kapor Foundation x AISES), we have learned that trying to make Native culture and language "fit" into Computer Science (CS) was not working. We adopted a culture first model where we work with our High School partners to create CS projects based on their tribal culture and language(s). This seemingly small shift of becoming a better relative for our partner schools has created amazing projects. Come to our session to learn about the CS projects Native students are doing across Turtle Island, hear from our teachers doing this work, while also getting a chance to learn how you can adopt a similar model at your school!

Sequoyah Fellows Breakfast & Ceremony (RSVP required)

SATURDAY • 6:30 am - 9:15 am

This invitation only Sequoyah Fellows Breakfast & Ceremony is an event honoring AISES Lifetime Members, their guests, and to welcome new Sequoyah Fellows.

Shape the Future of Health: Join NIH Training and Workforce Programs

HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES

FRIDAY • 9:30 am - 10:20 am

Dr. Maria Carranza

Senior Training Officer, NIH/NIA

Dr. Angel de la Cruz

Training Director, NIH/NIDDK

Dr. Bryan Kim

Program Director, National Institutes of Health / Office of Data Science Strategy

Dr. Crystal Richards

Program Director, NIH/NIGMS

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) drives innovations in science and technology that aim to improve the health of all humankind. Critical to NIH's mission is a sustainable, diverse, and well-trained biomedical and health research workforce. This panel will discuss NIH-funded training and workforce programs across the nation and at the NIH. One crosscutting theme in the NIH-Wide Strategic Plan is to leverage data science for biomedical discovery. This panel will highlight programs that enhance the data science competencies in trainees and scientists. Panel members include Program Officers from various Institutes and Centers across the NIH who will share their own experiences and provide insights on academic and career development. Panel members will also invite discussion on efforts to promote diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility in research training and education.

Shaping Your Destiny – Your Career Journeys Begin With You

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

THURSDAY • 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

Josh Hammonds (*Lumbee*)

Technical Leader, Cisco

Alice Sanchez (*Pomo, Choctaw and Hawaiian*)

Security Engineering Technical Leader, Cisco

Ken Twist (*Cherokee*)

Services Specialist Premium, Cisco

Dan Wastchak

Director, Business Ops for Global Revenue Operations, Cisco

This panel discussion is designed to inspire and inform Native American students about the many opportunities available within the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) as spoken by Native Americans in STEM fields. This event brings together a diverse group of professionals to provide insight, advice, and personal experiences. The panel aims to break down barriers, demystify STEM pathways, and encourage pursuing STEM-related education and careers among Native American youth.

So you want to be a hacker?

COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCE ENGINEERING

FRIDAY • 9:30 am - 10:20 am

Jordan Caldwell (*Chickasaw*)

CSO, Critical Fault

Cybersecurity has become a hot industry, and it isn't uncommon to hear someone talk about how cool it would be to become a hacker for the good guys. But what does this mean? What does being a hacker look like, and how do you even become one? We will discuss Jordan's roundabout journey into the cyber field, what the work can look like, and ways to make it in to the industry.

Sports Betting's Technology Frontier

STEM & BUSINESS

THURSDAY • 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

E. Sequoyah Simermeyer (*Coharie*)

Vice President Strategic Partnerships, FanDuel

Indian country's continued success in the competitive sports betting industry constantly considers global technology trends. Guarding against threats from cyber-attacks and participating in an era of rapid technology innovation are part of those trends. Learn how growth and excitement in sports betting are creating opportunities for professionals in the technology and cyber security field. Hear from FanDuel, a global leader in the sports betting field, about how what lies on the next horizon can help protect and sustain a powerful economic development tool in many tribal communities.

Star Wars: Solving for R2

MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES

FRIDAY • 10:30 am - 12:10 pm

Avery Brinkheide (*Seneca Nation of Indians*)

Student, Tohono O'odham Community College

Deneen Hernandez (*Seneca Nation of Indians*)

Forensic Examiner, Retired Federal Bureau of Investigation

"Star Wars: Solving for R2" provides hands-on activities in forensic science and the examination of evidence. 3 stations regarding an evil plot to kidnap Hopi R2 appearing at the Museum of the Southeast American Indian at UNC Pembroke. The case will highlight the following forensic disciplines: indented writing, cryptanalysis (code breaking and a ransom note), and fingerprint identification. Students will document, analyze, and decipher evidence from the crime scene. Students will use worksheets to progress to the end of the activity.

State of AISES by President (Invitation only)

THURSDAY • 11:00 am - 11:30 am

Join AISES President, Sarah EchoHawk, as she gives quality insights of the "State of the Organization" address.

STEM @ NSA

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SATURDAY • 1:30 pm - 2:20 pm

Fernita Dailey

NSA Diversity Outreach Advocate, National Security Agency

Come hear about the diverse STEM educational and career journeys of members and allies of the National Security Agency's American Indian Alaska Native (AIAN) Employee Resource Group (ERG). Additionally, AIAN ERG members who are recent college graduates will share their experiences advocating for themselves in the workplace while taking the first steps of their STEM careers.

STEM Activities Day (Registration required)

STEM ACTIVITIES DAY

WEDNESDAY • 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Sponsored by The Boeing Company

Middle school and high school students are invited to this fun, interactive day of activities will include hands-on STEM-themed ideas and challenges. Start your AISES National Conference off right with a full afternoon of STEM activities and information. This event includes chances to win great prizes! Food and beverages will be provided.

Agenda

9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Badge Pickup at Registration Desk
12:00 p.m. - 12:15 p.m.	Orientation – The Boeing Company
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Session Block One
1:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.	BREAK (go to next activity)
1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	Session Block Two
2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	BREAK (go to next activity)
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Session Block Three

Activities

American Chemical Society Chemistry Experiments

Participants will conduct hands-on science activities such as:

1. Build-a-Battery Workshop
2. Explore Electrolytes
3. Pencil Electrolysis
4. Chill with Chemistry
5. Imaging Starts with Imagination
6. Laser-Focused on Chemistry

The themes of these experiments are:

- 1) Using tools of chemistry to find out what atoms, ions, and molecules are like,
- 2) Using chemistry to make and store electricity
- 3) Energy transfer.

Clean Energy Explorations

Join KidWind to explore clean energy through a variety of hands on activities. We will have wind and solar power stations where participants will be able to construct simple wind turbines, design and test wind turbine blades and explore the STEM of wind power. Participants will also be able to construct simple solar power circuits that power water pumps, small electronics and other devices. This session will appeal to students interested in having a career in clean energy and educators interested in learning how to bring clean energy lessons to their students.

Code Your Vision: Ozobots Meet Vision Boards for Creative Manifestation

In this interactive workshop, participants will embark on a journey of self-discovery and goal setting by merging the worlds of technology and creativity. Using Ozobots, small programmable robots, and traditional vision board techniques, attendees will learn how to visualize and manifest their aspirations for their educational path, personal growth, or professional career. By the end of the "Code Your Vision" workshop, participants will not only have created their own personalized vision boards but also gained practical coding skills and a deeper understanding of how technology can enhance the visualization and manifestation of their goals.

Code Quest: Journey into Coding

"CodeQuest: Journey into Coding" is an engaging and interactive program designed to introduce K-12 students to the fundamentals of coding through creative storytelling and hands-on programming activities. In this innovative learning experience, students embark on an exciting adventure where they transform their imaginations into interactive digital worlds. "CodeQuest" empowers students to become confident creators in the digital world, equipping them

with foundational coding skills that are essential for success in STEM fields. By combining storytelling with coding, this program not only makes learning fun and accessible but also cultivates a lifelong passion for technology and innovation. Join us on a thrilling journey into the world of coding with “CodeQuest” and unleash your creative potential!

Creating Paper Rockets and Helicopters

RTX Alliance of Indigenous Nations (RAIN) employee resource group will be leading students in:

1. Creating paper rockets, discuss the science/physics behind rockets.
2. Creating paper helicopters (or setting up a station for a take home activity), discuss the science/physics behind helicopters.
3. Cybersecurity, Codebreaking, and Reverse Engineering with NSA
4. STEM professionals from the National Security Agency will present hands-on activities on cybersecurity, codebreaking, and reverse engineering.

Cybersecurity, Codebreaking, and Reverse Engineering with NSA

STEM professionals from the National Security Agency will present hands-on activities on cybersecurity, codebreaking, and reverse engineering.

Hypersonics – How Fast is Fast?

The hypersonics workforce is in urgent need to attract and develop the next generation of technicians, scientists, and engineers. Their mission is to research, develop, and build the next generation of hypersonic technology. In this session, we will discuss what is hypersonics, potential career opportunities within the hypersonics field, and just how fast is fast. The session will include hands on activities from the 32 lessons in the Joint Hypersonics Transition Office's Hypersonics STEM Curriculum such as the speed number line from How Fast is Hypersonics and a wind tunnel activity from Can I Give You a Lift. The Hypersonics STEM Curriculum is a collection of lessons for grades 3-12 that infuse hypersonics into STEM content including mathematics, physical science, biological sciences, earth space science, and engineering design.

Indigitize Computer Science – Python Collective Poem

Students are invited to join Indigitize for an engaging Computer Science (CS) session during STEM Activity Day. This hands-on workshop introduces key CS concepts and offers an exciting opportunity to create a collective poem using Python. Participants will learn the basics of programming, explore the creative potential of coding, and contribute to a collective poem. This session is designed to inspire curiosity and creativity in computer science.

Land, Water, & Ecosystems – Explore Earth Science with the USGS!

Rivers, rocks, plants, animals, maps, and more! At this year's STEM Day event, we'll have fun hands-on activities for you to learn about Earth Science! Have you heard of the United States Geological Survey (USGS)? We're the science branch of the Department of the Interior and we study and monitor Earth's land, water, and ecosystems. Come explore the science of Turtle Island with us!

Mental Health Matters: Integrating STEM for Mental Health and Wellness.

Our workshop, “Mental Health Matters: Integrating STEM for Mental Health and Wellness” aims to equip participants with practical tools and insights to foster mental well-being. Through the interactive session, we will explore various aspects of mental health, including stress management, self-care practices, and building resilience. STEM facilitators will share evidence-based techniques and engage students in discussions to promote understanding and connect modern day STEM with historical structures used by the largest tribe in Native America. Students will leave with personalized strategies to implement in their daily lives and support others in their mental

health journeys. In addition, they will walk away with techniques that promote becoming diverse, well-educated, professionals who reach their full potential as leaders through Math, Engineering, Science, and technology Achievement.

Navajo Ecology STEM Demonstration

At the Department of Energy (DOE), ecology and beneficial reuse are at the forefront of our mission. The Office of Legacy Management (LM) preserves native plants, rocks, groundwater and traditional ecological knowledge through our work to protect human health and the environment on the Navajo Nation. During the LM created STEM demonstration, participants will have hands-on interaction with native ecology items such as wool, plants, rocks, and can discuss the significance of these items to the Navajo culture and LM's mission. While the students are sipping Navajo tea, they can make a cedar bead bracelet and examine ecology specimens with microscopes. Students will also learn what ecologists do in the field and how they could consider ecology as a career path.

Project Management: Bridge Building

IBM Engineers will share their career journey, introduce students to the Phases of Project Management and the Engineering Design Process. Then students will work in groups, using project management skills in our fun and interactive building activity.

Safe Stopping Robot

Students will engineer a robot that turns itself off when it leaves a safe area. Students will get to use fundamentals in the areas of mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, robotics, and robotics engineering.

Sling Shot Car

The slingshot car is an excellent introductory project to illustrate how potential energy is converted into kinetic energy, and the importance of low friction. The students will build a car from a craft stick frame using straws, dowels, plastic wheels and tape to design a car that will be propelled across the floor in hopes for it to travel straight for at least 10 feet using a rubber band as a sling shot.

Space Vehicle Circuit Building with NASA

All space vehicles and many pieces of scientific equipment require energy and miles of circuits to move electrical energy from battery storage to usage. In this activity, you will construct a series or parallel circuit with a coin battery, copper tape, and LED light(s) to show how stored energy can illuminate one or more LED lights in a mock-up of a space vehicle or aircraft. Once your circuit is finished and tested, you will install a switch to allow you to turn the flow of electricity on or off and make your lights flash or pulse. Learn how to troubleshoot the parts of a circuit if your space vehicle lighting isn't working, just like engineers and astronauts do. Finally, you can try recharging a coin battery using a charger connected to an electrical source or with a demonstration solar panel for renewable energy and learn how batteries store power.

U.S. Forest Service Interactive Learning Stations - Caring for the Land and Serving People

This STEM Activity Day session is comprised of interactive learning stations to educate youth about how the U.S. Forest Service protects and manages the natural resources of our National Forests. Stations will be set up to discuss different science-based career disciplines within the Forest Service including silviculture, archaeology, wildland fire, and wildlife management. At each station, Forest Service personnel will explain environmental concepts and present the work that takes place on public lands to ensure the resiliency of our nation's forests and grasslands. Forest Service personnel will also engage students in hands-on activities related to each career discipline. These activities will help students identify interest and passions in STEM careers and hopefully spark curiosity about the management and use of our Nation's public lands.

Virtual Archaeological Tours with Stantec Archaeologists

One of the most powerful tools for advancing Tribal Sovereignty is public education. Thanks to current advances in immersive technology, the creation and deployment of digital assets through interactive experiences using GIS Story Maps, Augmented Reality (AR), and Virtual Reality (VR), have become logistically and financially tenable for most public educators to exploit. During this STEM Activity Day Session, Stantec Archaeologists will invite the public to use Meta Quest VR units to virtually explore the UNESCO World Heritage Site, "Monte Alban" (Mexico), and the "Pleito Creek Rock Art Site" (Kern County, CA) via the immersive VR programs that the presenters have co-created in collaboration with indigenous communities. The presenters will be available to guide the public through the virtual tours and to answer any questions regarding digital storytelling with these cutting-edge technologies.

STEM with Smartphones

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

THURSDAY • 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm

Tony Baylis

Director of the Office of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accountability, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Dr. David Rakestraw

Senior Scientist, LLNL

Advancements in microelectronics and communication technologies have opened doors to a transformative era in STEM education, equipping the forthcoming cadre of scientists and engineers with unparalleled capabilities. By harnessing the computational might and sophisticated sensors of their smartphones, students are empowered to explore and analyze the world around them in real-time. This interactive presentation will immerse attendees in a sequence of measurements to capture and visualize highly accurate sensor-derived data. The session promises to captivate both students eager to uncover the extraordinary capabilities of their phone's sensors and STEM educators in search of innovative, hands-on pedagogical tools. Over one hundred experiment outlines are accessible at no cost on the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory website, fostering equitable access to a high-quality STEM education, traditionally hindered by financial constraints. Participants are encouraged to install the "phyphox" app on their iOS or Android devices in advance, ensuring readiness for experiential learning.

Storytelling with The Elders

INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

FRIDAY • 10:30 am - 12:10 pm

Come sit and relax with the AISES Council of Elders as they take turns sharing stories told with love, humor, and traditional knowledge. The importance of storytelling has always been woven into our lives – as much a part of our future as our past. Join them to enjoy stories that have the power to heal, teach, and prepare future generations.

Student Awards Luncheon (Registration required)

SATURDAY • 11:45 am - 1:15 pm

Sponsored by The United States Department of the Air Force

Pre-college and college students are invited to register for this event that honors the incredible STEM talent at AISES from scholarship awardees to interns, as well as the exemplary chapters who power, connect, and elevate the AISES mission. All student research presenters should attend the luncheon as research award winners will be announced.

Student Hackathon with Dinner (Registration required)

THURSDAY • 4:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Sponsored by Chevron

High and college students are encouraged to register for this event to strategize, discover, build your tech skills, and network! During this mini-Hackathon for undergraduate and graduate students, participants will work with industry professionals on a software project. Show your talent; test your limits; and have fun meeting interesting people while putting your best efforts forward. There will also be lots of food, drinks, and prizes! Space is limited so hurry and register now!

Student Orientation

THURSDAY • 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

The student orientation welcomes all students to come and learn what to expect at the AISES National Conference, as well as, what is expected of you. Learn how to make the most of your experience at this year's conference!

Student Social - DJ and Dance

FRIDAY • 8:00 pm - 10:30 pm

Sponsored by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

This fun filled student social event will include networking, entertainment, dancing, and snacks.

Student Study Lounge

THURS - SAT • 7:00 am - 9:00 pm (3:00 pm on Saturday)

Sponsored by Chevron

Students, do you need a quiet, comfortable place to unwind? The Student Study Lounge is an area open to students for gathering, studying and relaxing between sessions. All students are invited to use this room to work effectively without interruption, relieve any tension or stress on your mind, and focus on your study in peaceful manner. WiFi is provided.

Supplier Diversity: Building Community Through Economic Opportunity

STEM & BUSINESS

SATURDAY • 2:30 pm - 3:20 pm

Trevor Boylston, CPSD

Supplier Diversity Manager, Boston Scientific

Jason Palmer (Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish band of Pottawatomi)

Executive Director, National Native American Supplier Council

Any goods or services used by a company, from staffing to packaging, precision machining to construction is part of the procurement process. Supplier Diversity is the business strategy that proactively seeks including of small and diverse suppliers to fill those procurement needs. Learn how corporate supplier diversity programs partner with organizations like the National Native American Supplier Council to advance opportunities for tribally owned business entities that in turn generate economic growth, community-wide improvements. The information provided in this session is applicable to corporate partners, business owners, and students interested in pursuing entrepreneurship.

Support Food Systems and Improve the Environment with a Career at the Natural Resources Conservation Service

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

FRIDAY • 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

Ron Jackson

Human Resources Specialist, USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service

Population growth and climate change is increasing the challenge to create and maintain accessible and resilient food systems that are also ecologically-sound. Minority and low-income populations are disproportionately affected by a lack of both affordable nutritious food and culturally appropriate foods, leading to an increase in health risks such as heart disease and Type II diabetes. Our mission at the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is "helping people help the land". A rewarding career with NRCS puts you at the forefront of directly helping people tackle these challenges through hands-on technical and financial assistance programs. This session will explore what we do, the multitude of career paths available, the educational requirements to qualify, and internship opportunities available to help you get started helping people help the land. For an example of some of the work we do visit <https://youtu.be/6lyGtpIIYCO>.

Taking Ownership of Your Career Path

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

THURSDAY • 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

Paula Wynn-Grunstad (Lumbee)

Project Controls Manager, Bechtel National Inc

This session will target early career individuals and will focus on key steps and helpful tools needed to take ownership of your career path. We will discuss the importance of establishing career goals, delivering sustained performance, building your networking and creating/seizing opportunities. We will also discuss tools that can be leveraged to steer your career in the desired path.

The ABCs of Networking for Students and Early Career Professionals

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

FRIDAY • 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

Judy Mitchell

IT Analyst, 3M

Andy Tjomsland

USAC Early Career and Events Specialist., 3M

Unlock the power of professional networking in this engaging workshop, designed to equip you with essential networking skills. In this interactive workshop, you will learn the fundamentals of building and nurturing professional relationships, key connection techniques and tips on developing your personal brand. Whether you're a student preparing to enter the workforce or an early career professional looking to advance, this workshop will provide you with the tools and confidence to meaningfully connect with others. Join us and take the first step towards building a robust professional network that can open doors to new opportunities and career growth. Stop by and let us show you how a simple conversation can turn into a career breakthrough!

The Basics of Negotiating Anything

HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES

THURSDAY • 11:00 am - 11:50 am

Dr. Roger Dube (Abenaki Mohawk)

Emeritus Professor and Assistant Dean, RIT

Negotiation is a crucial skill that can significantly impact your career and personal well-being. Understanding the science and art behind it, grounded in human behavior and psychology, is essential. In this engaging session, you'll learn proven rules and techniques to master any negotiation scenario. These strategies are not just for high-stakes situations but also for everyday interactions that can have substantial financial and personal consequences. Join us to explore real-world examples and compelling data that demonstrate the success of these negotiation techniques, and take your negotiation skills to the next level.

The Boeing Company | SAMSAT Area 21 Tour

THURSDAY • 1:30 pm - 5:30 pm

All tours have a \$5 non-refundable commitment fee.

Touring the **SAMSAT Museum at the Boeing Tech Port** facility allows people:

DO: Autonomous Sensing Demo, Cyber City Power, Moon Brick Build, Augmented Reality Hands, Augmented Reality Sandbox (topology), Augmented Reality Engine and Cooling System, and Robot Drive Maze.

SEE: Factory Robots, Autonomous Driving Exhibit, Cyber (Lego) City, Media Room, Server Room, Cyber and Launch Operations, Moon 3D Printing, 3D Print Station, The Spark Organ, Engines and Cooling, Augmented Reality, and Intern projects.

LEARN ABOUT: Autonomous Driving, Critical Infrastructure and Cyber, Advanced Manufacturing, Aerospace and Space Development, Augmented and Virtual Reality IT and Coding, and Education and Career Pathways in San Antonio.

Tour the C-17/F-18 modification areas. Visit the innovation cell with 3D printing.

Agenda Information

- 1:30 pm Depart San Antonio Convention Center
- 2:00 pm Arrive at SAMSAT Area 21
- 2:10 pm Self-Guided Museum Tours
- 3:30 pm Depart and arrive at Boeing Visitor Entrance for badging
- 3:45 pm The Boeing Company Welcome
- 3:55 pm F/18 - C/17 Modification Area Tours / Rotate with Additive Manufacturing Area
- 5:00 pm Depart National Weather Center for return to San Antonio Convention Center
- 5:30 pm Arrive back at San Antonio Convention Center

The Energy Transition & Tribes- Looking Forward to a Clean Energy Future

STEM & BUSINESS

FRIDAY • 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

John Lewis (Gila River Indian Community) Managing Director, Avant Energy

This session will focus on the Energy Transition that is occurring throughout various industries and sectors and what that means for Tribal Youth and Young Professionals looking to participate in this trend. Climate disruptions are affecting Tribal Economies and Communities in unprecedented ways with new problems emerging on a regular basis. These new problems need solutions and innovations that must be generated by our Tribal Youth. This session will provide a primer on the Energy Transition and will offer some direction for those looking to get involved in the Clean Energy Workforce directly with Tribes and also within the industry and tech sectors.

The Etiquette Edge: Effective Communication and Conduct for Young Professionals

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

FRIDAY • 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm

Emily Gutierrez

Project Manager, Boston Scientific

Markie Vicenti (Navajo)

Project Analyst, Boston Scientific Corp

This speaker session is designed for college students and early-career professionals, aiming to underscore the critical role of professional conduct and etiquette in the workplace. As the professional landscape continues to evolve, the session will provide attendees with the essential tools and knowledge to navigate this environment successfully. Participants will learn how to effectively communicate, manage workplace relationships, and understand the unwritten norms that govern professional interactions. Through interactive discussions and real-world examples, the session will highlight the impact of professional demeanor on career advancement and personal branding. Attendees will leave equipped to make a positive impression in diverse settings, from formal meetings to casual networking events. This session promises to be an invaluable resource for those looking to establish a strong foundation in their careers, emphasizing that professional etiquette is not just about making others comfortable but also about fostering one's career growth and opportunities.

The National Map from USGS: Your Source for Topographic Information

GEOSCIENCES

FRIDAY • 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

Melissa James

Geographer, U.S. Geological Survey

Ally Johnson

Agreements Analyst, U.S. Geological Survey

It's all about maps: Hiking on trails, crowd sourcing data on maps, creating maps, and using maps! The USGS National Geospatial Technical Operations Center (NGTOC) creates topographical maps for the United States. This session emphasizes Geospatial careers found at NGTOC. It will also demonstrate interactive websites participants of all ages can use with their smart phones as potential National Map Corps volunteers. Presenters will show The National Digital Trails Project data with its QR code for participants to download and take with them to explore on their next outing. The session will also provide an overview of the geospatial sciences used to develop The National Map, particularly the 3D Elevation Program, and how lidar data is used. The USGS mission is to provide impartial scientific information on the health of our ecosystems and environments, the natural hazards that threaten us, and the natural resources that sustain us.

Tobacco: From Traditional Use to Commercial Abuse [How it started. How it's going.]

HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES

SATURDAY • 1:30 pm - 2:20 pm

Kristi Melby (Minnesota Chippewa, White Earth Nation)

Clinical Pharmacist, Mayo Clinic

Hop aboard a time machine as we travel through history exploring the commercialization of tobacco. Starting from pre-colonial traditional use of tobacco by Native Americans to the commercialization and soaring profits of Big Tobacco. We will be making several brief stops in our timeline including, but not limited to, how commercial tobacco encouraged the propagation of slavery,

how the tobacco plant was modified for commercial use, and how the American Indian Religious Freedom Act impacted traditional tobacco use. We will wrap up the session by taking a closer look at nicotine, the highly addictive compound found in tobacco, and highlighting how our Native ancestors avoided dependence. During this session participants will be offered a gift of tobacco seeds (*nicotiana rustica*) by the presenter.

Traditional Native Social Powwow

SATURDAY • 9:00 pm - 11:30 pm

Rock your Mocs and join us for what has become our most popular tradition - the AISES Powwow! This is the "grand finale" conference event where conference attendees and local community members socialize, dance, and vendor merchandise is sold.

Transforming Indigenous Healthcare by Addressing Gaps in Physician Diversity and Training through an Indigenous School of Medicine

HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES

FRIDAY • 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

Dr. Jonathan Baines (Tlingit/Tsimshian)

Medical Director of Mayo Clinic's Native American Pathway Programs, Mayo Clinic

Hailey Baker (Cherokee Nation)

Medical Student, University of Minnesota Medical School

Despite the growing recognition that enhancing physician workforce diversity can significantly mitigate health disparities, the representation of Indigenous individuals across all stages of the medical training continuum remains deficient. This situation prompts the need for transformative, Indigenous-led, and Indigenous-based solutions, and representatives from the Association of Native American Medical Students and the Association of American Indian Physicians have united to create the Indigenous School of Medicine. Trainees from ANAMS conducted a mixed quantitative and qualitative study to identify essential themes of an Indigenous medical school, including purpose, vision, and values. Informed by these findings, physicians from AAIP have accomplished significant milestones in the development of this institution. The result of this collaboration is a medical school where Indigeneity is prioritized and education is grounded in Indigenous values---a place in which both Indigenous trainees and faculty can uplift the health of Indigenous communities in a culturally-informed and community-driven way.

Tribal Nations Advisory Council Meeting (TNAC)

THURSDAY • 11:00 am - 12:15 pm

The TNAC of AISES consists of representatives from Tribal Nations in the United States and Canada. The primary role of the TNAC is to advise AISES on issues of relevance and importance to Tribal Nations. In addition, the TNAC also works to assist AISES in creating opportunities for Tribal Nations and their citizens, and to support the AISES mission of substantially increasing the representation of Indigenous Peoples of North America in science, technology, engineering, and math. If you are interested in joining the Tribal Nations Advisory Council, please contact Alicia Mitchell, Director of Tribal and Government Relations, at amitchell@aises.org

U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science – Highlights of Career-focused STEM Training and Workforce Development

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SATURDAY • 10:30 am - 11:20 am

Dr. Ping Ge

Office Director, Workforce Development for Teachers and Scientists, U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science

This session will highlight the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science (SC) opportunities for STEM training and career opportunities with the AISES attendees, including but not limited to community college students, undergraduate students from both 2-/4-year colleges/universities, graduate students, educators, career advisors, and professionals. In the first part of the session, you will be introduced to STEM training opportunities for students and faculty at DOE national laboratories. In the second half of the session, you will participate in a career speed networking activity with representatives from the DOE national labs. During the career speed networking activity, you will interact with Laboratory Education Directors (LEDs) from DOE national labs and learn how you can gain hands-on research and technical experience and contribute to the research at the lab. This timed activity is designed for you to engage with DOE lab staff in a round robin format.

U.S. National College Student Caucus

SATURDAY • 1:30 pm - 2:20 pm

AISES College students are invited to attend this caucus to vote on their next U.S. Junior National Student Representative. There is also the chance to meet their Regional Student Representative and hear what is important for AISES College Student members to know. This is a college student event, and while professional members and corporate partners are welcome to attend as observers, they are not eligible to vote and do not have presenting privileges.

Unlocking Federal Career Opportunities

PROFESSIONAL & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

FRIDAY • 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

Kenneth Barber

HR Specialist, Bureau of Land Management

Brooke Wheeler (Navajo)

Policy and Management Analyst, Bureau of Land Management

Join us for an insightful Federal Hiring Process Workshop. Gain invaluable tips and insights into navigating the intricate pathways of federal employment including internships. From understanding federal job series, resume crafting, to navigating USAJobs.gov, discover the keys to landing your dream job in the federal sector. Don't miss this chance to enhance your career prospects and make your mark in the public service arena.

Using the fun Makey Makey invention kit to teach Indigenous STEAM concepts

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

THURSDAY • 12:00 pm - 12:50 pm

Corinne Nakashima (Navajo Nation)

Software Developer, Intel

Using Makey-Makey devices (<https://makeymakey.com>), we show how to explore STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics) concepts from within a Native American cultural context. During each project session, students learn about traditional scientific and engineering knowledge that goes into the recognizable tools and cultural items/techniques commonly shared amongst the indigenous peoples of North America. Then we dive into using Makey-Makey and learning some simple tech skills to build a virtual or electronic, artful and fun-to-use version of those items. This session is geared towards 3-12 educators, but all are welcome to attend and learn.

Veterans' Gathering

THURSDAY • 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

This session is for Veterans who seek to address their specific issues as they seek guidance/ assistance in either their path to STEM education or finding opportunities in STEM upon completion of their

service obligation. It is also for our partners who wish to support and hire skilled, brave and honorable individuals who have served our country.

Visions for the Future: Exploring Environmental Justice in Indigenous Communities through Science, Storytelling, and Art

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

FRIDAY • 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm

Rebecca Jim (Cherokee Nation)

Advocate, Waterkeeper, LEAD Agency

McKalee Steen (Cherokee Nation)

PhD Candidate, UC Berkeley

Loren Waters (Cherokee Nation and Kiowa)

Filmmaker, Filmmaker

Storytelling and connection to place are inherent to who we are as Indigenous people. We become caretakers of stories, community members, and the land we live on. How can we use science, storytelling, and art to convey stories of hope and futurity? Join McKalee Steen, Loren Waters, Rebecca Jim as they explore what caretaking and Environmental Justice (EJ) advocacy looks like in their communities and beyond. They will share their work as Running Strong for American Indian Youth Dreamstarter recipients in a dynamic session about the impacts of the Landback movement, youth involvement in EJ spaces, and how to tell these stories creatively through filmmaking. "ᏍᏏᏏᏏ ᏍᏏᏏᏏ (MEET ME AT THE CREEK)" a short film by Loren Waters, that highlights the beauty of Cherokee culture through Rebecca Jim's eyes, as she dedicates her life to revitalizing it by restoring Tar Creek will be shown during the presentation.

W. L. Gore & Associates: Empowering Innovation

ENGINEERING

FRIDAY • 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

Brooke Ahrendt

College Recruiting, W.L. Gore & Associates

Sterling Garner

R&D Tech, W.L. Gore & Associates

Tasha Tso (Dine' Nation)

R&D Tech, W.L. Gore & Associates

Aaron Watson

Engineer, W.L. Gore & Associates

W. L. Gore & Associates has a unique "lattice" structure that is based on interconnection among Associates where direct communication is seen as critical to our success. Our diverse teams work together through the power of small teams to help our enterprise grow. As we continue building on our founder's dream of improving life through innovation, associates feel a strong sense of ownership and empowerment for achieving business success. Today, more than 55 million innovative Gore Medical Devices have been implanted, saving, and improving the quality of lives worldwide. Immerse yourself in an hour with members of Gore's Native American and Indigenous People of America Network to hear how our innovative spirit inspires us. Learn more about our roles and how we collaborate to create solutions that make a difference in the lives of others within the commercialization process of new products.

We R Native: Tips and Tools for Choosing your Own Path

HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES

FRIDAY • 8:30 am - 9:20 am

Celena Ghost Dog (Navajo Nation)

Adolescent Health Co-Director, Northwest Portland Area Indian

Health Board

Jane Manthei

SMS Communications Specialist, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board

This fun, interactive session will explore We R Native, a multimedia health resource designed for Native youth, by Native youth, and will focus on 3 different text messaging campaigns created to encourage a career in health: 1. Text INSPIRE to 94449: Stories from Indigenous professionals on their pathways, and guidance to finding a career in the public health. 2. Text HEALER to 94449: Provides 1 on 1 coaching in navigating a career in the medical field. 3. Text STEM to 94449: Connects youth to Native professionals who work in STEM fields. We will also walk through our latest tool on the We R Native website, the Tribal Health Pathways Resource Guide which spotlights regional and national learning opportunities for AI/AN middle school, high school, college, and graduate students who are interested in health or public health careers! Join us for some fun and win raffles and prizes!

Wearable Art - Panel with Designers and Fashion Show Producer

ART, ARCHITECTURE, AND DESIGN

FRIDAY • 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm

Dante Biss-Grayson

Fashion Designer

Cora Kay Chandler

Fashion Show Producer, Cora Kay Productions

Brocade Stops Black Eagle

Fashion Designer

AISES proudly presents the Sky Eagle Collection Brand (Dante Grayson Biss) & Brocade (Brocade Stops Black Eagle) as they showcase their Indigenous Fashion brands that are infused with tradition, elegance and contemporary wearable art. Their wearable artwork utilizes the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) in creating their one of a kind looks that are trending across Turtle Island. This panel will give insights as to what it takes to create the wearable art and you also hear from a producer on how the shows are procured and brought to life. This panel will take a look into the dynamic world of Indigenous Fashion and how it infuses STEM to create spectacular and creative Indigenous spaces.

Wellness Activity - Jingle Dance Instruction/Exercise

SATURDAY • 7:00 am - 9:00 am

Jingle Dance Instruction/Exercise In this wellness activity, Summerette Smith will use her experience as a Jingle Dress dancer, to instruct some basic moves along with stretches and basic movement for a refreshing start to your morning. This will highlight the physical movements it takes in your legs, calves and ankles to jingle dance. Summerette will meet people at their abilities and also wants attendees to be comfortable, so join her, in comfy clothes that are easy to move in and with shoes to dance, or just socks/barefoot works as well.

Wellness Activity - True Colors: Art Therapy for Personal Values

FRIDAY • 7:00 am - 9:00 am

Sponsored by FBI

Core values guide our decisions, behaviors, and actions. They bring us a sense of purpose and self-worth. Core values remind us of what is important in life. When we live in alignment with those values, we feel a greater sense of fulfillment, clarity, and self-awareness. Join this event's sponsor, the FBI, for a wellness session featuring art therapy, which uses active art-making, creativity, and discussion, to enrich the lives of people and their communities. Through this exercise,

participants will reflect on their core values, become curious if they are living in alignment with them, and express these values in mixed media art format to create a keepsake to continue to remind you of what is important in life and to continue to pursue them.

What you need to know about voter ID, getting out the vote, and staying engaged beyond the 2024 election

COMMUNITY BUILDING

THURSDAY • 1:00 pm - 2:40 pm

Selene M. Gomez

National Outreach Director, VoteRiders

Matt Heid

Director of Communications Strategy, Union of Concerned Scientists

Melissa Varga

Science Network Senior Manager, Union of Concerned Scientists

In 2020, STEM students turned out to vote at record levels. However, there's still more work to do—historically, STEM majors have voted at lower rates than students in any other field. With Election Day right around the corner, our workshop will present nonpartisan, evidence-based approaches to increasing voter registration and voter turnout that AISES members can bring back to their campus or community in the days leading up to the election. Our workshop will emphasize how students and community members can take steps to address common barriers to participating in our democracy, such as voter ID laws and voter registration. Presenters will translate civic responsibilities in actionable strategies for STEM students and scientists. Attendees will engage in activities to create their plan to vote, develop messaging to help others vote, and practice skills that will help them build a culture of civic engagement that will continue post-election.

White House Initiative for Native Americans and Tribal Colleges and Universities Listening Session for a Comprehensive Education Study

EDUCATION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

SATURDAY • 1:30 pm - 2:20 pm

Naomi Miguel (Tohono O'odham)

Executive Director, White House Initiative

The White House Initiative for Native Americans and Tribal Colleges and Universities will develop a comprehensive study on Indian Education. This listening session is for students, educators, and professionals to gather their input on education, student success, science, and technology. Feedback from this listening session will further develop the comprehensive study on Indian Education and other reports on science and technology.

Women's Talking Circle

THURSDAY • 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Circles provide space to open up fresh possibilities for connections, collaboration and understanding. Circles can hold the tensions and emotions that contribute to healing and can support people to use the collective energy to take action. It is an opportunity to express your conference experience with complete freedom. It is an effective way to remove barriers and feel the support and energy of all other participants during this intimate gathering. Women are welcome to join the circle and to strengthen the feeling of community through storytelling and togetherness.

Scan this QR code to download the conference app





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Are you interested in serving AISES as a member of the Board of Directors?

AISES is seeking nominations for Board of Directors positions for 2025.

As a member of the AISES Board of Directors, you will support and guide the direction of AISES. The Board of Directors are expected to understand, know, endorse, and advocate for the mission of AISES as well as attend and participate in all Board of Director’s meetings (up to 4 hours every quarter), serve and engage in AISES Board of Director’s Committees (approximately 3 to 5 hours monthly), and provide fiscal oversight as part of the Board of Director’s overall fiduciary responsibilities to the organization. Nonprofit board members have the legal responsibility to meet the duties of care and loyalty and be faithful to the organization’s mission.

If you are a member of AISES in good standing and are willing to commit significant time and engagement, we welcome you to self-nominate or nominate other AISES members to run for a seat on the AISES Board of Directors. For more information about the responsibilities of serving on the AISES Board of Directors please see <https://aises.org/board-nominations-and-election/#resources>.

The AISES Board of Directors meet quarterly and serve on AISES Board Committees. All Board members are expected to attend and engage in all Board and Committee meetings.

For more information, please contact AISES at nominations@aises.org



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3M	●	625	BIA Office of Trust Services - Pathways		425
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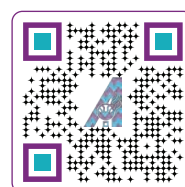
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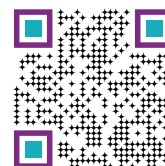
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A large, colorful graphic for the AISES National Conference. The word "AISES" is written in large, white, bold letters, with a red flame icon integrated into the letter "I". Below it, "NATIONAL CONFERENCE" is written in orange. At the bottom, the dates "OCT 2 - 4, 2025" and location "MINNEAPOLIS, MN" are displayed. The entire graphic is framed by a white, stylized floral and vine border with various colored flowers and leaves.

2024 AISES All Stars Walk of Fame

Exhibit is located in Henry B. González Convention Center on the meeting level.

Welcome to the inaugural “AISES All Stars Walk of Fame” exhibit at the annual AISES Conference! This special showcase is dedicated to honoring the remarkable achievements of our AISES family over the past year. This exhibit highlights individuals who have earned recognition from institutions and organizations beyond our AISES community, celebrating their outstanding contributions and success.

These honorees are not only pillars within their families and communities but also exemplify the excellence that AISES strives to cultivate. If you spot any of these distinguished individuals at this year’s conference, take a moment to congratulate them on their achievements. By valuing and uplifting each other in this way, we strengthen and inspire the entire AISES community.

Thank you for joining us in celebrating these exceptional individuals and their remarkable accomplishments!



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