



# Native American Youth and Family Center

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September 5, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

As the Executive Director of the Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA Family Center), I am very pleased to offer this letter of support for the production "For the Generations: A Native American Music Special" sponsored by Painted Sky and Oregon Public Broadcasting. This production will bring together the most talented Native American and First Nations performers from around the United States and Canada in a multi-faceted music and dance show. This exciting performance will bring Native vocalists, musicians and dancers together on to one stage here in Oregon to perform together for the first time in a major public television prime time broadcast. The event will not only take place as a live concert, but will also be broadcast on OPB television for Oregon and southwest Washington and in an OPB radio simulcast. A companion web site and strong educational outreach effort will target Native American youth on reservations as well as throughout schools to increase viewership among this crucial demographic.

As a non-profit serving Native youth and their families in the Portland Metropolitan Area, NAYA Family Center is delighted that this event will take place in Portland. In accordance with our mission "to enhance the diverse strengths of our youth and families in partnership with the community through cultural identity and education," our organization strives to increase the cultural identity, knowledge and pride of the over 1200 youth and their families we serve annually. This performance and accompanying broadcasts will be a fantastic opportunity to share cultural arts with our Native youth and families locally and nationally, as well as non-Native people in the Northwest and across the US. "For the Generations," through the cultural outreach opportunities it provides, is aligned with our organization's mission as well as our work to advocate for the Native community and increase knowledge of Native culture on the local, regional, national and international levels.

NAYA Family Center is encouraged by the amount of exposure "For the Generations" will bring to Native culture and artistic performances, and we are proud and honored to support the project.

Best Wishes,

  
Nichole Maher  
Executive Director

Empowering the Lives of Native Americans in the Portland Area.

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