

**DRAFT LIST OF YOUTH ACTIVITIES
2019 NATIVE AMERICAN EDUCATION CONFERENCE
CENTRAL WYOMING COLLEGE - RIVERTON, WYO.**

AUG. 7-8, 2019

**(All youth activities will take place in and near the Intertribal Education and
Community Center - Times and room numbers to be announced)**

Codeswitching: Transitioning from the Rez to College

Being Successful in Institutes Not Made for Us

This session will focus on informing youth about the basic skills necessary for college. Both presenters graduated from colleges hundreds of miles away from home with little to no Native community at their college for support. They'll discuss the skills they had to develop and adjustments they had to make to be successful in school. They'll cover study skills, the importance of communication in college, overcoming homesickness, and making the best out of your college experience.

Making College a Possibility Financially

This session will inform youth of the funding opportunities for Native students. Chaske and Mylan work for Sky People Higher Education, a program serving the Northern Arapaho tribe and Ann Abeyta works with the Chief Washakie Scholarship program, a program serving the Eastern Shoshone Tribe. They'll cover the different types of scholarships for tribal youth, the process of applying for scholarships, and scholarship deadlines.

College Expectations vs. Reality: It Isn't Like The Movies

There are a lot of misconceptions and false expectations of what the college experience is. Our panel of current and recently graduated college students will debunk some of the common college misconceptions and share what their college experience was. They'll cover everything from college culture, college friendships, and the real hardships of college.

Overcoming Obstacles and Chasing Success in College

College isn't always a straight path. Sometimes things happen, plans change, and obstacles arise. This session will talk about the need to be versatile and resilient in college. Our presenter has faced multiple challenges and plan-changes to get where she is today. She'll share her story and insights in hopes of helping youth understand that it's okay to struggle but, success will always be an option.

What It's Like Being the Only Brown Person in the Classroom

Off the reservation, Natives will always be the minority, particularly in the classroom. This session will discuss the challenges of being the “only Native in a room” and offer advice on how to deal with this in a constructive way. This session will cover tips for educating non-Native people on Native issues, dealing with racism and ignorance, and growing from these experiences.

Being Active in College Communities

In college, the people you surround yourself with is very important to your success. Reinette Tendore is head of the Native American program at the University of Wyoming, meaning she deals directly with UW's Native population. Wolf Star Duran is a current student at UW. Together they will discuss ways to build a community for yourself in college, integrating into college communities, and the different types of communities colleges offer.

Returning to the Community After College

Leaving the reservation for college is a challenge in itself, but an even larger challenge rarely addressed, is how hard it is for those who leave to come back. As much as we push for youth to get an education, how we treat those same youth after they get their education is unfair. Jordan Dresser left to get his education on multiple occasions. He knows the reality of the situation. In this session, he'll share his story.

Serving the Community Who Served You

Craig Ferris is another individual who left the reservation for school but has come back to serve his community. He is the head coach of the Wyoming Indian Chiefs basketball team, leading them to four Class 2A State Championships in the past 10 years. He was voted this year's 2A Northwest Boys Basketball Coach of the Year. His dedication to the community and the youth is admired by many. He will share the role higher education has had in helping him serve his community and also the ways in which the community helped him.

Being a College Athlete

This session will focus on the challenges and benefits of being a college athlete. All four presenters are current and past college athletes. They'll discuss their path towards college athleticism and answer any questions youth may have on the process.

Horse Culture

This is an outdoor session that will provide youth with the opportunity to interact directly with horses. Under close supervision, they'll be shown how to ride horses and maneuver horses safely. Youth will only have to do what they feel comfortable with. They will not be required to mount or ride.

National Outdoor Leadership School

This is an outdoor session that will be taught by certified NOLS instructors. They will be teaching youth basic tips and skills for outdoor activities.

Traditional Games

This is an outdoor session that will educate youth on traditional games played by both the Shoshone and Arapaho tribes. Youth will get to participate in the games and also learn the history behind them.

Hoop Dancing

his session will showcase the Hoop Dance, a Native American dance in which performers dance with a dozen or more hoops, using them to form a variety of both static and dynamic shapes. The two presenters have danced this style for a number of years. They'll share their style of dance, the history of the dance, and allow youth the opportunity to interact with this style of dancing.

The Power of Digital Storytelling

This session will discuss how modern technology can be beneficial to Native Americans in sharing their stories and history. The presenter has over seven years of media production and editing under his belt and he's only twenty. He's currently pursuing a degree in media production. This session will educate youth on how they can get started working in media, and also share the importance of utilizing the media to preserve Native American history and share our voices.

Job Corps

College isn't the only path youth can follow to continue their education. This session will discuss the option of trade school, specifically the Wind River Job Corps Center, with youth. The presenter is a current student at the Wind River Job Corps. He will share his story and insight to youth. Youth will also learn about the vocational programs, certifications, and opportunities that trade school offers.