



NATIVE AMERICANS IN PHILANTHROPY 2026
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**SPONSORSHIP
PROSPECTUS**

**APRIL 14–16, 2026
RIVERSIDE, CA**

A LETTER FROM ERIK STEGMAN

Dear Friends and Relatives,

It is my pleasure to invite you to the Native Americans in Philanthropy 2026 Annual Conference, taking place April 14-16, 2026, in Riverside, California where we will bring together Indigenous and philanthropic leaders from across the country to highlight impactful partnerships and showcase the diverse ways Native communities are shaping the philanthropic landscape.

Since our founding in 1989, Native Americans in Philanthropy has proudly served Native communities, and we are thrilled to gather on the ancestral and unceded territories of the Cahuilla, Chemehuevi, Luiseño, and Maara'yam (Serrano) Peoples. This three-day conference will blend Tribal Nations, institutional and individual funders, non-profit organizations, movement leaders, field experts, and practitioners in a space designed for meaningful connection and collaboration.

Our program offers rich opportunities for peer learning, community building, knowledge exchange, cultural experiences, engaging plenaries, artistic presentations, and much more. We have designed an experience that honors diverse cultures and heritages while looking toward our collective future.

We invite you to explore our partnership opportunities to support this important gathering. Your investment will play a crucial role in creating this unique Indigenous space within philanthropy and strengthening our shared work for years to come.

I look forward to welcoming you to Riverside.

With gratitude,



Erik Stegman
Chief Executive Officer
Native Americans in Philanthropy

ABOUT NAP

Native Americans in Philanthropy (NAP) promotes equitable and effective philanthropy in Native communities. We have more than a 30-year presence in the field and work closely with our counterpart organizations advocating for Natives communities. The cornerstone of our work is our relatives and our networks. We support several communities of stakeholders that work together to build knowledge, community, priorities, and power in the sector. These networks include philanthropic professionals, Tribal leaders, youth leaders, philanthropic executives and board members, and non-profit leaders.

ABOUT THE INLAND EMPIRE

Stretching across mountains, valleys, and deserts, the area now known as the Inland Empire is a region of freeways and foothills, warehouses and wildlands, suburbs and sacred sites. At its foundation is an Indigenous homeland alive with memory, presence, and ongoing relationship to land.

Long before the drawing of county lines or the naming of California, the county in which this convening is hosted lies within the ancestral and unceded territories of the Cahuilla, Chemehuevi, Luiseño, and Maara'yam (Serrano) Peoples. For thousands of years, these communities have lived in relationship with the mountains, deserts, valleys, and waters of this land, shaping enduring systems of governance, trade, ecological knowledge, and spiritual practice. and waters of this land, shaping enduring systems of governance, trade, ecological knowledge, and spiritual practice.

The Inland Empire has long served as a crossroads between coastal, desert, and mountain communities. Its trails, rivers, and ridgelines formed vital trade routes that carried not only goods, but also ceremony, culture, and kinship. Indigenous Peoples here have always been part of an interconnected world grounded in balance, reciprocity, and shared stewardship.

That balance was deeply disrupted by waves of colonial violence. Spanish colonization brought forced conversion, the mission system, and the enslavement of Native Peoples. The imposition of Mexican land grants and U.S. expansion—including the Gold Rush—further accelerated the dispossession of Native homelands. Federal policies like forced removal, allotment, and assimilation sought to cut off Indigenous Peoples from their lands, languages, and ways of life.

Indigenous communities in the Inland Empire have resisted, endured, and thrived. Tribal Nations continue to uphold their sovereignty, practice their cultures, and protect sacred places—many of which, including mountains, springs, and petroglyphs, are still used in ceremony today. Tribal governments lead in land conservation, education, and economic development, while advancing the stewardship of traditional homelands and the protection of cultural resources.

The 20th century brought additional waves of Indigenous Peoples to the region through federal relocation programs designed to assimilate Native families into urban centers. These “urban Indians” built new networks of support and resistance, contributing to the region’s vibrant Native presence through intertribal organizing, art, activism, and community care.

The story of the Inland Empire is inseparable from the story of its first Peoples who are still here and who continue to shape the future of this land.





WHY PARTNER?

Sponsorships play a critical role in making the Annual Conference possible by providing the financial and logistical support necessary to plan, organize, and execute the event. In addition, sponsorships directly benefit Tribes and non-profit organizations: **10 percent of sponsorship revenue underwrites support in the form of honoraria to local non-profits, stipends, and travel support for Native leaders attending the conference.**

To see how your organization can directly support conference scholarship opportunities, please see the Scholarship Opportunities section toward the end of this prospectus.

Serving as a sponsor of the 2026 Annual Conference also offers a wide range of strategic benefits to your organization. They include:

- **Community Involvement and Corporate Social Responsibility:** Your support demonstrates your commitment to Indigenous community involvement and corporate social responsibility, enhancing public perception of your organization.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Network with philanthropic leaders, Tribal leaders, and other organizations, fostering new partnerships or collaborations.
- **Content Strategy Enhancement:** Sponsorship provides fresh and engaging content for your marketing channels, including social media, blogs, and newsletters.
- **Employee Engagement and Recruitment:** Conference participation can boost employees' pride in working for their organization and serve as an incentive or reward for staff, as well as a powerful recruitment tool.
- **Gain Valuable Insights:** Sponsoring an event gives you access to industry trends and business strategies that other organizations are using to make an impact.
- **Visibility:** Sponsoring an event increases exposure to a targeted audience, raising brand awareness and recognition of the value your organization places on philanthropy to make effective change.
- **Targeted Marketing:** Events often attract specific demographics or interest groups, allowing you to reach your desired audience more effectively.

SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- **Visibility:** Each partner level offers recognition on key conference items and in highly visible hotel locations. Partners can expect to see their name, logo, and/or URL on digital and printed content.
- **Participation:** Each partner level allows for various conference engagement opportunities including complimentary registration and invitation to a VIP dinner as well as the ability to share promotional collateral, introduce a plenary/breakout, and host a booth.
- **Recognition:** Each partner level includes acknowledgment on social media and digital channels to NAP's audience of nearly 100K followers, as well as on-site announcements celebrating the conference and our partnership.



PINE

Pine trees hold deep cultural, spiritual, and practical significance for many Indigenous communities in California. These communities have long-standing relationships with the land, and pine trees—particularly species like the gray pine and sugar pine—play an important role in their traditions, diets, and ecological knowledge systems. They are living relatives, sources of life and wisdom, and central to a way of being that honors balance with the land.

The Pine is the Presenting Partner of the 2026 Annual Conference. As the Presenting Partner, you will receive:

- **Visibility**
Our Pine Partner will have high visibility throughout the conference, including in prominent hotel locations that will be seen beyond the 2026 Annual Conference.
- **Participation**
Our Pine Partner will receive 10 complimentary conference registrations and have the opportunity to participate in plenary introductions and a VIP dinner.
- **Recognition**
Our Pine Partner will be recognized through our social media channels, digital communications, and a press release announcing the sponsorship.
- **Exclusivity:**
All communication and collateral will indicate, “Native Americans in Philanthropy’s 2026 Annual Conference presented by <Name>”.



Your sponsorship goes beyond funding; it's an investment in building stronger, more equitable relationships.

Your investment will play a crucial role in creating this unique Indigenous space within philanthropy and strengthening our shared work for years to come.

PARTNERSHIP LEVELS

MESQUITE \$75,000

Mesquite trees are of immense importance to Indigenous communities in Southern California, the Southwest, and desert regions. It is a life-sustaining tree for communities in California's desert and arid regions. It serves as food, medicine, material, and teacher—a deeply respected plant whose role extends well beyond utility to encompass spiritual and cultural dimensions. Its continued use and care are part of living traditions that connect people to place, ancestors, and future generations.

OAK \$50,000

Oaks—especially California native oaks like the coast live oak, valley oak, and black oak—are among the most culturally significant trees for many Indigenous communities throughout California. To many Tribes, the oak is central to life, both materially and spiritually. Its acorns nourished generations, and its wood and presence structured daily and spiritual life. Through careful stewardship, Indigenous Peoples have ensured the resilience of oak ecosystems, a model now being looked to by contemporary land managers and ecologists.

SYCAMORE \$25,000

The California sycamore is a tree of deep cultural and ecological significance to Indigenous communities in Southern and Central California. Though not as nutritionally central as oak or mesquite, the sycamore is valued for its medicinal, spiritual, ecological, and practical roles in daily life. As a guardian of water and a tree of healing and orientation, it stands as a symbol of connection to land, wellness, and continuity.

WALNUT \$10,000

Walnut trees, particularly the native California black walnut, hold significant cultural, ecological, and practical value for many California Indigenous communities. These trees were highly prized for their nuts, wood, medicinal uses, and role in ecological knowledge systems. Through traditional ecological knowledge and cultural practice, many California Tribes continue to honor walnut trees as part of a balanced and sacred relationship with the land.

WILLOW \$5,000

The Willow is among the most versatile and sacred plants to many Indigenous Peoples across California. It is a medicine, a weaver's ally, and a sacred tool. Its strength lies in its flexibility and regenerative power, qualities that reflect its deep cultural symbolism. For many California Indigenous communities, willows support healing, crafting, ceremony, and ecological connection. Its presence near water also marks it as a guardian of life and sustenance, deeply woven into both daily and spiritual lifeways.

SPONSORSHIP MATRIX

	PINE	MESQUITE	OAK	SYCAMORE	WALNUT	WILLOW
PLEDGE LEVEL	\$150,000	\$75,000	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	\$5,000
# OF REGISTRATION PER SPONSOR	10	5	4	3	2	1
PRESENTING SPONSOR PLACEMENT	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
GENERAL SIGNAGE	NAME & LOGO	NAME & LOGO	NAME & LOGO	LOGO	LOGO	NAME
PLENARY/BALLROOM	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
NAP & CONFERENCE WEBSITE	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
ON-SCREEN: PLENARY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
ON-SCREEN: BREAKOUT SESSIONS	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
LOGO ON VIRTUAL BREAKOUT SESSIONS	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
SHARING PROMOTIONAL COLLATERAL	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
ON-STAGE RECOGNITION: PLENARY	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
ON-STAGE RECOGNITION: OPENING & CLOSING RECEPTION	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
SPEAKER: SCRIPTED PLENARY INTRODUCTION	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
BOOTH	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
VIP DINNER	4 REGISTRATIONS	2 REGISTRATIONS	1 REGISTRATION	NO	NO	NO
SOCIAL MEDIA	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS TO ATTENDEES AND NAP MAILING LIST	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
DAILY CONFERENCE RECAP EMAIL	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO



NATIVE AMERICANS IN PHILANTHROPY 2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Providing a conference scholarship is a powerful way to invest in the future by supporting philanthropic professionals and youth who may lack the resources to attend the event. Scholarships not only help alleviate the financial burden on the recipient but also serve to recognize and encourage their conference contributions and career advancement.

Your organization can provide a scholarship(s) in addition to sponsoring the conference or as a standalone way of contributing to the inclusivity of the event. Scholarship opportunities are available for both aspiring and emerging philanthropic professionals as well as youth and may include the cost of registration, travel, hotel accommodations, and/or programming. Please contact Katie Williams, Director of Development, to learn more about scholarship support.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Katie Williams, Director of Development, at katiwilliams@nativephilanthropy.org or (202) 987-9064 to discuss partnership opportunities for the 2026 Annual Conference.

THANK YOU

Thank you for considering a partnership with Native Americans in Philanthropy. Your support is critical to the success of the Annual Conference and to our mission of **Indigenizing Philanthropy and Building Solidarity**.