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The Tribal Youth Court is a division of the Intertribal Court of Southern California

# *Tribal Youth Court* *Periodical*

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## *Our Mission*

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*Tribal Youth Court, TYC, aims to cultivate wellness-based responses to low status offenses. The TYC centers on educating tribal youth about tribal restorative justice practices and empowers them to engage in these practices in service of their communities.*

## *Hello Readers,*

Tribal Youth Court has collaborated with American Indian Recruitment (AIR) Program on the Honors Project. This project offers native based, college level courses through UCSD and SDSU. Courses address tribal common law and traditional dispute resolution methods, including the examination of the incorporation of custom and tradition into the Tribal court system. These courses prepare youth in pursuit of higher education, providing experience with the registration process and work load associated with college courses. These courses also serve as enhanced training for students to serve as Peer Decision Makers at TYC hearings.

The Annual AIR Banquet honors students who have excelled in these courses, as well as in other AIR Program projects. They have proven their ability to inspire and motivate others, while dedicating their time to community efforts and higher education. This year AIR Programs celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year. The evening started off beautifully with Kumeyaay Bird Singers. This year also brought the presentation of Tribal Youth Court's Micro Certificate in Restorative Justice and Tribal Governance. These certificates were presented to 10 students who have completed all of the required course work in the certificate series. It was a fun night, celebrating the accomplishments of the youth involved in our TYC program, who are well on their way to becoming leaders and pillars of their communities.

# Here's what to look for in October:

## October 5<sup>th</sup>: National Be

*Nice Day* While this should be a daily practice, we all have days that challenge our patience. This day is a special opportunity to focus on how we treat others, and how our behavior can affect everyone we come in contact with. On this day, commit to walking in the light of positivity all day long.

## October 9<sup>th</sup>: Indigenous

*Peoples Day* This day is celebrated on the second Monday of October. It is a day to honor the cultures and histories of Indigenous people. In some states, this day is still recognized as Columbus Day, but the violent history associated with European explorers, has called for many states to celebrate the people who sustained successful life long before their arrival.

## October 15<sup>th</sup>: National Pug Day

While there are many pet, animal, and dog observances throughout the year, this one happens to be my favorite! As a pug owner and lover, I appreciate the purpose and sentiment of this day.

Ultimately, let's remember to treat all of our four-legged friends, with the same amount of love they share with us, but on this day, appreciate the pugs in all their silly, loud, snuggly glory!

## October 22<sup>nd</sup>: Make a

*Difference Day* Everyone can participate in this day and take opportunities to help your fellow man. Whether you reach out to someone you know who might need a little extra support, or volunteer at your local animal shelter, use this day to remember that your actions really can make a difference.



## October 31<sup>st</sup>: Halloween

Halloween originated with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, intended to ward off ghosts with bonfires and costumes on the last day of their calendar year. A combination of Samhain and All Saints Day, 11/1, has led to Halloween as we know it. Pumpkins, candy, costumes, and fun frights is how we celebrate Halloween today, and we love it! 🎃

## Month of October: Italian-

*American Heritage Month* Since 1989, October has been designated as "Italian-American Heritage and Culture Month." It is celebrated to honor the contributions of Italian immigrants and their descendants living in the United States. Events are held throughout the month to celebrate and educate the public about Italian-American history and culture.



## Coordinator's Corner

October is also Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Domestic Violence Awareness Month was first introduced by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence in 1981. It was created to bring awareness to others, as well as to connect and unify the many victims affected by domestic violence. Domestic violence can show itself in many different forms, and it affects millions of people every year. We often think only women are victims of domestic violence, but men and children of all different races, backgrounds, cultures, and social statuses are affected too.

Over four out of five Native American and Alaska Native men and women have experienced violence at some point in their lives, and over a third have experienced violence just within the past year, according to a new report from a National Institute of Justice-funded study.

If you or someone you know needs help, please contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1 (800) 799-7233 or TTY 1 (800) 787-3224

## Current Events>>> Law in the News



★ The Indigenous Peoples' Day Act has been reintroduced in Congress. If passed, the Act will recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day, as a federal holiday, replacing Columbus Day. There are several states that recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day already, including Alabama, Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia and Wisconsin, but it is not federally recognized.

The legislation is endorsed by the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI). The two largest tribal nations in the country, Cherokee Nation and Navajo Nation, also give their endorsement to the Act.

The Indigenous Peoples' Day Act would designate the second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples' Day nationwide. A bill must be passed by both the House and Senate in identical form and then must be signed by the President to become law. The House version has attracted three cosponsors, and awaits a potential vote in the House Oversight and Reform Committee. The Senate version has attracted five cosponsors

# Tribal Youth Court

## What's Happening in October

Fall is a fun, festive, and busy time! The Tribal Youth Court has a full schedule coming up! See below for some upcoming dates.

### - Upcoming Events:

- Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>- UCSD Intro to Tribal Legal Studies Course begins
- Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> - San Pasqual Domestic Violence Walk
- Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>- Escondido Career and College Fair
- Thursday, 10/19- Annual AIR Banquet honoring AIR/TYC Honors Program students
- Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> -PDM Workshop Training
- Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>- Halloween 🎃 Court will close at 3:30pm



## Intertribal Court of Southern California

*The Tribal Youth Court is a division of the Intertribal Court of Southern California (ICSC). Please refer to this section to find current news and updates about the court.*

### About the Court...

The ICSC serves as a consortium of tribes from across Southern California. ICSC currently serves the thirteen of its member tribes hearing cases on public safety issues, tort claims, family law, conservatorships and more. We highlight one of our member tribes below.

Please visit [www.intertribalcourt.org](http://www.intertribalcourt.org) to learn more court and its member tribes.

### Frequently Asked Questions Ask the court >>>

**Question:** What is a status offense?

**Answer:** A status offense is an action that is prohibited only to a certain class of people, and most often applied to offenses committed by minors. In short, these offenses are not illegal if committed by an adult. Examples of status offenses include truancy, breaking curfew laws, running away from home, and possession and/or consumption of alcohol. The basis for status offenses is that these acts are harmful to minors, and courts need to protect them.



# Final thoughts...

## ***Fun Law Fact:***

**In Belleville, Illinois, a law on "Halloween Solicitation" forbids anyone above eighth grade to go trick-or-treating. The city also requires anyone over 12 to get "permission of the Mayor or Chief of Police" to wear a mask or disguise on days other than Halloween.**

## ***Court Humor, with a Spooky Twist:***

**What is the witch's favorite crime show?**

- *America's Most Haunted*

## ***Announcements:***

- **Tribal Youth Court is holding a Peer Decision Maker Training Workshop. Completing this training will qualify all participants to sit as Peer Decision Makers at youth court hearings. If you'd like more information, please contact [tribalyouthcourt@intertribalcourt.org](mailto:tribalyouthcourt@intertribalcourt.org).**



**Coming Soon >>>**

## ***In Our November Issue***

*TYC and ICSC Updates*

*PDM Honors Project- Course*

*Midway Meeting*

*PDM Training Workshop*

*Monthly Newsletter Features*

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To submit a question for the "Q & A" section to be answered in an upcoming issue, or to inquire about a monthly newsletter subscription, please reach out to our email.

If you'd like more information on our Tribal Youth Court, please contact us at [tribalyouthcourt@intertribalcourt.org](mailto:tribalyouthcourt@intertribalcourt.org) or call (760) 751-4142 ext. 105