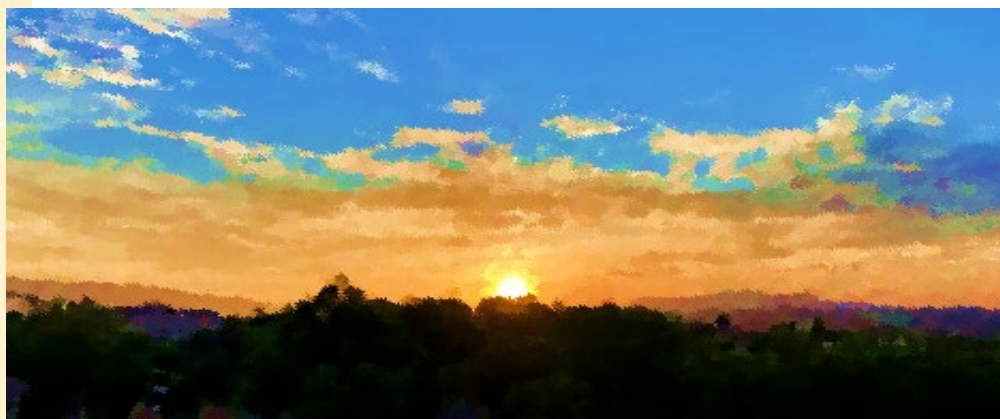


Welcome

Law Day

TYC March Calendar

Monthly Features



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

Tribal Youth Court Periodical

Issue
23



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.

Greetings,

We hope this newsletter finds you in good health!

The Tribal Youth Court and Intertribal Court of Southern California are thrilled to announce the forthcoming Second Annual Law Day on May 1st. This event promises to be an enlightening and engaging educational opportunity in which we explore the legal system and its implications on our daily lives. With a particular emphasis on laws pertinent to youth, attendees can expect to gain a comprehensive understanding of legal frameworks, challenges, and opportunities, tailored to their demographic.

Law Day, observed annually on May 1st, serves as a national platform to commemorate the rule of law. It offers a unique occasion to recognize the role of law in safeguarding our liberties and fostering our inherent freedoms. Moreover, Law Day serves as a catalyst for fostering deeper insights into the legal profession and its significance in our society. Through this event, we hope to equip our youth with the knowledge of laws pertinent to their current circumstances, and laws that will directly impact them upon reaching adulthood.

Following the success of last year's event held at the Court, we have taken measures to expand our outreach. This year, we have secured a venue at the University of San Diego's Extension Building, enabling us to accommodate a larger audience from diverse backgrounds and surrounding communities.

Our event is crafted to provide attendees with a holistic understanding of the legal system, with a specific focus on laws that uniquely affect youth. We believe that the participation of students and youth groups from neighboring areas will enrich our discussions and foster an intellectually stimulating and educational experience.

If you would like to know more about this event, please contact Dianne Daniels at ddaniels@intertribalcourt.org.

Here's what to look for in March:

March 2nd: National Read

Across America Day

This is the birth date of Dr. Seuss. It is a day to remember his legacy and the cultural impact of this beloved author's timeless stories. Adults and children around the nation join to celebrate literature and the joy of reading together!

March 8th: International

Women's Day Today, we celebrate the historical, cultural and political achievements of women. We are reminded that women are viewed as equals, around the world. Take this day to celebrate how far women have come, celebrate their accomplishments, and continue to raise awareness for women's equality

March 10th: Daylight Savings Time

Daylight Saving times begins on the second Sunday in March and will end on the first Sunday of November. On this day, we will set our clocks one hour forward, losing one hour, but gaining a whole lot of sunshine for spring and summer months!

March 17th: *St. Patrick's Day*

St. Patrick's Day, the feast of St. Patrick, is a religious and cultural holiday held on March 17th, the traditional death date of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland. Many legends have grown around him. It is believed he drove the snakes out of Ireland and used the clover to explain his teachings. This day is celebrated with religious services and feasts.



March 31st: *Easter* Easter is the single most important holy day in the Christian faith. It celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Many non-Christians also choose to observe this holiday with non-religious traditions such as coloring eggs, Easter baskets, and the Easter bunny.

Month of March: *Women's History Month*

Women's history month is a celebration of women's contributions to history, culture, and society. It has been observed annually in the month of March in the U.S. since 1987. It is a time to reflect on the often overlooked contributions of women in U.S. history.



Coordinator's Corner

American Idol hopeful, 15-year-old Tristan Harper, captivated audiences with his story and vocals during his recently aired audition. A proud member of the MOWA Band of Choctaw Indians, Harper's musical journey started at the age of 10, when he found his grandfather's Johnny Cash records. Since then, his love of music has served as a source of solace and strength.

Hailing from McIntosh, Alabama, Harper's journey has been marked by resilience and determination. At 12, Harper and his mother found themselves homeless, after fleeing from his abusive stepfather. Harper said they spent nights on the sidewalks before his "Pawpa" came from Arkansas to take them in.

After sharing his story with the Judges, Harper began his audition piece. He wowed the judges with his soulful rendition of country ballad, "Cover Me Up." When finished, the judges called his mom on stage, as they shared the news that Harper had secured the ticket to Hollywood, thus advancing to the next stage of the competition.

Harper's performance not only propelled him forward in the competition, but also helped to shed light on the ongoing struggle of the MOWA Band of Choctaw Indians for federal recognition in Alabama. Despite being acknowledged as a tribe by the Alabama legislature in 1979 and later by the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs in 1991, their efforts were thwarted when the BIA denied their federal acknowledgement petition in 1997.



Current Events>>> *Law in the News*

★ In October of last year, President Joe Biden announced his intent to nominate Sara E. Hill to fill a vacancy on the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma. She was sworn in on January 6, 2024. She became the first female Native American federal judge in Oklahoma history. The swearing-in ceremony of Judge Sara E. Hill was a momentous occasion that celebrated both her personal achievements and her Cherokee heritage.

Born and raised in Cherokee Nation, Judge Hill's journey to the judiciary bench represented a significant milestone towards diversity and inclusion within the legal system. The ceremony was attended by community members, tribal leaders, and dignitaries, highlighting the significance of Judge Hill's appointment. As she took the oath to office, Judge Hill's Cherokee roots were predominantly featured, with traditional Cherokee prayers and cultural elements woven into the proceedings.

Judge Hill's remarks during the ceremony highlighted her deep connection to her heritage and her commitment to serving her community with integrity. Overall, the swearing-in of Judge Sara E. Hill was a poignant celebration of Cherokee culture, resilience, and progress.

Tribal Youth Court

What's Happening in March

The Tribal Youth Court has a full schedule coming up! See below for some important dates!

- Upcoming Calendar Events for March:

- Tribal Youth Court will be at ICSC's and San Diego Volunteer Lawyer's Guardianship Presentation and Clinic at Rincon Government Center on March 13th



*"May you be poor in misfortune, Rich in Irish blessings,
Slow to make enemies, Quick to make friends,
But rich or poor, quick or slow, May you know nothing
but, Happiness from this day forward."*



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 to learn more court and its member tribes.

Frequently Asked Questions Ask the court >>>

Question: Can I finish my Wellness Plan early?

Answer: Yes, it is possible to fulfill all of the requirements outlined in your Wellness Plan ahead of schedule, but we highly recommend adhering to the timeline established within your plan. Wellness Plans are meticulously tailored to maximize the benefits for each individual, and maintain the prescribed schedule ensures optimal outcomes.



Final thoughts...

Fun Law Fact:

California Penal Code section 185, enacted in 1872, makes it illegal for anyone “to wear ... false whiskers (whether complete or partial) ... for the purpose of ... (e)vading or escaping discovery, recognition, or identification in the commission of any public offense.”

Court Humor:

What is a lawyer’s favorite food?

- *“Just-ice”*

Announcements:

- **The Tribal Youth Court and Intertribal Court will hold a Law Day Educational Event on Wednesday, May 1st**
- **Tribal Youth Court will be presenting at the *Dream the Impossible* event at SDSU on Saturday, April 27th**



Coming Soon >>>

In Our April Issue

TYC and ICSC Updates

Law Day Updates

Dream the Impossible

Monthly Newsletter Features

Intertribal Court of Southern California
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Please email the youth court to submit a question for the “Q & A” section to be answered in an upcoming issue or inquire about a monthly newsletter subscription. Contact information below.

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