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*Welcome*

*TYC Periodical One Year Anniversary*

*Celebrate*

*Monthly Features*



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,*

May is here! We are thrilled to announce that May brings the celebration of Tribal Youth Court Newsletter's first anniversary. We have been happy to share this newsletter with you each month to provide updates on our court programs, fun stories, local activities, monthly observances, and important announcements. It has been an incredible journey since we first launched this initiative.

Tribal Youth Court is dedicated to empowering youth and fostering positive change within our community. We hope this newsletter provided a little entertainment and information along this journey.

We hope to continue using this newsletter to inform and entertain our readers! We really do strive to find relevant content and we appreciate the time you take reading it. We hope our newsletters continue to find you well! Thank you for the time you share with



# Here's what to look for in May:

**May 1<sup>st</sup>: Law Day** Law Day is held on May 1st every year to celebrate the role of law in our society and to cultivate a deeper understanding of the legal profession. This year, TYC will hold a Law Day workshop at the court.

**May 2<sup>nd</sup>: National Brothers and Sisters Day** Celebrate this day with the people that made you childhood memorable. Brothers and sisters are with you through the good times and the bad. Let them know how much you truly appreciate them today!

**May 14<sup>th</sup>: Mother's Day** This day is celebrated annually on the second Sunday of May to honor the beautiful and unparalleled bond shared between kids and mothers. Give moms, and mother figures, extra hugs, thoughtful cards, or special gifts to show them just how important they are in your life!

**May 25<sup>th</sup>: Shavuot** Referred to as, the "Feast of Weeks," Shavuot is a Jewish holiday with both agricultural and biblical significance. Agriculturally, it marks the wheat harvest in Israel. Biblically, it commemorates the day God gave the nation of Israel the Torah, the first five books of the Hebrew Bible.

**May 29<sup>th</sup>: Memorial Day** Celebrated annually on the last Monday in May, Memorial Day is a time to honor those who died fighting in U.S. Armed Forces. It's a day steeped in somber U.S. history and tradition. It's also known to serve as the unofficial start of summer, but we must remember the heroes that have made it all possible

**Month of May: Military Appreciation Month** Introduced in 1999, this month we are encouraged to reflect on the sacrifices made by soldiers, sailors and all current and former military personnel. If you are currently serving, or have served- look out for special discounts all month long in your honor!

Hope your month is positively a **Mayzing**



## Coordinator's Corner

In April, Larissa Fasthorse becomes the first Native American (Sicangu Lakota) woman playwright produced on Broadway with her dark, satirical, humorous play, "The Thanksgiving Play." The play tells the story of four non-Native people attempting to create a culturally sensitive play about the first Thanksgiving for Native American Heritage Month. The play shines an uncomfortable, long overdue light on the celebration of Thanksgiving. Fasthorse says eighty percent of "The Thanksgiving Play" is extracted from actual sentences and scenarios. Fasthorse grew up in South Dakota and began her career in ballet. After an injury took her out of dancing she began working as a writer in film and television. She became frustrated with the inaccurate, offensive portrayal and representation of Indigenous people. At times, she states she felt that she didn't, "have the power to change that." But, she eventually found her place. "The Thanksgiving Play," has won numerous literary and theater awards. It is currently running on Broadway through June. Personally, I hope it makes its way out to California theaters very soon!

## Current Events>>>

# Law in the News



★ A high school graduate is suing her former school district after she was not allowed to wear a sacred eagle feather in her cap at her graduation ceremony. According to the lawsuit filed this month, in Tulsa County, Oklahoma, Lena Black, an enrolled member of the Otoe-Missouria Tribe, says she was told she needed to remove the "decoration," from her cap before taking her seat at the ceremony. In the suit, Miss Black argues her rights to free speech and the free exercise of religion were violated. She has been using this feather in religious and cultural ceremonies since she was three years old. According to the suit, the feather was damaged in the encounter.

The school district says there is a widely-used process that allows students to get permission to deviate from traditional graduation attire. Miss Black claims she was unaware of the request process. The request process requires prior written request and pictures of the item the student wishes to wear, and that nearly 100 students were granted approval for the same graduation ceremony. Miss Black is seeking \$50,000.00 in compensatory and punitive damages, costs and attorney fees. The lawsuit comes as the Oklahoma legislature voted to override Gov. Kevin Stitt's veto of legislation that would allow students to wear tribal regalia during high school and college graduations.

# Tribal Youth Court: Celebrate your Accomplishments!

Tribal Youth Court Periodical celebrates one year. How do you celebrate small milestones? It is important to celebrate victories and accomplishments, large or small, whenever you can! See below for a few small ways to celebrate you and your accomplishments!



## 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.*

### Practice Gratitude



Appreciate the good, and the people there along the way.

### Spend Time with Loved Ones



Have a coffee with someone who rejoices in what you do!

### Treat Yourself!



Treat yourself to a little item you have been eyeing or a great meal!

### Use it to fuel you!



Take that feeling to fuel you drive towards your next goal!

## 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.

### Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation

Residents of the Sycuan Reservation are members of the Kumeyaay Nation. The reservation is located in southern California, close to San Diego. The Sycuan Reservation is governed by a seven member Tribal Council, which include a Chairperson, vice-chairperson, a secretary, and a treasurer. Sycuan's Tribal Council oversees all the business operations of the Tribe, and ensures the health, welfare, and safety of its Tribal members and the surrounding communities.

## Ask the court >>>

**Question:** Where do I go for my hearing? And, what time do I need to be there?



**Answer:** Tribal Youth Court hearings are held in the court room at the Intertribal Court of Southern California. Most of our youth court hearings will be in the afternoons or evenings, to accommodate school schedules of the youth participants. You will receive notice of the time and date of your initial hearing during intake.

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

# Final thoughts...

**Fun Law Fact: Ducks have the “Right of Way” at all times on Rancho California Street in Temecula.**

***Court Comedy: What happened to the yoga instructor that killed her client?***

*- She was charged with pre-meditated murder*

## **Announcements:**

**Registration Now Open: Our AIR/TYC Summer course at Palomar College starts June 26<sup>th</sup>! For registration, please visit [www.airprograms.org](http://www.airprograms.org) and look for Honors Project.**



**Coming Soon >>>**

## ***In Our June Issue***

*TYC and ICSC Updates*

*Summer Honors Project Course*

*AIR Summer Program*

*Monthly Newsletter Features*

Intertribal Court of Southern California  
Tribal Youth Court  
49002 Golsh Road  
Valley Center, CA 92082  
[www.intertribalcourt.org](http://www.intertribalcourt.org)

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