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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,

Fall is knocking on our door! Kids are back in school, weather is cooling down, and pumpkin spice is all around! Tribal Youth Court kicks off the Fall season with a new series of courses for youth court peer jurors. In developing the court, we chose the peer court model to capitalize on the influence of positive peer pressure to divert at-risk youth away from further misconduct. We refer to our jury of peers as Peer Decision Makers (PDMs). Our advanced training option for interested youth is offered through collaboration with American Indian Recruitment Programs (AIR). This enhanced training option, known as the *Honors Project*, provides academic enrichment with university (SDSU & UCSD) level credit, native content-based courses on tribal restorative justice principles and governance. Fall courses begin September 11th with *Intro to the Legal System* course. The second course, *Intro to Tribal Legal Studies*, will begin on October 2nd. If you are interested in PDM training courses, please reach out to Tribal Youth Court for information on how to enroll. We hope to see many new faces in our Fall courses!



Here's what to look for in September:

September 5th: Labor Day

Labor Day serves as an annual tribute to laborers that have contributed to the strength and prosperity of our country. While most of us take this holiday to gather and BBQ with friends and family, we should remember and recognize the works of US laborers of past and present.

September 11th: Patriot

Day Patriot Day is a day of national remembrance for those who died in the 9/11 attacks. This day serves as a day to remember and honor the many heroes of that day. Flags are usually lowered at half-mast, many business and schools observe a moment of silence at 8:46 am, the time that the first plane struck the first tower, and memorial services are held throughout

September 13th: Positive Thinking Day

Celebrated annually, this day serves to remind us of the rewards of positive thinking. This day reminds us all to focus on positive thoughts, and avoid the negativity. Research suggests that you can prolong your life with more happiness and optimism. Let this day help you to focus on the bright side and keep a positive attitude always.

September 23rd: Fall

Equinox Also known as the first day of Fall, the Fall Equinox happens when the sun's rays square up perfectly with the earth. It marks the official end of summer, and the beginning of Fall. Even with our Southern California heat, there's a shift in the air that kicks off this beloved season!



September 23rd: Native American Day

This day is celebrated on the fourth Friday of September. It is a day that celebrates and honors Native Americans. We take this day to focus on and appreciate the history, heritage and culture of tribes across the country. We honor the long history of culture and traditions that have been preserved for centuries.

Month of September: Self-

Improvement Month Self-Improvement month presents a time of heightened awareness and acknowledgment that there is always room for improvement within ourselves. Use this month as an opportunity to assess how satisfied we are with ourselves, recognize and congratulate achievement, and take necessary steps toward improvement, goals, and aspirations.



Coordinator's Corner

This month, Tribal Youth Court will be presenting at the Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Enhancement training, in Palm Springs, Ca. We have been given the opportunity to share the story of our Youth Court, including how it came to be, the program itself, our challenges, successes, and our hopes for the future of the youth court. In addition to presenting at this training, we will have the opportunity to attend other presentations and listening sessions from other youth courts around the nation. This training is a unique opportunity to receive information on current court best practices, learn innovative approaches to healing to wellness courts, and engage with other Healing to Wellness Courts practitioners from across the United States. These trainings offer great information and resources, as well as a nice time to network with others going through the same experiences within their own youth courts and programs. And, we are very excited to share our story at this event!

Current Events>>> Law in the News



★ There is the possibility of a shutdown of the US Federal government at the end of this month. If no agreement is made, current appropriations will expire on September 30, 2023. Lawmakers are set for a contentious showdown over federal government spending and the nation's debt limit. This could push the government to shut down for the first time in five years.

The federal government has closed down 21 times since 1977. During a shutdown, "nonessential," federal workers are furloughed, or sent home without pay. "Essential," employees continue to work without pay, but are reimbursed when shutdown ends. Federally funded programs do not receive FY2024 funding. Tribal law enforcement and courts, tribal housing programs, and tribal education institutes will switch to emergency operating plans.

A government shutdown could have a huge ripple effect. Though a swift resolution remains unlikely, some Senate Democrats and Republicans recently discussed a potential compromise. The deadline to reach these agreements is Saturday, September 30th.

Tribal Youth Court

What's Happening this Fall

Fall is a fun, festive, and busy time! The Tribal Youth Court has a full schedule coming up! See below for some upcoming dates. Tribal Youth Court will be at some of the local events below as a resource table. There are also a few events that we will be hosting. Come by and see us, and check out some local events if you can!

- Upcoming Events:

- Monday, September 11th – UCSD Intro to the Legal System course begins
- Saturday, September 30th - MMIP Event at Soboba Casino
- Monday, October 2nd- UCSD Intro to Tribal Legal Studies Course begins
- Sunday, October 15th - San Pasqual Domestic Violence Walk
- Monday, October 16th- Escondido Career and College Fair
- Thursday, October 19th- Annual AIR Banquet honoring AIR/TYC Honors Program students
- Saturday, October 28th - *Intro to Tribal Legal Studies* course Midway; Restorative Justice/PDM Workshop Training



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 about the court and its member tribes.

Frequently Asked Questions Ask the court >>>

Question: What kind of community service is assigned to youth participants?

Answer: Each wellness plan is individualized for each participant. If parents would like youth to work, or not work with, a specific agency, we will do our best to accommodate requests. The Tribal Youth Court has a vast network of partners and resources, native and non-native, that we reach out to when formulating wellness plans to find the best community service opportunities for each participant.



Final thoughts...

Fun Law Fact: It is illegal to hunt on Sundays in the state of Virginia, unless you are hunting racoons.

Court Humor, with a Fall Twist:

What should you do when you witness a crime in the forest?

- Report it to the “leaf of police.”

Announcements:

- Tribal Youth Court and AIR bring our AIR/TYC Fall Honors courses (2). The start date of our first course, *Intro to Legal System*, has been postponed to September 11th. And the second course, *Intro to Tribal Legal Studies*, begins Monday, October 2nd. Registration is now open.



Coming Soon >>>

In Our October Issue

TYC and ICSC Updates

PDM Honors Project- Fall Courses

AIR Honors Program and Banquet

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 or call (760) 751-4142 ext. 105