



AIANTA

American Indian Alaska Native
Tourism Association

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Media Contact: Rachel (Cromer) Howard

rcromer@aianta.org

Office: (505)724-3578

Cell: (505) 450-4629

American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association Celebrates 18th Annual Conference in Tulalip with Hosts, Tulalip Tribes of Washington

18th Annual American Indian Tourism Conference September 12-14 at Tulalip Resort Casino

Tulalip, Washington (April 21, 2016) – The American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA) proudly presents the 18th Annual American Indian Tourism Conference (AITC), hosted by the Tulalip Tribes of Washington at the Tulalip Resort Casino, September 12 – 14, 2016.

The annual AITC strives to provide attendees with a quality educational forum to help tribes and tribal businesses with their travel and tourism initiatives. As the only national conference on tourism in Indian Country, AITC is designed to share knowledge, experience and best practices from tourism programs around the U.S., featuring an impressive line-up of expert speakers who provide resources and training fit for all, including tribes just entering into the tourism industry to tribes with an experienced tourism program.

“Cultural tourism can contribute to economic development of tribal communities while allowing tribes to keep their culture alive and tell their story in their own way,” said Rowena Yeahquo, AIANTA Pacific Region Board Member and Director of the Northwest Technical Assistance Program. “We are excited to bring the 18th Annual American Indian Tourism Conference (AITC) back to showcase the Pacific Region this year. Attending the AITC is a valuable opportunity in expanding the network of resources available to Tribal communities here and all over the country through cultural tourism.”

Each year, AITC kicks off with exciting and unique mobile workshops that highlight the culture of the region and host tribes and networking opportunities to share, teach and learn from each other.

In this year’s sessions, attendees will learn more about tour packaging, attracting tour operators, creating itineraries, positioning your tribe for the international tourism market, tourism assessment and inventory development, new technologies and strategies for marketing and media, protecting intellectual and cultural property, working with state and federal agencies, and more.



This year, AIANTA will be assisting tribes and tribal businesses with free on-site registration on NativeAmerica.travel.

AIANTA's annual *Enough Good People Silent Auction and Awards Ceremony* will be held on Tuesday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m. PST. The event gives AIANTA an opportunity to recognize the "best of" the tribal hospitality and tourism industry, accompanied by dinner, entertainment and a silent auction featuring extraordinary items, which include native artwork from all over the country and overnight stays at tribal destinations throughout Indian Country. All proceeds from the silent auction benefit the AIANTA scholarship fund.

To learn more about the 18th Annual AITC visit www.AITC2016.com
(mobile workshops; hotel information; sponsorship, artisan and exhibitor information; speaker biographies; conference agenda; silent auction and award ceremony and more)



About AIANTA

The American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA) is a 501(c)(3) national nonprofit association of Native American tribes and tribal businesses that was incorporated in 2002 to advance Indian Country tourism. The association is made up of member tribes from six regions: Alaska, Eastern, Midwest, Pacific, Plains and the Southwest. AIANTA's mission is to define, introduce, grow and sustain American Indian and Alaska Native tourism that honors traditions and values.

The purpose of AIANTA is to provide our constituents with the voice and tools needed to advance tourism while helping tribes, tribal organizations and tribal members create infrastructure and capacity through technical assistance, training and educational resources. AIANTA serves as the liaison between Indian Country, governmental and private entities for the development, growth, and sustenance of Indian Country tourism. By developing and implementing programs and providing economic development opportunities, AIANTA helps tribes build for their future while sustaining and strengthening their cultural legacy.

To learn more, please visit www.aianta.org. For current updates, like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on Twitter ([@OfficialAIANTA](#)).



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