



“Working together, with people of all ages and cultures, to develop community wellness and prevention awareness.”

20th Creating Cultural Harmony Conference

“Celebrating Cultural Awareness through Storytelling”

Friday July 22, 2022

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Farmington Civic Center

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Our theme this year “Celebrating Cultural Awareness through Storytelling” uses storytelling to increase cultural awareness and competency. Our vision is to emphasize positive interactions, understanding, and compassion within our community.

Please join us for a day of celebration and learning. This one-day conference offers residents of the Four Corners and the State of New Mexico an exciting and fun day with presentations that celebrate our diverse cultures.

As we celebrate our diverse cultures, we recognize the importance of connections—with our land, communities, neighbors, friends and families. This conference will emphasize the need for making and maintaining connections and building relationships that are essential to the well-being of the Four Corners.

Participant Arrival, Breakfast Snacks

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM

Main Ballroom

Opening Blessing (.25 CEU)

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM

Althea Stevenson

Main Ballroom

Story Opener (.75 CEU)

8:45 AM- 9:30 AM

Main Ballroom

“Attuned to the Rhythm: The Roots of Rhythm, Regulation and Connection”

Presented by: Donna Lucero

Main Ballroom

Donna Lucero is the Director of the Training Institute at All Faiths Children's Advocacy Center, a native New Mexican born and raised in Albuquerque, a UNM graduate (BA in psychology, with a minor in family studies; MA in counseling). With over 30 years of experience working with kids & families who have experienced trauma, mental health issues, poverty, and adversity.

Donna strongly believes in the critical nature of early childhood development and the importance of healthy brain development, attachment & relationship for kids to grow to be healthy, productive adults. She believes strongly in the critical importance of family, community and social support, healthy relationships, movement, music, nature and activity in someday, not only helping people heal, but eradicating violence and harm in our families and communities.

In the conference opener, we will begin to explore the power in rhythm as a tool for healing and regulation, especially regarding managing the trauma response. Rhythm and music are universal concepts, across cultures, and are rooted

deep within our human capacity, and it is a biological gift we are all given. We can tap into that biological gift, first by being reminded that it is there, and then by engaging in simple activities that are rhythmic and patterned as a form of regulation and connection.

Breakouts - Session 1 (1.25 CEU)

9:45 AM – 11:00 AM

Breakout A: Attuned to the Rhythm: The Roots of Rhythm, Regulation and Connection, cont.

Presented by: *Donna Lucero*

Continued from the conference opener, dive deeper into how we can tap into the biological gift of rhythm as a tool for healing, connection, and regulation.

Breakout B: Sheep to Loom: Wet Felting Demonstration using Navajo Churro Wool (Potholder)

Presented by: *Aretta Begay and Franco Lee*

Sheep to Loom: Wet Felting Demonstration (potholder) using Navajo Churro Wool, which will begin with a history of Navajo Churro sheep/wool, the importance in Navajo history and culture, and showcasing hands-on wool and fiber products that can be made using very few supplies. Individuals will learn the basics of the wet felting (potholder) which will take under 1 hour to complete, using only hot water, and soap to tangle the wool to felt.

Limited to 10 participants

This session will repeat during Breakout Session 2 from 12:45-2:00 pm

Breakout C: Our Ancestor's Voices- Teaching Us Harmony

Presented by: *Eduvijes Lopez and Jessica Chandler*

Stories from our ancestors and how they contributed in creating Cultural Harmony through values and acceptances of other thoughts and beliefs.

LUNCH & Storytelling session (1 CEU)

11:30 PM – 12:30 PM

Presented by: Zuba the Griot Storyteller

Soak in the culture, traditions, and life lessons presented during this traditional storytelling session while enjoying your lunch.

PLEASE NOTE: Lunch will not be catered or provided. Food Trucks will be available to purchase your lunch, or you may bring your own lunch.

Breakouts – Session 2 (1.25 CEU)

12:45 PM – 2:00 PM

Breakout D: Sheep to Loom: Wet Felting Demonstration using Navajo Churro Wool (Potholder)

Presented by: *Aretta Begay and Franco Lee*

See description in Breakout B

Limited to 10 participants

Breakout E: Multi-Disciplinary Team: Working with Tribal Agencies and the Importance of Reporting Child Abuse

Presented by: *Brandi Wright, Amber Martinez, and Donald Chee*

Using Culture and Teamwork in child abuse investigations. We will discuss what a Child Advocacy Center is and include a short video that explains why the CAC model is important. We also will be discussing our tribal grant and how that is assisting us in expanding education around the CAC model and opening doors to work closely with tribal agencies on child abuse investigations on tribal lands.

Breakout F: Storytelling is a gateway to literacy!

Presented by: *David Florez*

Storytelling is a gateway to literacy. Storytelling is a strategy for learners of any age and culture to engage in the power of deep listening through stories and poetry – Oral language and listening pave the way to literacy – (example: the little boy who cried wolf – How do you know that story?)

Breakouts – Session 3 (1.25 CEU)

2:15 PM – 3:30 PM

Breakout G: Stories Have the Ability to Cultivate Empathy Like Nothing Else Can

Presented by: *Jessica Holiday*

Focusing on Indigenous authors, in this session we will explore how stories can cultivate, teach, and foster empathy like nothing else can. Stories are a doorway into another person's experience and have the ability to teach, cultivate, and broaden empathy in people. Acts of hatred, ignorance, and cruelty are often committed to dehumanize people. Stories humanize people, which helps spark empathy for others who may be so far removed from us. A person able to tell their story has the capacity to create healing within, and the listener of the story has the capacity to instill empathy within.

*Disclaimer: this session will cover sensitive topics, including sexual assault and domestic violence.

Breakout H: The Navajo Wellness Model

Presented by: *Randy W. John Sr. and Samantha Claw*

“Shá’bek’ehogo as’ah oodáá”, A Journey with Wellness and Healthy Lifestyle Guided by the Journey of the Sun, is provided to increase awareness and knowledge of the core Navajo teachings about personal and family health, healthy communities, and healthy environment. The curriculum uses a cultural model incorporating Navajo philosophical teachings of wellness according to the natural daily cycles. The teachings emphasize four domains of self-care, family health, healthy communities, and healthy environment from the Navajo perspective. The potential instructors will gain in-depth knowledge, skills and confidence to teach the Navajo Wellness Model throughout the Navajo Nation.

Breakout I: Growing in Beauty

Presented by: *Joann B Begay*

The Growing in Beauty Program will be introduced and a brief overview of what Early Intervention (EI) is will be given. We will discuss the process of Referrals & Intake, Development Evaluation, Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), and Transition for Children 3-5 yrs. old. Using culturally appropriate materials and basic Dine' Language, participants will learn the Key Principles of Early Intervention and how coaching parents and children connect to early development. As a hands-on activity, in teams of 2, participants will read with partners and practice “EI coaching”, participants will end the session with a coloring activity.

Closing Blessing (.25 CEU)

3:45 PM – 4:00 PM

Althea Stevenson
Main Ballroom

Prize drawings

4:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Main Ballroom