



2026 Utah Native American Summit

JULY 2026 | UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY | OREM, UT



**Utah Division
of Indian Affairs**

UVU
NATIVE EXCELLENCE &
TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT

Tribal Leadership

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Agenda

THURSDAY, JULY 30 *see pages 10-11 for detailed schedule*

4:00 - 6:30 p.m.	Check-In and Onsite Registration	Sorensen Center Commons Area
4:00 - 6:30 p.m.	Indian Market & Cultural Performer	Center Stage

FRIDAY, JULY 31

7:15 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Check-In and Onsite Registration	Sorensen Center Commons Area
7:15 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Indian Market & Cultural Performers	Center Stage

GENERAL TRACK *see pages 10-11 for detailed schedule*

8:00 - 9:15 a.m.	Opening Session	Sorensen Center Ballroom
9:25 - 11:55 a.m.	Breakout Sessions	206A, 206B, 206C, 208, 206 G/H
12:05 - 1:20 p.m.	Luncheon & Keynote	Sorensen Center Ballroom
1:30 - 2:20 p.m.	Panel 1: Tribal Economic Development	Sorensen Center Ballroom
2:30 - 2:40 p.m.	Cultural Performance	Sorensen Center Ballroom
2:40 - 3:20 p.m.	Panel 2: CommUNITY Circle	Sorensen Center Ballroom
3:30 - 4:20 p.m.	Closing Session	Sorensen Center Ballroom

YOUTH TRACK *see page 14 for detailed schedule*

8:00 - 9:15 a.m.	Opening Session	Sorensen Center Ballroom
9:25 - 10:35 a.m.	Keynote	Ragan Theater
10:45 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.	Breakout Sessions	213A & 213B
12:05 - 1:20 p.m.	Luncheon	Sorensen Center Ballroom
1:25 - 3:25 p.m.	Cultural Enrichment Activity	213A & 213B
3:30 - 3:50 p.m.	Fireside Chat	Ragan Theater
3:50 - 4:20 p.m.	Closing Session	Sorensen Center Ballroom

General Track

LUNCH KEYNOTE:

Dougie Hall

For Dougie Hall, the cowboy way of life is a legacy built on grit, heritage, and horsemanship. From competing in the High School and College National Finals Rodeos and earned degrees in Business Administration, Natural Horsemanship, and Equine Management. Today, Dougie and his wife have a thriving business, partnering with Aces Wild Pro Rodeo as PRCA stock contractors, raising home-bred champion bucking horses that consistently qualify for the PRCA Columbia River Circuit Finals.

Dougie's talents also reach Hollywood, where he works as a stuntman and actor in hit Western series like Yellowstone, 1923, and Landman. An award-winning storyteller honored with the Rocky Heckman Perseverance, Character, the Hope Award, and the Bronc Riding Nation Voices Award at the NFR. Dougie is a dynamic



leader, inspirational speaker, business owner, and stock contractor. He is thrilled to share his message of determination, cultural pride, and authenticity with the attendees of the 2026 Utah Native American Summit.

General Track Breakout Sessions

NACI Guiding Principles to Promote Culturally Sustaining

PRESENTERS: Brenda Beyal, Emily Soderborg

This workshop will be an exciting hands-on experience. Come learn about the Brigham Young University ARTS Partnership Native American Curriculum Initiative (NACI). Become acquainted with our model for partnering with local Sovereign Tribal Nations to develop culturally accurate, authentic, and arts-rich resources. Explore strategies that help build inclusive environments and engage in arts-integrated activities. We will begin with an overview of NACI and its beginnings which were organic in nature. Our initiative began because of classroom teachers' questions. These inquiries will be discussed along with our guiding questions that teachers should ask when they are making decisions on what and how to teach Indigenous content in an accurate and authentic manner.

Honoring Culture, Promoting Health:

Tribal Youth E-Cigarette/Vaping

PRESENTERS: Kassie John, Hilary Makris

Learn about the health risks of commercial tobacco, including e-cigarettes, vaping devices, and nicotine products. Understand the difference between commercial and traditional tobacco within American Indian/Alaska Native communities by learning about its cultural significance through the lens of Utah's tribal communities.

Understanding Your Business Landscape & Marketing Accordingly

PRESENTER: Jason Dial

Navigating digital marketing today is faster, cheaper, and more accessible than ever—but knowing where to focus your time can be overwhelming. From local discovery on Google Maps to video platforms like YouTube, Instagram Reels, and TikTok, to managing your own personal website, the choices are endless. Join Jason Dial (owner of Suite1491) for an interactive discussion on how to navigate these platforms, cut through the noise, and choose the right digital marketing strategy for your business or project.

General Track Breakout Sessions

Panel: Centering Indigenous Voices in Cultural and Language Stewardship

PANELISTS: **Patty Timbimboo-Madsen**, Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation; **Brenda Whitehorse**, San Juan School District; **Clarissa Yazzie**, Navajo Language Teacher

Join a panel of Indigenous curators, educators, and cultural bearers as they discuss their stewardship of cultural knowledge and preservation of Native languages. Learn about their experiences of community-centered teaching and coordination.

State Tribal Liaison Training: Introducing the 2026 Government-to-Government Consultation Guide

PRESENTERS: **Dustin Jansen**, **Will Locklear, Jr.**

This session introduces the 2026 Government-to-Government Consultation Guide. Designed for state legislators and tribal leaders, this interactive breakout moves beyond standard "check-the-box" engagement toward true, consensus-based policy making. Participants will explore UDIA's Four Operational Phases of Consultation (Identification, Notification, Input & Engagement, Follow-up), examine state agency annual reporting metrics, and discover concrete ways to embed diplomatic best practices into future legislative and intergovernmental projects.

This presentation is only for State Tribal Liaison and their Agencies.

Panel: Fostering and Empowering Native Students in Higher Education

FACILITATOR: **Chauma Jansen**, American Indian Services

PANELISTS: **Justin Allison**, Utah Valley University; **Kyri Ungatavinekent Duncan**, University of Utah; **Mike Nelson**, Utah Tech University; **Faustine Saganey**, Utah State University

Higher Education plays a pivotal role in supporting Native college student's academic journeys and career advancement. The experience of Native students is significantly enhanced by the presence of support from institutions who foster an environment where cultural heritage is celebrated, academic excellence is nurtured, and pathways to meaningful careers are clearly illuminated. Listen to panelists share their experiences and the resources their schools offer.

General Track Breakout Sessions

Panel: Strengthening CommUNITY through Tribal Health

FACILITATOR: Rhonda “Honey” Duvall

PANELISTS: Craig Sandoval, Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake; Derek Goudie, Sacred Circle Healthcare; LaTosha Mayo, FourPoints Health

Tribal health centers and draws upon the strength of the community, cultural wellness knowledge, use of Native language, and traditional planning methods to better the health and well-being of their people. Learn from panelists about how their Tribal health centers support their communities.

Partnerships: Driving Impact for Tribal Housing

PRESENTER: Jeremiah Powless

Overview of the Housing Ecosystem and how it supports holistically, strengthening Tribal families, communities, industries, and economies. This presentation was created to help our team, and the communities we serve, understand the multiple facets of creating housing and homeownership through partnerships and collaboration. The Housing Ecosystem in Tribal Economies affects Native Americans both on- and off-reservation. Participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of the Tribal Housing Ecosystem and its role in supporting Native families, strengthening Tribal communities, advancing economic development, and creating pathways to homeownership. Participants will recognize the historical and cultural context influencing Native housing outcomes and identify opportunities for collaboration and partnership to support sustainable, community-centered housing solutions both on and off reservation lands.

Native Wellness

PRESENTERS: Kristie Hinton, Moriah John

This session will focus on Native Wellness by Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake.

General Track Breakout Sessions

State Tribal Liaison Training: Working with Tribal governments—Tribal Liaison, Utah Department of Public Safety

PRESENTER: Anna Boynton

This presentation will focus on the work between the Utah Department of Safety Tribal Liaison and Utah's eight federally recognized Tribes. The Tribal Liaison will share what their role looks like in working with Tribal governments, forming strong tribal partnerships, and creating critical relationships with their Tribal counterparts. The Tribal Liaison's role also includes working effectively with other key partner Tribal Liaisons. This session will generate professional and personal inspiration for what Tribal Liaison roles and their Departments can look like when agencies work together with Tribal governments and provide effective government-to-government relationships.

This presentation is only for State Tribal Liaison and their Agencies.

Utah's Title VI, American Indian Education

PRESENTERS: Ann Marie Sherman, Sarai Neumarker

The presenters will showcase the state's Title VI Program while the Alpine School District will specifically present their projects and program. The audience will become aware of the impact the Title VI Program has on the American Indian and Alaska Native students in the public schools. This includes activities for students, parents, and schools/communities.

Let's talk about cancer: A discussion about lowering your cancer risk, current screenings guidelines and resources at Huntsman Cancer Institute

PRESENTERS: Nathan Begaye, Anton Chamblee, Mariela Sanchez

Did you know there are ways to lower your risk of getting cancer? Also, that cancer research has led to amazing discoveries that help find, diagnosis, and treat cancer. Talking about cancer can be overwhelming and scary sometimes. However, learning more about cancer can give you knowledge and guidelines on helpful ways to avoid getting cancer or catching it early. Come to this presentation led by Huntsman Cancer Institute's American Indian Program. In this classroom style presentation Huntsman Cancer Institute staff will disseminate cancer health information via PowerPoint. Specifically, information about; how cancer develops, leading types of cancers in American Indian/Alaska Native populations, ways in to reduce your risk of developing cancer, current cancer screening guidelines, what Huntsman Cancer Institute is and successes of cancer research. This session will increase knowledge of carcinogenesis, cancer risk reduction and screening guidelines, and resources at Huntsman Cancer Institute.

General Track Breakout Sessions

State Tribal Liaison Training: Best Practices for Engagement with Tribal Governments & Communities

PRESENTER: Ozy Escarate

This presentation will discuss the importance of listening to tribal concerns and engaging early in the process. Attendees will: (1) learn and hear examples of the importance of listening to tribal concerns rather than assuming what they are, (2) how to initiate discussions before finalizing projects or policies, not after, and (3) better understand that each tribe is a distinct sovereign entity with unique priorities.

This presentation is only for State Tribal Liaison and their Agencies.

Panel: Tribal Economic Development

FACILITATOR: Jeremiah Powless, Enterprise Community Partners, Native American Housing Programs

PANELISTS: Lorena Horse, Sacred Circle Health Care; **Camille Johnson**, Utah Office of Tourism; **Chandler Chavis**, ERC Specialists; **Nicole Johnny**, Diné Development Corporation Board Member; **Oscencio Tom**, Diné Development Corporation Tribal Liaison

This panel will focus on the experiences and perspectives in promoting and enhancing Tribal economic development through the pursuit of economic sovereignty.

Panel: CommUNITY Circle

FACILITATOR: Damon Polk, Red Circle Lodge Cultural Director

PANELISTS: Betsy Chapoose, Native American Repatriation Remains Committee Chair; **Autumn Gillard**; **Moriah John**, Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake; **Dowawisnima Groves**, Changemaker Award Recipient

This panel will include voices from many Tribal communities whose work and teachings center on cultural knowledge, language preservation, and building commUNITY.

Please see schedule on pages 10-11

General Track Schedule

THURSDAY, JULY 30

4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Check-In and Onsite Registration	Sorensen Center Commons Area
4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Indian Market & Cultural Performer	Center Stage

FRIDAY, JULY 31

7:15 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Check-In and Onsite Registration	Sorensen Center Commons Area
7:15 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Indian Market & Cultural Performers	Center Stage

8:00 - 9:15 a.m.	Opening Session	Sorensen Center Ballroom
	Welcome: Dustin Jansen	
	Invocation: Craig Sandoval	
	Presentation of Colors: Arnold Lano	
	UVU Message: Justin Allison	
	Remarks: Katherine Potter, Commissioner	
	Changemaker Awards: Will Locklear, Jr.	
	Honor Song: South Hill Drum Group	
	Closing Remarks: Rozanna Benally-Sagg	

9:15 - 9:25 a.m.	Break	
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9:25 - 10:05 a.m.	Breakout Sessions	
	NACI Guiding Principles to Promote Culturally Sustaining Environments	206A
	Honoring Culture, Promoting Health: Tribal Youth E-Cigarette/Vaping Prevention Training	206B
	Understanding Your Business Landscape & Marketing Accordingly	206C
	Panel: Centering Indigenous Voices in Cultural and Language Stewardship	208
	State Tribal Liaison Training: Introducing the 2026 Government-to-Government Consultation Guide	206 G/H

10:05 - 10:10 a.m.	Break	
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10:10 - 11:00 a.m.	Breakout Sessions	
	Panel: Fostering and Empowering Native Students in Higher Education	206A
	Panel: Strengthening COMMUNITY through Tribal Health	206B
	Partnerships: Driving Impact for Tribal Housing	206C
	Native Wellness	208
	State Tribal Liaison Training: Working with Tribal Governments—Tribal Liaison, Utah Department of Public Safety	206 G/H

General Track Schedule

11:00 - 11:05 a.m.	Break	
11:05 - 11:55 a.m.	Breakout Sessions	
	Utah's Title VI, American Indian Education	206A
	Let's talk about cancer: a discussion about lowering your cancer risk, current screenings guidelines and resources at Huntsman Cancer Institute	206B
	Partnerships: Driving Impact for Tribal Housing	206C
	Native Wellness	208
	Best Practices for Engagement with Tribal Governments & Communities	206 G/H
12:05 - 1:20 p.m.	Luncheon	Sorensen Center Ballroom
	Lunch served	
	Keynote: Dougie Hall	
	Opportunity Drawing	
1:20 - 1:30 p.m.	Break Attendee check-in and onsite registration closes	
1:30 - 2:20 p.m.	Panel 1: Tribal Economic Development	Sorensen Center Ballroom
	Lorena Horse, Sacred Circle Health Care	
	Camille Johnson, Utah Office of Tourism	
	Chandler Chavis, ERC Specialists	
	Nicole Johnny, Diné Development Corporation Board Member	
	Oscencio Tom, Diné Development Corporation Tribal Liaison	
2:20 - 2:40 p.m.	Break Cultural Performance	Sorensen Center Ballroom
	South Hill Drum Group, Naakaii Tsosie, Tamara John	
2:40 - 3:20 p.m.	Panel 2: CommUNITY Circle	Sorensen Center Ballroom
	Betsy Chapoose, Native American Repatriation Remains Committee Chair	
	Autumn Gillard	
	Moriah John, Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake	
	Dowawisnima Groves, Changemaker Award Recipient	
3:20 - 3:30 p.m.	Break	
3:30 - 4:20 p.m.	Closing Session	Sorensen Center Ballroom
	Opportunity Drawing: Rozanna Benally-Sagg	
	Closing Remarks: Dustin Jansen	
	Traveling Song: South Hill Drum Group	



MORNING KEYNOTE:

Eric Hernandez

The IYLP Keynote will be delivered by Eric Hernandez (Lumbee), a world renowned Hoop Dancer with over 20 years of experience. Hernandez was the lead performer in “Totem” by Cirque du Soleil, a TedX speaker, and an award winning filmmaker with over 500,000 followers across all social media platforms. Hernandez will deliver a message aimed at energizing and inspiring IYLP participants. He will also perform a Hoop Dance number to provide you with good medicine and kick off your day in a good way. Following his performance and speech, you’ll be treated to a viewing of his autobiographical short film, “Courage.”

Cultural IP & Economic Sovereignty

This workshop is designed to show participants how to build a thriving business while staying fiercely rooted in their cultural identity. Featuring **Jason Dial** (Diné/Lumbee), owner of the visionary creative agency Suite1491, alongside **Kim, Britney, and Rachel Tourangeau** (Diné/Saulteaux), the entrepreneurial sisters and community leaders behind an impactful Two Grey Hills resource drive, this session explores how economic sovereignty and community upliftment go hand-in-hand. Participants will discover how to create sustainable business opportunities without exploiting their cultural roots, while gaining essential strategies for modern professionalism. From curating an intentional digital brand on platforms like LinkedIn and Instagram to safeguarding your intellectual property, this workshop will give you the tools to navigate the modern market, protect your vision, and command respect on your own terms.

Navigating Corporate America through an Indigenous Lens

Step into your power and discover how to excel in the corporate world without leaving your cultural identity behind in this inspiring, interactive workshop. Featured guest speaker **Naakaii Tsosie** (Diné), a Chemical Engineering Ph.D. student and former Tesla engineer, brings a unique perspective as a World Champion Hoop and Fancy War dancer and entrepreneur who builds his own business around cultural artistry. Joining him is **Zachary Locklear** (Lumbee), a software engineer for Google who remains deeply tied to his tribal community and actively works to recruit and champion Indigenous talent within tech. Together, these trailblazers will share their personal journeys of navigating cutthroat corporate and academic spaces, offering participants vital strategies on how to claim their space in major industries. The ultimate goal of this workshop is to ignite inspiration, showing you that it is entirely possible to smash your professional goals, pioneer corporate success, and uplift your community while remaining completely true to who you are.

Cultural Enrichment Activity

Connect with history and explore your own cultural identity through the lens of traditional Indigenous craftsmanship in this hands-on workshop led by **Alan Groves** (Northern Ute/Hopi). Alan is an accomplished high school educator, teacher coach, and master artisan specializing in traditional Native American beadwork and porcupine quillwork, intricate techniques that at times was considered a dying art. In this immersive session, participants will learn the foundational skills of beading while exploring the profound lessons deeply valued within Native culture. Through creating their own pieces, students will discover how patterns, colors, and materials are intentionally chosen to pass down ancestral philosophy, tell stories, and teach vital life principles. This activity offers a powerful space to learn from an authentic cultural standard-bearer, reminding us that art is not just aesthetic, but a living vehicle for preserving heritage and shaping identity.

Fireside Chat

This exclusive fireside chat features **Madison Hammond** (San Felipe Pueblo/Diné), a defensive midfielder for Utah Royals FC and the first Native American player in NWSL history, alongside **Izzy Yasana** (Klamath/Modoc), Director for Nike N7. Grounded in the core philosophy of Nike's N7 initiative, which draws from the Indigenous principle of considering how our actions impact the next seven generations, the session will explore the intersection of athletic excellence, corporate leadership, and community preservation. Hammond and Yasana will share personal stories from their trailblazing professional journeys, followed by an open Q&A session designed to empower and inspire youth participants to claim space in major industries while remaining fiercely rooted in their cultural identity.

Please see schedule on page 14

Youth Track Schedule

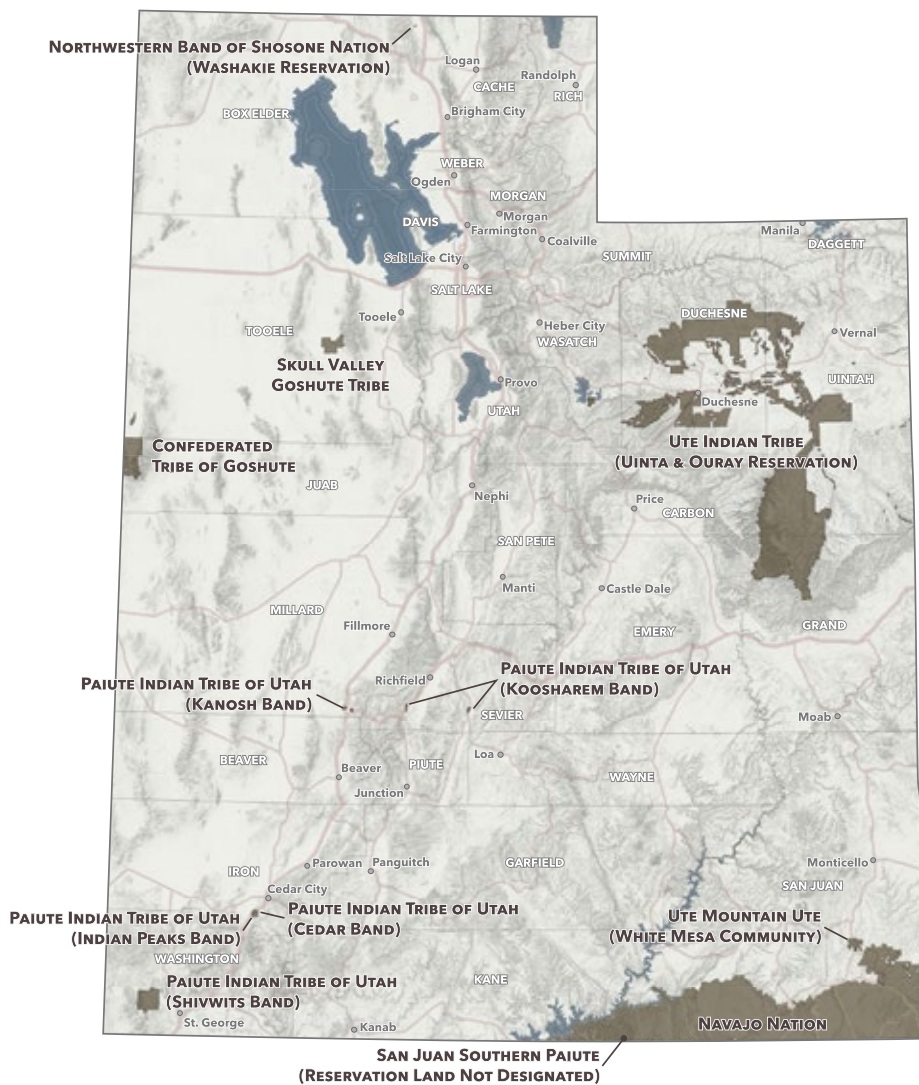
THURSDAY, JULY 30

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8:00 - 9:15 a.m.	Opening Session	Sorensen Center Ballroom
9:15 - 9:25 a.m.	Break	
9:25 - 10:35 a.m.	Morning Keynote	Ragan Theater
10:35-10:45 a.m.	Break	
10:45-11:15 a.m.	Cultural IP & Economic Sovereignty	213A
11:15-11:20 a.m.	Break	
11:20 a.m.-12:05 p.m.	Navigating Corporate America through an Indigenous Lens	213B
12:05 - 1:20 p.m.	Luncheon Lunch served Keynote: Dougie Hall Opportunity Drawing	Sorensen Center Ballroom
1:20-1:25 p.m.	Break	
1:25-3:25 p.m.	Cultural Enrichment Activity	213A & 213B
3:25-3:30 p.m.	Break	
3:30-3:50 p.m.	Fireside Chat with Izzy Yasana & Madison Hammond	Ragan Theater
3:50 - 4:20 p.m.	Closing Session	Sorensen Center Ballroom

Tribal Lands in Utah



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