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SAY

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**STEVIE
SALAS**

THE ENTREPRENEUR

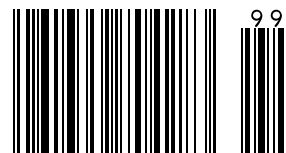
NATIVE OLYMPIANS

BUFFY SAINTE-MARIE

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7 • NATIVE OLYMPIANS

Over the years a number of amazing people from the world's Indigenous community have competed at the Olympics. Take a look and see if you knew about these Olympians!

8 • STEVIE SALAS - THE ENTREPRENEUR

One of the top 100 Guitarists in the world (Guitar Player Magazine), Stevie is also a recording artist, TV Producer, Music Director and Entrepreneur.

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Her concern for protecting Indigenous intellectual property and her distaste for the exploitation of native American artists and performers have kept her in the forefront of activism in the arts for forty years.

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This Native owned and operated payment transaction processing network provides secure payment solutions to merchants.

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WINTER
2010

Native American Journalists Association 2009 & 2008 Media Awards: General Excellence (Monthly/Bimonthly) and Best Layout Magazine.

Native American Journalists Association 2004 Media Awards: General Excellence Two to Six Times a Year, First Place.

Native American Journalists Association 2003 Media Awards: Two to Six Times a Year, Honorable Mention.

SAY Magazine, a member of the Native America Journalists Association since 2003.

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GOING PLACES

Look for *SAY Magazine* at a career event or conference near you!
Then be sure to stop by the booth!

2010 GAMES

ROSE GREEN, OF THE STO:LO-SALISH/NEZ PERCE PEOPLE

Rose has been dancing since she was eight years old. A thirty-two year old Fancy Shawl dancer, Rose has travelled throughout North America to powwows with her parents, family and her husband, Victor Harry.

“I know everything happens for a reason as our people believe and understand. I am honored and humbled at the same time to be selected to represent our Aboriginal people. One of the producers of the Opening Ceremonies for the 2010 Games told us that we were selected because of our ability to perform and express our dance style.”

To our youth – Your family are the people who love you and believe in you. The people who try to hold you down are not worth your energy and time. Always want to be the brightest star in the sky.

LUKE WHITEMAN, INDIAN (MIINISTINUM) BERRY CARRIER, FROM THE BLACKFEET & BLOOD TRIBE, STARR SCHOOL, MONTANA

Luke has been dancing Fancy for over thirty years.

“It’s an honor to be part of the Olympics – it’s a highlight in my life. It’s history to be in an event like this. I am excited and proud.”

To our youth – Whatever happens in life, be positive and be proud of who you are. Don’t let anyone tell you what you can’t do.

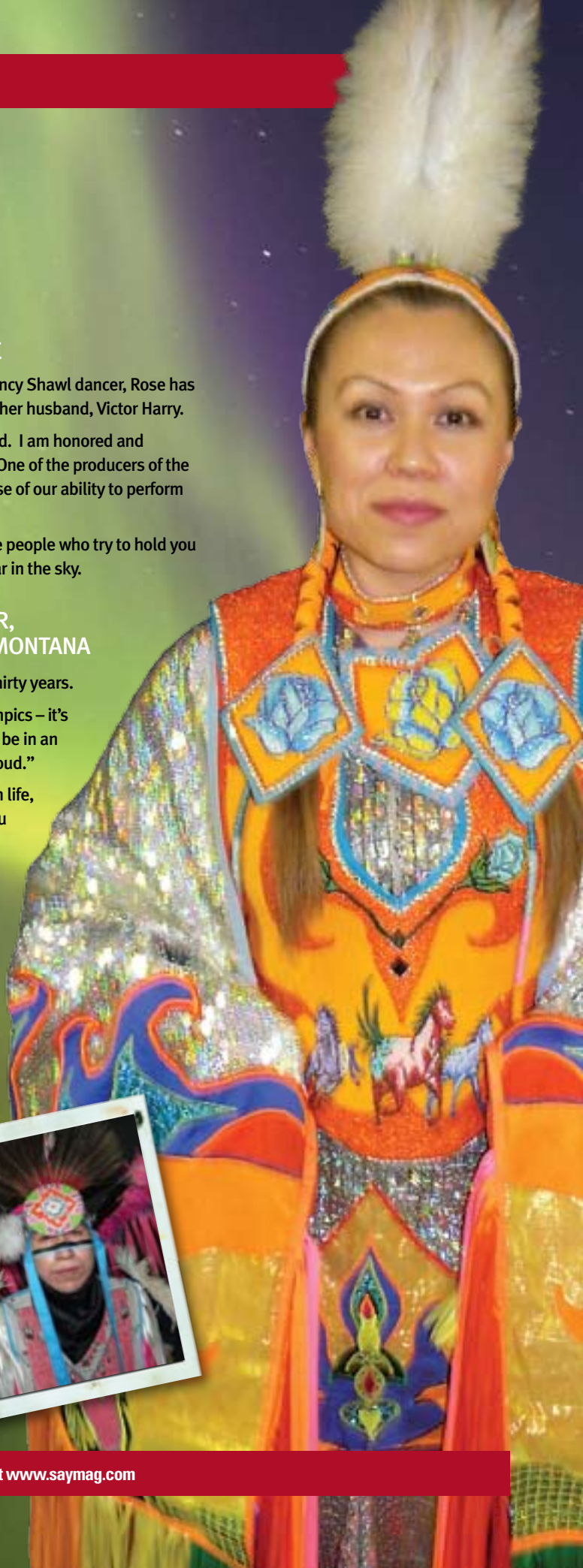


STANLEY WHITEMAN IS A BLACKFEET/BLOOD BAND MEMBER AND HAILS FROM STARR SCHOOL, MONTANA.

Stanley Whiteman has been dancing ever since he was four years old.

“I am very honored and excited to be dancing for the Opening Ceremonies of the 2010 Games. My friends and family are excited about me performing in these Opening Ceremonies.”

To our youth - be confident in what you are doing and remember to keep a positive attitude.



FIND more photos from events visited by *SAY Magazine* - go to *Going Places* at www.saymag.com

MESSAGE FROM SAY



A major event for SAY Magazine was our participation in the Aboriginal Business Showcase of the Aboriginal Pavilion at the 2010 Olympic Games.

Originally accepted to participate for the first three days of the sixteen day event, the Four Host First Nations extended an invitation for SAY to participate in the entire sixteen days. This amazing experience has confirmed for us that there is a huge interest in Native culture, both from North Americans and from people across the world.

Our own community participation, particularly in the Opening Ceremonies, was phenomenal. With long line-ups to get into the Aboriginal Pavilion and a steady stream of visitors to the Aboriginal Business Showcase, we all can be proud of the Native presence at these Games.

SAY was very fortunate to have our Ambassador, Dallas Arcand, interview some of the dancers as they were preparing for the Opening Ceremonies. See Going Places for these interviews.

Leslie, Publisher



Dallas Arcand



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EVENTS

2010
WINTER



Calendar

April 6 - 9, 2010

San Diego, CA

NIGA (National Indian Gaming Association) 2010

www.indiangaming.com

April 11 - 13, 2010

Biloxi, MS

2010 Southeastern United States - Canadian Provinces Alliance (SEUS-CP)

www.seuscp.org

April 11-14, 2010

Portland, OR

The National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA)

www.nicwa.org

April 14 & 15, 2010

Panama City, Panama

3rd Indigenous Leaders Summit of the Americas

www.summit-americas.org

April 22 - 24, 2010

Albuquerque, NM

Gathering of Nations Pow Wow

www.gatheringofnations.com

April 24 & 25, 2010

Albuquerque, NM

All Nations Skate Jam

allnationskate@yahoo.com

May 18 - 20, 2010

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Vision Quest Conference

www.vqconference.com

May 21 - 23, 2010

Santa Fe, NM

Native Treasures: Indian Arts Festival

www.nativetreasuresantafe.org/

July 6 - 10, 2010

Phoenix, AZ

2010 Native American Basketball Invitational

www.nabihoops.com

July 21 - 24, 2010

St. Paul, MN

2010 Native American Journalists Association (NAJA) Convention

www.naja.com

August 21 & 22, 2010

Santa Fe, NM

Santa Fe Indian Market 2010

www.swaia.org/

October 7 - 10, 2010

San Diego, CA

NIEA 41st Annual Convention

www.niea.org/index.php

November 14 - 19, 2010

Albuquerque, NM

NCAI 67th Annual Convention & Trade Show

www.ncai.org

SAY

magazine

>>> NEXT ISSUE

LOOK FOR THE SPRING ISSUE OF SAY MAGAZINE!

Featuring

HASKELL GIRLS BASKETBALL

BEST TEAM EVER,

and their outstanding accomplishment in making it to the National Tournament for the first time, this publication will be available during the Gathering of Nations Powwow in Albuquerque, NM.

For more information, contact 1.866.485.2380 or info@saymag.com

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NATIVE OLYMPIANS

FROM AUSTRALIA, CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES

NOTE: This is not intended to be a complete list and if any reader is aware of other Indigenous Olympians, please contact info@saymag.com with information.

Australian Aborigine Olympians

Cathy Freeman

Mackay, Australia
Track and Field
1992 – Barcelona, Competitor
1996 – Atlanta, Silver
2000 – Sydney, Gold

Nova Maree Peris-Kneebone

Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
Women's Field Hockey
1996 – Atlanta, Gold
2000 – Sydney, Competitor

Canadian Aboriginal Olympians

Tom Longboat

Six Nations of the Grand River First Nation,
Ontario, Canada
Marathon
1908 - Olympics, Gold

Alexander Wuttunee Deccoateau

Red Pheasant Indian Reserve,
Saskatchewan, Canada
Track and Field, 5000 metres
1912 – Stockholm, Sixth Place

Joe Benjamin Keeper

Norway House Cree Nation, Manitoba, Canada
Track and Field, 10,000 metres
1912 – Stockholm, Fourth Place

Sharon and Shirley Firth

Aklavik, Northwest Territories, Canada
Cross-Country Ski Team
1972 – Sapporo, Competitors
1976 – Innsbruck, Competitors
1980 – Lake Placid, Competitors
1984 – Sarajevo, Competitors

Roseanne Allen

Gwich'in First Nation, Canada
Cross-Country Ski Team
1972, Sapporo, Competitor

Alwyn Morris

Kahnawake First Nation, Quebec, Canada
Canoe Racing
1984 - Los Angeles, Gold and Bronze

Angela Chalmers

Dakota, Manitoba, Canada
Track and Field
1992 – Barcelona, Bronze

Waneek Horn-Miller

Kahnawake First Nation, Quebec, Canada
Women's Water Polo
2000 – Sydney, Competitor

Richard Peter

Coast Salish Nation,
British Columbia, Canada
Wheelchair Basketball Team
2000 – Sydney, Paralympic Gold
2004 – Athens, Paralympic Gold
2008 – Beijing, Paralympic Gold

Theoren Fleury

Métis, Manitoba, Canada
Men's Hockey Team
2002 – Salt Lake City, Gold

Monica Pinette

Métis, British Columbia, Canada
Modern Pentathlon
2004 – Athens, 13th Place
2007 – Rio de Janeiro, Competitor
2008 – Beijing, Competitor

Caroline Calve

Algonquin, Aylmer, Quebec, Canada
Snowboarding
20th Ladies Snowboard Parallel Giant Slalom
2010 – Vancouver

Carolyn Darbyshire McRorie

Metis, Manitoba, Canada
Women's Curling Team
2010 – Vancouver, Silver

Native American Olympians

Frank Pierce (Seneca): 1904,
did not finish in marathon

Frank Mount Pleasant (Tuscarora): 1908,
6th in long jump, 6th in triple jump

Andrew Sockalexis (Penobscot): 1912,
4th in marathon

Jim Thorpe (Sac and Fox/Potawatomi): 1912,
gold medal in decathlon, gold medal in pentha-
lon, 7th in long jump, 4th in high jump

Louis Tewanima (Hopì): 1908, 9th in mara-
thon; 1912, silver medal in 10,000 meters,
16th in marathon

Clarence "Taffy" Abel (Sault Ste. Marie Chip-
pewa): 1924, silver medal in hockey

Wilson "Buster" Charles Jr. (Oneida):
1932, 4th in decathlon

Ellison Myers "Tarzan" Brown (Narragan-
sett): 1936, did not finish in marathon

Jesse "Cab" Renick (Choctaw): 1948,
gold medal in basketball

Billy Mills (Sioux): 1964,
gold medal in 10,000 meters, 14th in marathon

Ben Nighthorse Campbell (Northern Chey-
enne): 1964, did not place after injuring knee in
second round of judo

Henry Boucha (Ojibwa): 1972,
silver medal in hockey

Cheri Becerra (Omaha Nation): 1996, bronze
medal in 800 meter for women in wheelchairs;
2002 Paralympic's, bronze and silver; 2000
fifth in 800 meter for women in wheelchairs;
2000 Paralympics, gold medals in 100-meter
and 400-meter races.

Naomi Lang (Karak): 2002,
11th in ice dancing

Callan Chythlook-Sifsof
(Yupik/Inupiaq Eskimo (Inuit)):
Ladies' Snowboard Cross
2010 – Vancouver, 21st

*Sources: Native American Sports Council,
U.S. Olympic Committee*



Waneek Horn-Miller visits SAY at CAF

STEVIE

ONE OF THE TOP 100 GUITARISTS IN THE WORLD

(Guitar Player Magazine)

RECORDING ARTIST,
TV PRODUCER,
MUSIC DIRECTOR AND
ENTREPRENEUR

WINNER OF 2009
NAMMYS LIFETIME
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD.

Biography courtesy NAMMYS

Special recognition was given to guitarist / musician/producer Stevie Salas at this year's NAMMYS. Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, Stevie Salas, is an American born rock guitarist of Apache descent.

With humble beginnings, Salas' unique heavy funk/rock guitar styling's quickly helped him make a name for himself in music industry circles in the late 1980's. After twenty years in the business, Salas' talent and swagger have earned him great respect in the music world as a studio and concert musician.

He has recorded, toured with, written, produced and directed many record industry greats including; Mick Jagger, Rod Stewart, George Clinton and Justin Timberlake. As a producer Salas has worked on many global superstar projects including the 1989 classic "What Up Dog" by Was (Not Was) which *Rolling Stone Magazine* named one of the top 100 records of the decade.

SALAS

As a film composer he has scored many films and TV shows but he is best known for the guitar score to the cult classic *“Bill and Ted’s Excellent Adventure”* where he not only scored but he also appears as the hands of George Carlin in the famed wild guitar solo ending.

Aside from the work he does live and in the studio, Salas also tours the world as a solo artist, often playing sold out concerts and festivals in the UK, Europe and Asia and has sold two million solo records around the world. He has won many awards including a Native American Music Award for Best Rock Recording in 2008.

He is the host and executive producer of the one hour live comedy/music TV program *Arbor Live* in Canada and for the last four

years has worked as the Music Consultant for 19 Entertainment for American Idol’s Chris Daughtry, Jordan Sparks, David Cook, Allison Iraheta, Kris Allen and Adam Lambert.

Stevie is also a consultant for the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of the American Indian on contemporary music programming and helped conceptualize the idea for an exhibit on American Indian contributions to the roots and advancement of contemporary music.

ROCKSTAR SOLOS is Stevie’s new iPhone guitar app and his new company dealing with Apple creating music game apps.

Stevie Salas is one of the best guitarists recording on this planet, yet he is largely unheralded. In a time when guitar heroes are

few and far between, this Native American six-string slinger is a beacon to all those air-guitar pilgrims looking for salvation. Salas has toured and recorded with an impressive list of renowned artists. But his pedigree does not stop there. He has also released a staggering 18 solo records. *“The Sun & The Earth”* is a “best of” compilation that spans his eclectic career. *“Tell Your Story Walkin”* is reminiscent of a Jimi Hendrix meets James Brown rocking groove, while *“Hoochie Toad”* would fit perfectly on a Red Hot Chili Peppers album.

But Salas didn’t forget his Native roots: Songs such as *“Indian Chief,”* *“Trail of Tears,”* and *“Indian Friends”* keep the banner of his heritage waving proudly.

SAY MAGAZINE recently interviewed Stevie and asked him to comment on how his American Indian culture/Nativeness has impacted his personal journey; how family and the Native community are important to him; and what advice he would give to Native youth who don’t know how hard Stevie worked to get where he is today.

So the family legend goes, Stevie’s great grandmother on his fathers side was a child stolen by an Indian band and sold in Mexico, who was then stolen away from a Mexican hacienda at age fourteen by the same Apache man who became her husband. His mother’s Apache family lived all along the New Mexico/ Arizona border.

Stevie says he always knew he was Apache, but in his grandparents time it was not something to focus on as there was the fear that if you were an Indian you could be shipped out but if you were Mexican you could stay and farm land, keeping the family together.

Growing up, the focus was on ‘being American’, and living in San Diego where his father was in the Marine Corps, Stevie hung out in a mixed cultural area. He played a lot of sports in high school – football, baseball and surfing. And these all impacted on him personally and of course, on his music.

MANY TIMES YOUNG NATIVE MUSICIANS HAVE SAID TO STEVIE “I WANT TO DO IT BUT THEY WON’T LET ME” AND STEVIE ALWAYS REPLIES, “WHO ARE THEY”?? BECAUSE WHOEVER ‘THEY’ ARE, ‘THEY’ LET ME!!”

But always Stevie fully intended to be ‘the best guitarist in the world’, not the best “Native” guitarist.

He was twenty-two years old and fresh off a world tour with Rod Stewart when he met the late Apache Randy Castillo, who was the drummer of Ozzy Osbourne for ten years. Randy piqued Stevie’s interest in his American Indian heritage. Stevie then played with the Native rock band, Red Thunder, touring for a world peace project and advocating Native American rights through music. This gave him the opportunity to absorb Native culture and explore why he thought the way he did.

One year later Stevie realized he had to return to the mainstream and be as successful as

possible. In his own words, “I need to kick ass globally to help a few people here.”

For his third album *Electric Pow Wow* in 1993, Rita Coolidge lent Stevie some Native jewelry which he wore and he became more visible as a Native musician. About the same time Stevie’s Dad also underwent some changes – previously there was shame in being Native, but now there was pride as they both embraced and explored their Native heritage.

Jeff Beck, former band mate of Rod Stewart, was fascinated by Stevie’s Nativeness, and Stevie says, “I appreciated this.”

“Certainly my Nativeness opens doors for me,” he says. The television show *Arbor Live* is a case in point. As host and executive producer of the show, Stevie brings mainstream superstars and Natives together. He had no difficulty in attracting superstars to participate as most are interested in Native issues, and of course, he pointed out that Natives are big fans and they comprise a large market for the music.

Arbor Live is in its second season and is exceeding expectations. He added comedy – risque and Native stereotypes are included with a hope that we can laugh about things that should not really matter and focus on

STEVIE SALAS

Cont'd

real issues. Having Native artists such as Crystal Shawanda and Wab Kinew do the jokes helps to dispel some of the myths.

Stevie spends his life trying to surround himself with the best possible people to learn from no matter what race, color or creed, stating that working with great people inspires you to better yourself and can show you some of the secrets. This challenges others to be inspired as well. He says, "I have worked with the biggest rock and roll star in the world, Mick Jagger; with the largest television show in the world, *American Idol* and with the largest museum in the world The Smithsonian, always looking to learn and be challenged."

His message is – If I can do this, then you can too. Many times young native musicians have said to Stevie "I want to do it but they won't let me" and Stevie always replies, "who are "they"?? Because whoever 'they' are, 'they' let me!!"

His interest in kids is genuine and as a father himself he says, "I want to try to do a little something that is positive. Kids think there are barriers, but only they can stop themselves. When there are barriers then you just have to work harder which is not always fair but is often a way of life."



Brian Wright-McLeod's *Encyclopedia of Native Music* included material on Stevie, and he credits Brian for getting him back into Native country. After the book came out Stevie began receiving email from Native kids from all over North America.

One issue that truly bothers Stevie is the number of young pregnancies in the Native

community. "Why do these kids feel they need to get the girl pregnant and then not bother with the child. I understand our history and the impact it has had on our community. But, I do not understand why it continues. We need to break this cycle – but how?"

His message to youth is that the foundation of success and confidence is a person's self-esteem.

Hard work and focus are essential. He feels our art community needs to build infrastructure and not just promote one artist at a time. We need to bring the mainstream to our Native communities.

When asked how he ended up doing so much work in Canada, Stevie responded, "It was my destiny to work in Canada. In 1988 I was playing with Rod Stewart, had a huge recording contract and scored the hit movie *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure* and I was REALLY hot! I met a blonde Canadian singer named Sass Jordan. We became involved and I worked with her." Stevie then met many other Canadian artists like Jeff Healey and that propelled him to more work in Canada.

His current important projects include acting as consultant to the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian (he will be involved with the Living Earth Festival which is designed to bring people into the Museum and to bring attention to Native history); working as music director for *American Idol*'s Chris Daughtry, Jordan Sparks, David Cook, Alison Iraheta, Kris Allen and Adam Lambert; and his new Iphone App: *Rockstar Solos*, an authentic rock game and company, bringing actual rockstar riffs to your fingertips.

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Find out how you can bring Project Venture, an evidence-based positive youth development program, to youth in your community. Contact (505) 554-2289 or info@niylp.org. Project Venture is a model of the National Indian Youth Leadership Project.

Introductory Sessions:

Albuquerque, New Mexico - to be scheduled in spring of 2010
Cusick, Washington to be scheduled in summer of 2010

NIYLP, 800 Gold Ave. SW Albuquerque, NM 87102



Buffy Sainte-Marie

BUFFY SAINTE-MARIE VIRTUALLY INVENTED THE ROLE OF NATIVE AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL ACTIVIST POP STAR. HER CONCERN FOR PROTECTING INDIGENOUS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND HER DISTASTE FOR THE EXPLOITATION OF NATIVE AMERICAN ARTISTS AND PERFORMERS HAVE KEPT HER IN THE FOREFRONT OF ACTIVISM IN THE ARTS FOR FORTY YEARS.

Academy Award winner, Buffy Sainte-Marie was a graduating college senior in 1962 and hit the ground running in the early Sixties, after the beatniks and before the hippies.

All alone she toured North America's colleges, reservations and concert halls, meeting both significant acclaim and huge misperception from audiences and record companies who expected Pocahontas in fringes, and instead were both entertained and educated with their initial dose of Native American reality in the first person.

By age 24, Buffy Sainte-Marie had appeared all over Europe, Canada, Australia and Asia, receiving honours, medals and awards, which continue to this day. Her song "Until It's Time for You to Go," was recorded by Elvis Presley, Bobby Darin, Barbara Streisand and Cher, and her "Universal Soldier" became the anthem of the peace movement. For her very first album she was voted Billboard's "Best New Artist."

She disappeared suddenly from the mainstream American airwaves during the Lyndon Johnson/Richard Nixon years. As part of a blacklist, which affected Eartha Kitt, Taj Mahal and a host of other outspoken performers, her name was included on White House stationery as among those whose music "deserved to be suppressed."

In Native American country and abroad, however, her fame only grew. Buffy Sainte-Marie continued to appear at countless grassroots concerts, AIM events and other activist benefits. She made seventeen albums of her music, three of her own television specials, spent five years on Sesame Street,

scored movies, helped found Canada's "Music of Aboriginal Canada" Juno Awards category, raised a son, earned a Ph.D. in Fine Arts, taught Digital Music as adjunct professor at several colleges, and won both a Golden Globe and an Academy Award Oscar for the song, "Up Where We Belong."

Presently she operates the Nihewan Foundation for Native American Education through which the Cradleboard Teaching Project serves children and teachers throughout North America.

Buffy Sainte-Marie released her 18th album, *Running for the Drum*, in North America and throughout Europe, in 2009, to critical acclaim, "A really wild, ear opening set for those that aren't afraid to take the chance on something that rocks the boat against complacency and does it without a cudgel." (Midwest Records).

Adding to an already expansive list of accolades and awards, Buffy Sainte-Marie won her second Juno Award for Aboriginal Album, Aboriginal's People Choice Music Award (APCMA) for Best Folk Album, Canadian Aboriginal Music Awards for Best Female Artist, Best Album, Best Single ("No No Keshagesh") and Best Songwriter, as well as became the 25th inductee into the Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame and the first person to receive the APCMA's Lifetime Achievement award.

Reuniting with former co-producer, Chris Birkett (*Coincidence* and *Likely Stories* and *Up Where We Belong*), Buffy Sainte-Marie's newest album was recorded in her home studio in Hawaii. Celebrated for her tremendous



diversity in song-writing styles, *Running for the Drum* is a whip-lash collection of power and beauty: folk/roots, powwow-rock, rockabilly and dance.

Passionate as ever, Buffy Sainte-Marie uses her latest songs to cover an extensive array of commanding themes, including great loves and protest against environmental greed. *Running for the Drum*, like the artist herself, cannot be neatly categorized into a single musical genre; instead finding itself among a rare breed of pure music fusion.

Running for the Drum, in tandem with her DVD, *Buffy Sainte-Marie: A Multimedia Life*, is available through select online retailers, including iTunes and Amazon and in stores throughout Europe and North America.

WORLD INDIGENOUS NATIONS GAMES

The World Indigenous Nations Games is a world-wide event that celebrates sport, traditional indigenous games, and the cultures, of the world's 370 million indigenous peoples.

The WIN Games concept for a World Olympic style event was first introduced by Dr. J. Wilton "Willie" Littlechild, IPC, of the Ermineskin Cree First Nation, Canada, to the World Council of Indigenous People, in Kiruna Sweden on August 27, 1977.

Since then the North America Regional Games, called the North American Indigenous Games, have taken place in Canada and the United States of America.

The first ever WIN Games was awarded by WIN Sport in January 2008 to the Province of Manitoba, and will be held in August 2012 in Winnipeg Canada.

National Co-Chairs of the 2012 WIN Games are Dr. J. Wilton Littlechild and Sharon Firth.

The WIN Games will raise the awareness of human rights, demonstrate the Olympic ideals, and celebrate the cultures of the world's indigenous peoples. The games three components are: contemporary Olympic style sports, traditional Indigenous games, and cultural demonstrations of song, dance, story telling.

Each Region will be encouraged to identify and present the traditional games of the Indigenous peoples from their respective regions. As well, they will be invited to bring their performers of song, instrument and dance to share and to present the unique customs of the Indigenous nations to the world.

There will be seven global regions invited to participate in the WIN Games: Canada, the United States of America, the Americas, the Arctic Circumpolar Region, the African Region, the European Region, and, the Asia Pacific Region.

Source: www.winsportinc.com

NATIONAL CO-CHAIRS OF THE 2012 WIN GAMES, Dr. J. Wilton Littlechild & Sharon Firth



Founder of WIN Sport
Honorary Co-Chair of the 2012 WIN Games
Commissioner Truth and Reconciliation Canada

39 Canadian Cross Country Skiing Championship titles
Member of the Order of Canada and the
Canadian Skiing Hall of Fame



Photo: www.esteemteam.com



JULY 10 – 17, 2011 Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Source: www.milwaukee2011.com

The 2011 NAIG will be hosted by the eleven tribes located throughout Wisconsin. Their leadership and support are instrumental to the success of the upcoming Games.

These sovereign tribes know the importance and value of the NAIG. Young people from these communities have prepared for and competed in past Games under the banner "Team Wisconsin." Tribal leaders have seen the direct benefits of the Games, including promoting healthy lifestyles, increasing cultural awareness and motivating young people to achieve great things.

Thousands of athletes, primarily young people, participate in the competitions, making the NAIG the largest event of its kind. In addition to the sporting events, cultural activities associated with the Games include artwork, entertainment and spiritual activity among the athletes and attendees.

The first NAIG were held in Edmonton, Alberta in 1990. The Games take place every three years and were last held in "The Cowichan Valley" in Duncan, Vancouver Island, British Columbia in 2008. They were a spectacular success and were televised across Canada on APTN, allowing native and non-native people to watch the competition and learn about the cultural activities.

The Milwaukee 2011 Games will occur in July 2011 at prominent sports venues in and around the city. Cultural activities and athlete housing will be located near the city's downtown area.



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