

Newsletter of The Indigenous Language Institute

# NATIVE LANGUAGE NETWORK

ILI, 560 Montezuma Ave., 202, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

FEBRUARY 2004

## YOUTH LANGUAGE FAIR 2004

As many of you may be aware, one of ILI's most successful programs, the Native American Youth Language Fair, was on temporary hiatus this past year. Due to the dismal financial climate for non profits, we were unable to secure the funds to produce what would have been our fifth annual Youth Language Fair in 2003. It was very disappointing to all of us at ILI to interrupt the continuity of effort and growth that comes from having a yearly event.

Thankfully, we have renewed support for this program, and are very happy to announce that the Youth Language Fair will return in 2004.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS for May 15, 2004 (Saturday) at the Santa Fe Indian School!**

A poster will be mailed to you soon with details of the Fair. Please contact ILI by phone (505-820-0311) or e-mail (ili@indigenous-language.org) for more information or to make sure you are on our mailing list.

We hope to see all of our past presenters again, and to meeting many new participants and supporters as well.



Patricia Ningewance Nadeau and Tom F. Talache, Jr.

## Board of Directors News

In 2003 two new members joined the Board of Directors of ILI:

**Patricia Ningewance Nadeau** (Ojibwe) from Alberta, Canada joined in March 2003. Ms. Nadeau of Lac Seul, Ontario, Canada has worked in Ojibwe language development for thirty years in Ontario and in Manitoba, self-publishing her own language textbook *Survival Ojibwe*. She believes that a native language does not have to be learned solely in a class room but also in the community and so, learned to work in native language television production at

Wawatay Communications Society in Sioux Lookout, Ontario.

**Tom F. Talache, Jr.** (Nambe Pueblo) from Nambe Pueblo in northern New Mexico joined in November 2003. Mr. Talache is serving for the second term as Governor of Nambe Pueblo. He is also Chairman of the New Mexico Commission on Indian Affairs. Governor Talache has extensive experience in information technology, business operations and organizational development. He is a learner of his Tewa language and strongly advocates language revitalization within his community.

*Directors / Continued on page 3*

**ILI's Mission:** *To collaborate with indigenous communities to revitalize and perpetuate the languages and cultures of the original inhabitants of the Americas.*

# Message from the President

*Seguli Swakwek, (Greetings to you all)*

**H**o Yan! (Oneida Greeting for the New Year!) So much has happened in the past year not the least of which was ILI's challenging times in 2003 due to severe cutbacks in funding sources and its recovery at the last possible moment through the generosity of several Tribes, individual donors and foundations. Of course, until ILI has established the Endowment Fund, there will continue to be a need to seek resources wherever they may be located. As a non-profit organization ILI is subject to the climate of the forces that stimulate giving. Over the past year there has been a spirit of generosity that seems to come through just when times seemed the darkest. Well, that said, the Board has remained positive and continues to plan and trust that our work is protected by the Creator, and the many benefactors, especially individuals, who have given freely. ILI's work has continued and for that we can be thankful to our Vice President, Tess Naranjo, Treasurer, Joel Frank, Sr. (still being assisted by former treasurer, Robert Craig), and Secretary Maura Studie, as well as our Executive Director, Inée Slaughter, our only staff for most of 2003.

I have represented ILI at various Native Language Conferences and events in the past year. This past year has been a joy in the many accomplishments of ILI in planning and working with other organizations. ILI has been ably represented by Tess Naranjo and other Board members in carrying out the ANA grant requiring her to visit and work with more than two dozen Native communities. Inée Slaughter has given numerous interviews to the media and appeared on Native America Calling out of Albuquerque talking of our work and the importance of our languages. Wes Studi, ILI's Honorary Chairman of our Endowment Campaign, has been very helpful in giving his time and lending his prestige to our work.

Still, there is more work to do. In March, I will be stepping down as President of ILI because of the term limit provisions of our By-Laws. I am saddened to have to leave but I leave with a feeling of some accomplishment in having the Board be more representative of Native communities. Seven of our eight Board members are enrolled members of Tribes. Maura Studie, our Secretary, is Wes' wife and gives much time and assistance to ILI. Our newest Board member, Governor

Thomas Talache of Nambe Pueblo, is an accomplished young man who was recently re-elected as Governor. So without a paid staff last year, ILI was able to persevere in troubled times financially. I'm happy to report that things are looking better for ILI this year although we're still not out of the woods.

The status of our languages continues to be dire. The bright spot in it is the energy the communities are pouring into doing more local activities not the least of which is various Immersion initiatives such as immersion camps, master-apprentice programs, and language nests. Federal funding through ANA has become even more competitive so that Native Communities cannot rely on that as the only resource available. Many Tribes with highly successful gaming operations are forced to deal with more immediate needs such as housing, health care and education which render culture and language a lesser priority. Nevertheless, more and more Traditional gatherings are supported by Tribes and communities. For example, the All Potawatomi Language Conference this past July in Wisconsin and the Anishinaabeg Language Conference in Minneapolis last fall give hope that the energy of the people for their Native languages is abundant. The Stabilizing Indigenous Languages Conference was held last year at the Ho-Chunk Conference Center at Baraboo, WI and the Eastern Algonquian Language Conference will be held in February this year at the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation in Connecticut. ILI has made a presence at



*Message / Continued on page 4*

# November 2002 National Working Symposium

**3**00 ATTENDEES PRAYED, sang, worked, shared food, and shared ideas and experiences during the 2-1/2 days of "Community Voices Coming Together" (November 7-10, 2002) at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Over 75 nations and tribes were represented at this national gathering that was offered by ILI, with funding from The Ford Foundation. Additional support came from The Rockefeller Foundation, The Lannan Foundation and sponsorship from the National Indian Gaming Association.

The symposium was a culmination of the Field Survey Project Phase I that visited 34 language programs nationwide through grants from the Educational Foundation of America and The John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Representatives of the 34 programs were invited to facilitate the working sessions.

This was a working symposium for attendees to take home practical and immediately useful information and skills to their communities and programs. Field Survey Project Team Members and the representatives of the language programs we visited led working sessions.

Children and youth were part of the symposium with an afternoon presentation modeled after ILI's Youth Language Fair. We had dances and songs and recitations presented by Acoma Children's Dance Group, Cherokee child's recitation, Comanche youth prayer presentation with sign language,

Oneida youth singing, and some "young at heart" adults filling in. This session was to enjoy but also to share with attendees the effective ways of involving children and youth in "fun" language activities as motivation.

The Rockefeller Foundation grant provided travel scholarships for foreign guests, mainly from Canada, one from the Ainu tribe of Japan, who presented in our Morning Sharing Sessions. Despite the fact that these started at 7:30 AM, each session was well attended! The grant also made possible an extra workshop on intellectual property issues and producing handouts on this topic.

The Lannan Foundation grant provided travel scholarships for those who otherwise could not afford to attend, which brought in some important community people to the symposium.

Saturday evening was the banquet that staged ILI's annual Honoring Event to honor two language practitioners for their dedication and accomplishments. This year the Board of Directors selected Maria Hinton (92) of the Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin and Alice Micco Snow (85) of the Seminole Tribe of Florida. ILI's Cultural Ambassador recognition was given to LaDonna Harris (Comanche), and the tenth anniversary of ILI was celebrated by recognizing Joanna Hess, its Founder. Corporate Appreciation Awards went to Ruben Postaer and Associates of California who spearheaded our national ad campaign for the Endowment Campaign, and Whole Foods Market

who supported for many years ILI's Native American Youth Language Fair. The evening was filled with song, dance, prayers, praise, gratitude, and gifting.

The summaries of the break out sessions were compiled and edited and are available. Contact ILI for copies of this very informative document.

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## *Directors / Continued from I*

### **Outgoing member:**

**Robert Craig** of Robert Craig Wine Cellars who has served two full terms totaling six years on our Board deserves our deepest thanks for his dedicated service and generous support of ILI. Mr. Craig and his wife, Lynn, have jointly been the Editors in Chief of ILI's newsletter, "Native Language Network." Although his term on the Board is over, Mr. Craig will continue working with ILI as a member on the Advisory Council.

### **Current Board of Directors:**

Gerald L. Hill (Oneida), President  
Tessie Naranjo (Santa Clara Pueblo),  
Vice President  
Joel Frank, Sr. (Seminole), Treasurer  
Maura Dhu Studie, Secretary  
Barney Bush (Absentee Shawnee)  
Margaret Mauldin (Maskoke Creek)  
Patricia Ningewance Nadeau (Ojibwe)  
Tom F. Talache, Jr. (Nambe Pueblo)

# ILI and The University of Washington to Host Tech Symposium, "Ancient Voices, Modern Tools: Language and Tech-Knowledge"



The Indigenous Language Institute and the University of Washington (UW) will host the First Annual Multimedia Technology Symposium on the UW campus in Seattle from August 20th to August 23rd. This Symposium is in response to requests from tribal language teachers and leaders around the country who want to use computer technology in their language programs.

The goal of the Symposium is to ensure that attendees have a chance to acquire practical, useful information and enhanced computer skills to start new programs or to strengthen their existing efforts.

The two and a half day Symposium will:

- Provide lectures and demonstrations on ways of collecting language materials, including stories, songs, personal interviews, word lists and photographs through audio and audio visual recordings, digital scanning of documents and photographs and more;
- Allow participants to explore ideas about what can be taught with old and newly collected materials and for what purpose;
- Provide opportunities for considering various technologies available for language programs to present their existing collections in diverse formats, such as games, videos, CDs, interactive CD-ROMs and more; and
- Help people learn how to put materials onto interactive, multimedia CD-ROMs, using simple programs.

Computer camps will be led by experts who will coach attendees on the creation of videos, DVDs, CDs or CD-ROMs. Attendees will be expected to bring materials they wish to use in language instruction, such as photographs, video recordings, audio recordings, old or new documents and curriculum materials from current or past indigenous language classes.

The Early Registration Fee is \$195 (by April 15th), Regular Registration is \$225 (between April 16th to June 30th). There will be no on-site registration. Conference planners will need to know well in advance what the needs and desires of the participants are, in order to be sure that all software, computers and peripheral equipment is available at the start of the Symposium. You can watch for the registration form on the ILI website or in your mail. ILI and UW are continuing to collect names for the Symposia mailing list. To be placed on the mailing list or for further information about the Technology Symposium, contact us at [ili2004@u.washington.edu](mailto:ili2004@u.washington.edu).

## Message / Continued from 2

these events and others to encourage their growth, interaction and networking amongst Native language workers.

ILI is now exploring better ways of insuring economic stability for the work that is being done and we remain committed to that. The Language Materials Development Center of ILI continues to be a priority and to that end has completed its first set of How-To books for language activists in Native communities. This project was spearheaded by our Vice President, Tess Naranjo and she is to be congratulated for her vision.

I wish to thank you for the opportunity to have helped this important cause. I will continue to work at home in Oneida for the survival of our language and to improve my own competence with it.

Tane thonyole  
^kalihway^takhwa, (that's as far as I will go)

On^giwah,

Jerry L. Hill

Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin

# Order taken for ILI's How-To Handbooks!

"Awakening Our Languages: ILI Handbook Series" has gone to press! They will be ready in April 2004.

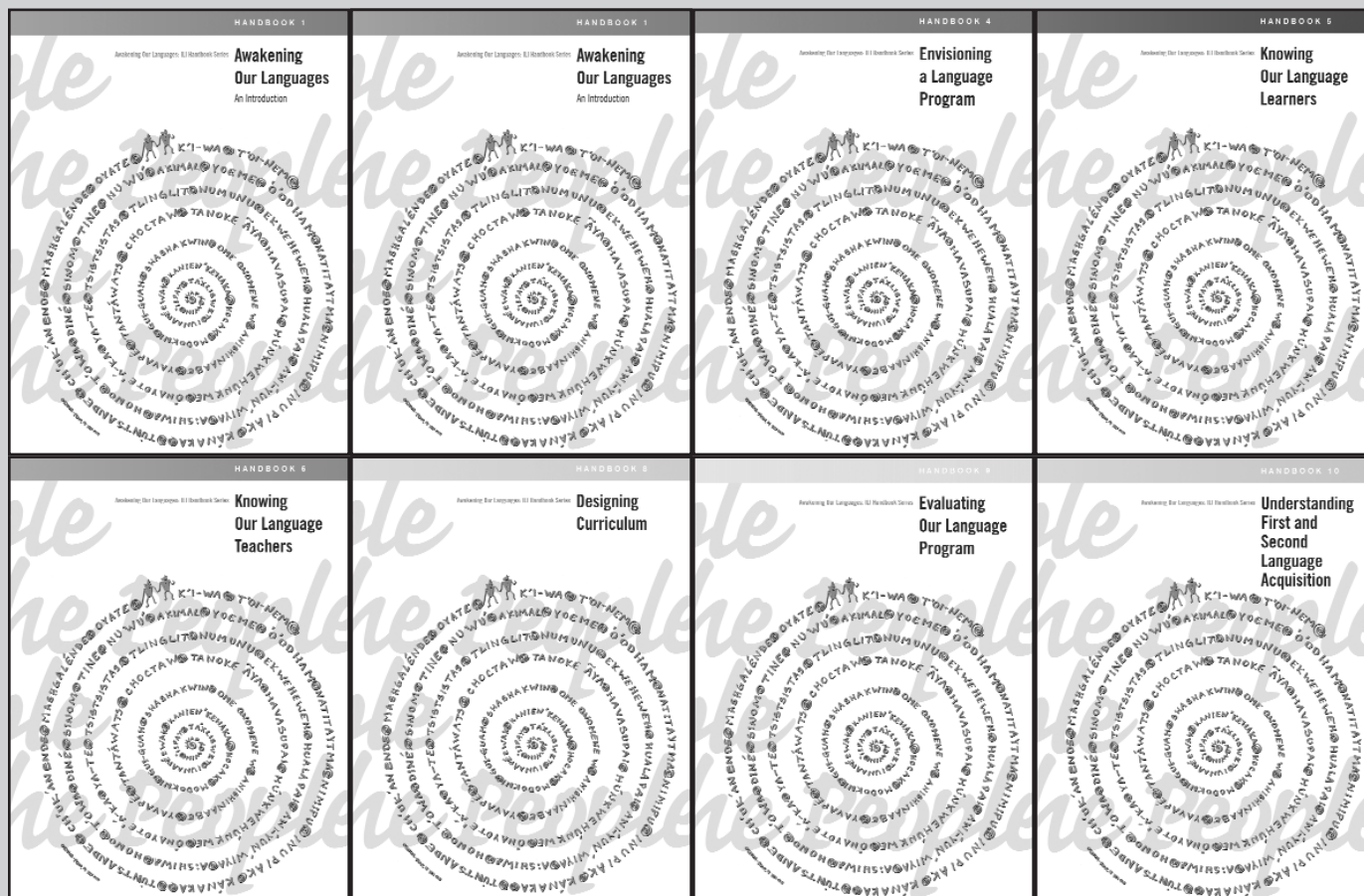
We are taking pre-publication orders now for those who have been so patiently awaiting this publication. The eight (8) handbooks in the set are (numbers indicate Handbook number):

- Awakening Our Languages: An Introduction
- Conducting a Language Survey
- Envisioning a Language Program
- Knowing Our Language Learners
- Knowing Our Language Teachers
- Designing Curriculum
- Evaluating Our Language Program
- Understanding First and Second Language Acquisition

There are four more booklets still "in process" and they will be available later.

Each handbook is \$9.95; the set of 8 is \$79.60. For the pre-publication orders, we are offering a special rate of \$70 for the set of 8 for orders we receive through April 30, 2004. From May 1, 2004 the regular price will be \$79.60 plus shipping and handling.

Please call ILI at 505-820-0311, Ext. \*820 to place your order..



## Grants and Other Support in 2003

**W**e are grateful to The Christensen Fund for a grant that supports ILI's infrastructure as well as partial support of the Tech-Knowledge conference in August 2004 and the 2004 Youth Language Fair.

We thank the Natural American Spirit Foundation for the grant that supports ILI's general operations.

ILI is working with the National Indian Education Association to conduct and analyze a survey of their national membership to determine current needs and future direction of NIEA's role in assisting its members to develop language retention programs.

The Seminole Tribe of Florida contracted ILI to conduct preliminary research on the effects of

HUD housing on tribal community life and language. The research was conducted by Tessie Naranjo, Ph.D. with the assistance of Sue-Ellen Jacobs, Ph.D. of University of Washington.

We are grateful for the generous support from Indian Tribes and associations in 2003:

Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation

Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin  
Pokagonband of Potawatomi  
National Indian Gaming Association

IBM Corporation awarded ILI with an equipment grant to ILI's Language Materials Development Center (see separate article).

A million "thanks" to so many of you who have contributed to ILI to sustain this most important work! It is YOUR generosity of material and moral support that has fueled the efforts in challenging times.

## New Staff

**S**tarting January 1, 2004, Carol Guzmàn joins the ILI staff as Development Officer. Carol brings many years of successful fundraising experience. She also brings to the work her deep knowledge and appreciation for the mission of ILI to serve our Indigenous family. Welcome, Carol!

## IBM Donates Equipment to LMDC

**I**LI's Language Materials Development Center (LMDC) was a happy recipient of a generous donation from IBM of two IBM ThinkPads with all the peripherals (carrying cases, connectors, mouse, etc.) and a laser printer. These laptops allow ILI to take work on the road, especially in our field visits to language programs across the country.

We thank you, IBM!

## Special Thank You to ILI's Circle of Friends

**W**e were unable to acknowledge our 2002 donors in the newsletter so we are catching up on that long-overdue "thanks" to our committed friends. The second segment of this acknowledgement section is for our 2003 donors whose gifts we received through December 31, 2003.

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*Friends / Continued on page 8*

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# NATIVE LANGUAGE NETWORK

FEBRUARY 2004

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