

# NATIVE LANGUAGE NETWORK

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

SUMMER/FALL 2002

## ILI & NIGA working together at 11th Annual Trade Show & Convention

by Liz Hill

For the second year in a row ILI was invited by the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) to host a Native Languages Workshop in conjunction with NIGA's 11th Annual Trade Show and Convention. This year's workshop took place on April 25 at the San Diego Convention Center. Representing the ILI were Board of Directors members Gerald Hill and Jerry Thompson.

Executive Director Inée Yang Slaughter and National Public Relations Consultant Liz Hill also were present to promote ILI at the

**NIGA / Continued on page 4**



Best of show winners: Joe Aguilar, Izell Garcia with Wes Studi

## Annual Youth Language Fair a Success

By Inez Russell

Living languages filled the gymnasium at the Santa Fe Indian School as more than 200 children demonstrated their native cultures at the Indigenous Language Institute's Fourth Annual Native Youth Language Fair and Powwow last April 6th. Returning once again as master of ceremonies was actor Wes Studi, star of "Skin-

walkers," a television show based on Tony Hillerman's mystery novels that will air on PBS.

Comedian Drew Lacapa also made a guest appearance, as did musician/singer Delphine Tsina-jinnie and flute player and dancer Kevin Locke.

This event signifies the changes that are taking place within native cultures. Back in the days of boarding schools with strict guidelines Native Americans were discouraged from speaking their native languages. One audience member, 83-year-old Sid Byrd (Lakota), remembers being beaten when he spoke his native language at boarding school in Nebraska. "It was beaten out of me," he said. In just three years, he told the Journal North, he lost his ability to speak his language. He had to re-learn it just to talk to his family.

**Language Fair / Continued on page 2**



Gerald Hill, President ILI Board of Directors; Ernest L. Stevens, Jr., Chairman National Indian Gaming Association; Jerry Thompson, Member ILI Board of Directors

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

## Language Fair / Continued from I

Today, children are being honored for speaking their languages. Children speaking some 13 languages participated in the 2002 Youth Language Fair. Children from the Diné Nation turned out in force and also represented were children from New Mexico's Pueblo and Apache tribes, as well as the Comanche and Cherokee Tribes.

Jenna Naranjo, a Santa Clara



Jacob Shije-Garcia, age 6 with his art work.

Pueblo member who covered the event for the New Mexican, said, "Watching these children gave me hope that indigenous languages still have a chance at survival. Had I had the chance to participate in such a fair as a child, I bet there's a good chance I would have acquired a greater interest in learning Tewa. I was equally impressed with the amount of family participation at the language fair. I would imagine that learning a language takes more than just one teacher and a student. Family involvement appeared to be a great tool in the success of the young native language speakers who participated in the event."

One of the people Naranjo interviewed for her story was Delphia Rosetta, from Santo Domingo Pueblo, who attended the event with about 20 family members. She said most of the pueblo youth speak Keres which is the tribe's language.

"From day one it's Keres Keres Keres," she said, "they can learn English in School." Rosetta said she attended the fair in hopes of establishing roots for the younger Rosettas. "I hope the great-grandchildren will continue this tradition," she said. And that, say language fair organizers, is the point of the whole event. The fair included a poster contest, an evening powwow and the language pres-

entation portion in which children give a speech, sing or otherwise demonstrate their culture.

The IAIA Museum exhibited in June 2002 the winning posters from our poster contest.

### Winners of the Fourth Annual Native Youth Language Fair:

**Best of Show:** Joe Aguilar and Izell Garcia, Santo Domingo Pueblo, storytelling.

#### Preschool-Age 7

**First Place:** Angel Hicks, Diné, 7, song, "A Baby is Born"

**Second Place:** Window Rock Elementary School, Diné, song, "My Home"

**Third Place:** Window Rock Elementary School, Diné, poem, "5 Butterflies"

#### Ages 8-11

**First Place:** Quanah Yazzie, Diné, 8, song with drum

**Second Place:** Kholan Studi, Cherokee, 8, "My Family"

**Third Place:** Guyton Tsosie, Diné, 10, song

#### Mixed Age Group

**First Place:** Rockpoint Community School, Diné, 7-9 song

**Second Place:** Rosetta Clan, Santo Domingo Pueblo, 2-13, "Grandpa Says"

**Third Place:** Rockpoint Community School, Diné, 11-12, song with water drum

#### Ages 12-15

**First Place:** Lance Yazzie, Diné, 12, song with drum

**Second Place:** Autumn Gomez, Comanche/Taos Pueblo, 15, "Lords Prayer"

**Third Place:** Nolan Yazzie, Diné, 14, comic strip.

#### Ages 16-19

**First Place:** Michelle Tomlinson, Diné, 16, song

**Second Place:** Orcino Sarracino, Diné, 16, children's book

**Third Place:** Eric John, Diné, 16, song

### Poster Contest Winners

**Best of Show:** Rose Bean Simpson, Santa Clara Pueblo, 18, "Healing Through Song"

#### Preschool-Age 7

**First Place:** Jacob Shije-Garcia, Santa Clara Pueblo, 6, "Buffalo and Deer Dance"

**Second Place:** Edsel Deon, Lakota/Santa Juan Pueblo, 5, "The Healing Pipe"

**Third Place:** Ravonelle Yazzie, Diné, 7, "Healing Through Language"

#### Ages 8-11

**First Place:** Tyler Jackson, Santa Ana Pueblo, 10, "Eagle Healer"

**Second Place:** Clint Lujan, Santa Ana Pueblo, 10, "Blackhawk"

**Third Place:** Thomas Montoya, Santa Ana Pueblo, 9, "Crying Eagle"

#### Ages 12-15

**First Place:** Desiree Deschenie, Diné, 13, "Running Builds Up Your Physical & Mental Endurance"

**Second Place:** Diana Ortiz, Santo Domingo Pueblo, 14, "Learning Through Everyday Ways"

**Third Place:** Claire Louise Ortiz, Santo Domingo Pueblo, 12, "Healing Through Language"

#### Ages 16-19

**First Place:** Ann Chasing Hawk, Lako-

ta, 16, comic strip  
**Second Place:** Seneca Smith, San Carlos Apache, 18, untitled  
**Third Place:** Philotino Nez, Diné, 17, "One Native to Ano"

**Venue Sponsor**  
 Santa Fe Indian School

**Grants and Financial Contributions**

New Mexican Charitable Foundation  
 (through Santa Fe Community Foundation)  
 Los Alamos National Laboratory Foundation  
 Wal-Mart Santa Fe  
 McCune Charitable Foundation  
 Niman Fine Art Gallery

**In-Kind and Goods Donations**

Jeri Ah-be-hill  
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 Jerry Ingram  
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 Paper Tiger  
 Ron Pokrasso  
 Santa Fe Audio Visual  
 Wal-Mart Espanola  
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 Whole Foods Market  
 Wild Oats Market

**Language Fair Judges**

Barney Bush  
 Coco Guerrero  
 Tammy Rahr  
 Nanobah Sam  
 Delphine Tsinajinnie

**Volunteers**

Jeri Ah-be-hill  
 Leslie Barnhart  
 Ron Blessey  
 Joe Cate



Carson Fenimore  
 Christine Fredenburgh  
 Jason Garcia  
 Sheila Gershen  
 Liz Hill  
 Intermountain Youth Center  
 Rita Iringen  
 Jake Knutson  
 Nigel Long Soldier  
 Peggy Meyer  
 Katya Miller  
 Kevin Naranjo  
 Sheilah Rosenblume  
 Paul Slaughter  
 Lottie Archuleta Sly  
 Shirlee Winder

**Poster Contest Judges**

Dan Lomahaftewa  
 Diego Romero  
 Mateo Romero  
 Nanobah Sam  
 Roxanne Swentzell

**Program & Special Guests**

Wes Studi  
 Drew Lacapa  
 Delphine Tsinajinnie  
 Kevin Locke

**Pow-Wow Head Staff & Drums**

Joe Shunkamolah  
 David Tune  
 William Shunkamolah  
 Lindsey Shakespear  
 Gabriel Rosetta  
 Gabby Rosetta  
 Jerry Harjo  
 Pat Pacheco & Spirit Singers  
 Ralph Zotigh & Zotigh Singers

**Planning Committee**

Tessie Naranjo, Co-Chair  
 Maura Dhu Studi, Co-Chair  
 Geneva Navarro  
 Mollie Poafpybitty  
 Inez Russell  
 Yvonne McDonnell-Knutson  
 Inée Yang Slaughter  
 Kate Nilsson  
 Layli Long Soldier



Trade Show and to fundraise on behalf of ILI. The Trade Show, always a popular and well attended part of the NIGA convention, attracts hundreds of vendors from across the country. The language workshop was open to the general public and also to more than 2000 convention participants.

The theme of the ILI workshop was "Preserve, Protect and Perpetuate Native American Languages." The workshop, which was conducted by President Hill and Inée Slaughter, focused on ILI's national and regional outreach programs and innovative approaches that assist Native American communities to start and sustain effective language revitalization programs.

At the Gala Banquet, which was held on April 26 before an audience that numbered in the hundreds, NIGA Chairman Ernie Stevens, Jr. (Oneida) recognized and praised the ongoing work of the ILI.




Left to right: John Tang, Business Mgr. Sycuan Tribe; Patrica Mellon, Wells Fargo; Steve Stallings, Director Native American Banking Service Wells Fargo, Jerry Thompson, ILI Board of Directors.

At a special breakfast fundraiser for New Mexico candidate for Governor Bill Richardson, Richardson publicly recognized the ILI and Inée Slaughter adding that if he is elected as New Mexico's next Governor he will be supportive of the organization's efforts.

The National Indian Gaming Association is a non-profit trade association comprised of 168 American Indian Nations and other non-voting associate members. The

common commitment and purpose of NIGA is to advance the lives of Native American people economically, socially and politically. NIGA operates as a clearinghouse and educational, legislative and public policy resource for tribes, policy-makers and the public on Indian gaming issues and tribal community development.

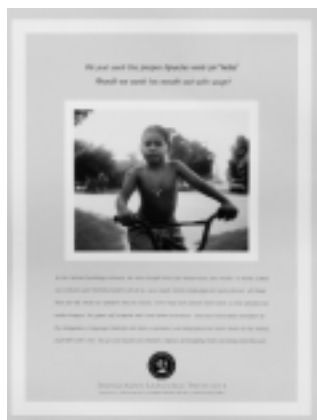
"Gaming has enabled some tribes to funnel much needed financial resources into areas like language revitalization," said ILI president Gerald L. Hill. "This is a positive phenomenon, demonstrating tribes' commitment to carrying on their languages to future generations." NIGA Chairman Ernie Stevens Jr. adds, "An important part of the NIGA mission, reflected in this year's convention theme, is to preserve our Native cultures. Our languages serve as the foundation for our cultures and it is important that we take every opportunity to highlight their importance." 

## RUBIN/POSTAER & ASSOCIATES Creates National Ad Campaign

Imagine a full page ad in a major publication such as *U.S. News and World Report* advocating the preservation and revitalization of Native American languages! Our imaginations and dreams came true thanks to Rubin/Postaer and Associates (RPA), a major national advertising firm headquartered in Santa Monica, California.

In early 2001, RPA's principals, Larry Postaer and Gerry Rubin agreed to provide creative services

to ILI as their gift to this cause to launch a national public awareness campaign that would include print ads, radio spots, and TV commercials. RPA also lined up commitments from national publications to run the ads pro-bono!




In June, the *U.S. News and World Report* published the first of a series of three ads in their California edition (June 3, 2002), followed by appearances in *Scientific America* (August), *News from Indian*

*Country* (late June), *Business Week* (August 19) and *Fast Company* (September). Other publications have committed to run the ads designed

by RPA in ensuing months such as *Forbes* and *O the Oprah* magazine.

The goal of the ad campaign is to raise awareness of the public at large, to invite all to participate in building the ILI Endowment Fund which will support language work in perpetuity. Our goal is to raise \$5 million by the end of 2004. In order to continue the ad program, ILI is seeking corporate and foundation underwriting to sustain an ongoing campaign.

ILI is most grateful to Rubin/Postaer and Associates, to Larry Postaer, Gerry Rubin, Patrick Mendelson, Richard Bess and all the members of the RPA's creative and media team. Our very special thanks to our Board member Jerry Thompson who opened the door for this immense collaboration. 

# New Board Members Elected at March Meeting in Santa Fe

By Liz Hill

The ILI is proud to announce the addition of three new members to its Board of Directors. They are Barney Bush (Shawnee), Joel Frank, Sr. (Seminole) and Margaret McKane Mauldin (Creek). The current board includes President Gerald L. Hill (Oneida), Vice President Tessie Naranjo (Santa Clara Pueblo), Secretary Maura Dhu Studi, Treasurer Robert Craig, Jerry Thompson (Cherokee), and Honorary Board Member Oren R. Lyons (Onondaga).

"Each of these three new board members brings something of immense value to the ILI, which is dedicated to preserving, protecting and perpetuating our precious Native American languages," said Gerald Hill. ILI now has six Native Board members of eight.

Barney is a poet and former Institute of American Indian Arts professor of writing and composition. He is a member of the Society of Authors, Composers and Editors of Museum (SACEM), based in Paris, France. He also is a recording artist with *Nato* records. Bush's most recent recordings include "Left for Dead" and "Remake of the American Dream." He also is the principal spokesperson for the College of the Redwinds.

Joel, a fluent speaker of his Seminole language, currently serves as Housing Director for the Seminole

## "Community Voices Coming Together" ILI National Language Working Symposium

ILI will host "Community Voices Coming Together" November 7-10, 2002 in Albuquerque, New Mexico at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Deadline for preregistration rates and hotel discount rates is October 6; please make a note of these dates and register soon.

The first phase of field studies of 34 Native language programs across the country were completed between 1999-2001. Break Out Sessions on Friday, November 8 will feature language practitioners and teachers from the programs ILI visited who will share successful techniques and practices for their language revitalization work. Break Out Sessions will address topics which are the chapter titles of ILI's How-To Handbooks scheduled to be published in 2003. These Sessions will be a forum for presenters and participants to explore critical issues such as: starting a program; identifying and training teachers; identifying our learners; curriculum and materials development; conducting a language survey; and more.

There will be Workshops on the

following topics: Master-Apprentice Training (L. Hinton/L.F. Manriquez); Working with a Linguist (M.M. Mauldin); Language Acquisition (W. O'Neil/M. Honda); Cultural-Based Immersion Class (TBA); "Breath of Life": Reviving Languages (L. Hinton/L.F. Manriquez).

The youth are invited on Saturday, November 9 to present a contemporary skit using Native language (D. Webster/ L. King), traditional song and story (TBA), ILI Youth Language Fair highlights. Saturday evening, November 9, will be a Gala Banquet featuring ILI's Fifth Annual Honors Event. For Symposium attendees the registration fee includes the Banquet and Honors Event. For those who wish to attend only the Banquet and Honors, tickets are available for \$75 through the ILI office (Tel. 505-820-0311; E-mail [ili@indigenous-language.org](mailto:ili@indigenous-language.org)).



Tribe of Florida. He is a former President of the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) and one of the original Commissioners of the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC). Frank also has served as President of the United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) Intertribal Council. He has created Tribal mental health programs in the southeast and assist in Tribal and individual economic development initiatives through the National Center for Tribal Economic Development in Mesa, Arizona.

Margaret is an instructor in curriculum development and the Creek language at the University of Oklahoma's Department of Anthropology/Native American Studies Division. She has created a 10,000 word dictionary of the Creek Language that was published by the University of Nebraska. Mauldin also is a workshop leader for the Oklahoma Native Languages Association.



# Technical Steering Committee Meets to Plan ILI's Language Materials Development Center

The Technical Steering Committee for ILI convened in Santa Fe February 22-24, 2002 for its first meeting to discuss the formation and creation of the Language Materials Development Center (LMDC). The LMDC mission combines research, development and production of language materials that can be tailored for all languages. The Center will be equipped with the state-of-the-art technology. The LMDC would offer tribal members working on language revitalization programs training in the use of technology to create their own language materials. This includes most all types of printed, web, audio and video materials produced for K-12 programs and adult community programs. LMDC will also provide workshops for tribal members on the use of technology for developing materials in each language.

The Technical Steering Committee consists of volunteer members from the information technology (IT) industry, foundations, universities, tribal communities, the ILI Board and Staff, to help form a working set of goals and objectives for the LMDC. The members of the Committee are:

- Ardeth Barnhart, Consultant and Meeting Facilitator
- Steven Bird, University of Pennsylvania
- Jessica Dorr, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Bill Hill, Microsoft Corporation
- Greg Hitchcock, Microsoft

- Corporation
- Kerry Langford, IBM Rochester
- Lynne Nicholson, IBM Western Education ITS Executive
- Andy Tanabe, Jaguar Communications
- Tonia Williams, Cherokee Nation



L-R, Top: Akira Yamamoto, Tonia Williams, Jessica Dorr, Kerry Langford. Bottom: Ardeth Barnhart, Inée Slaughter, Andy Tanabe, Leslie Barnhart.

- Information Systems
- Akira Yamamoto, University of Kansas
- ILI Committee members are:
- Leslie Barnhart, ILI Fund Development Consultant
- Robert Craig, ILI Board of Directors
- Gerald Hill, ILI Board of Directors
- Tessie Naranjo, ILI Board of Directors
- Inée Yang Slaughter, ILI Executive Director
- Maura Dhu Studi, ILI Board of Directors

The Committee drafted a project plan which will serve as a basis of a detailed business plan. Participants made significant contributions in the areas of funding sources, education on core issues,

practical advice for day to day operations, staffing needs, equipment, software and space needs. Much Technical information was also shared to help shape the planning of the LMDC.

The Center will host seminars and in collaboration with other like institutions and individuals will provide educational workshops in the areas of Curriculum Development, Materials Development and Production, Teaching Training Manuals, and other topics. The Technical Steering Committee has evolved to become the Technical Advisory Committee to assist in the business plan, staff reviews and technical matters.



## Thank you IBM!

In May of 2002 The Indigenous Language Institute received a generous contribution of office furniture from IBM in Boulder, Colorado. At the same time ILI was in the process of moving to a new, larger office space. ILI would like to take this opportunity to thank Daniel R. Willis and IBM for the desks, chairs and filing cabinets. The new furniture has helped our new office space run much more smoothly.

ILI would like to thank Layli LongSoldier and Kate Nilsson for traveling to Boulder and picking up our donated furniture.



# Message From the President

Since 2001 ILI has gone through tremendous growth. This has not been easy but the small staff has been thoroughly dedicated. The National Ad Campaign to build our Endowment Fund, which was realized through the efforts of Board Member Jerry Thompson and Ruben Postaer & Associates (RPA) began in the May issue of *U.S. News & World Report*, West Coast edition.

The second ad appeared in the August issue of *Scientific American* which also featured an article on endangered languages, followed by appearances in *Fast Company*(August), *Business Week* (August 19) and *News From Indian Country* (late June, August, September). Other national magazines have committed to placing these ads: *Forbes*, *Oprah*, *American Indian Report*, *Men's Health*, *Outside*.

This has been priceless in its effect on the public consciousness of ILI's work especially considering that it was done *pro bono* by RPA. It is an accomplishment of which we should all be proud. There remains much to do in this area, however. As you know, our Honorary Campaign Chairman is Wes Studi whom you may have seen recently in "Christmas in the Clouds". Wes has been extremely generous with his time helping to promote this and other ILI projects.

The ILI Annual Youth Language Fair was also replicated locally in Oneida, WI in June and was well received there. Other communities have inquired about such an event and have been encouraged to initiate such events that fit their own needs.

In February ILI co-sponsored a local honoring event of four Wabenaki communities in Maine: the MicMac, the Passamaquoddy, the Maliseet and the Penobscot which honored more than 30 elder speakers of their languages. Each of the more than 100 participants spoke and more than 50 spoke in their language. I was present on behalf of ILI at that event.

Another important event was our first ILI Board meeting outside of Santa Fe, hosted by Joel Frank from the Seminole Tribe of Florida. We also got to observe a workshop of the ONLA/ILI Regional Workshop on the Seminole Language where Board Member Margaret Mauldin taught.

At this meeting the annual Honorees for Native language speakers and teachers were selected: Maria Hin-



Neil McCaleb, Gerry Hill, Charles Blackwell at the reception in D.C. hosted by the Honorable Charles Blackwell.

ton (92) Oneida Longhouse Faith Keeper, teacher, author and grandmother of Ernie Stevens and many great-grandchildren; and Alice Snow, Seminole, Mikosukee language teacher who works incessantly with a team of dedicated people in Brighton, Florida. They will be honored at the Language Symposium Banquet in Albuquerque on November 9th.

Inée Slaughter and I traveled to Washington D.C. in July for several events arranged by Liz Hill our PR consultant. These included meeting with the staff of The Smithsonian, The National Museum of the American Indian, National Geographic, NCAI and a formal reception for ILI at the home of Charles Blackwell, the Chickasaw Nation Ambassador to the United States.

The reception was attended by more than 50 very prominent Indian People including Assistant Secretary of the Interior Neil McCaleb, NCAI Executive Director Jackie Johnson, President of Native American Management Services Pat Parker.

Native language remains the single most characteristic of Indian identity in every community I have visited in the past four years. As an attorney I believe it is not only the basis of our identity but also our tribal sovereignty, and as such it must be consciously protected and advanced. I encourage all efforts of Native communities to continue our traditions through the use of their languages.

One acquires their languages not from books or linguists but by hearing it used on a daily basis. Language Immersion isn't a place or a program or a linguistic concept. It is an attitude that shows itself when we hear and use our language. If you are a talker then talk as much as you can. Help create opportunities for yourself and others to acquire your language. This is our cultural imperative. The possibilities are as infinite as the challenge.

Ta ne thoniyole on (that's as far as I will go right now)

On^giwah,

On^yota'aga (Standing Stone People, Oneida)

# NATIVE LANGUAGE NETWORK

SUMMER/FALL 2002

## The Indigenous Language Institute

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Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Santa Fe, NM  
Permit No. 471

Editor: Inée Slaughter, assisted by Dawn Webster  
Contributing Writers: Gerald Hill, Liz Hill, Inez Russell  
Production Design: John Cole GRAPHIC DESIGNER

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## Grants to Support ILI Programs

ILI is very happy to announce the grants we have received to date in 2002. We are most grateful to the foundation and agency for their support!

- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, through their Native American Grant Program, will enable ILI to begin the planning of its Language Materials Development Center which is scheduled to open in Santa Fe, NM in late 2002/early 2003.
- The Administration for Native Americans (ANA) Planning Grant will enable ILI to continue the Field Survey Project to visit more language programs across the country.

## ILI Workshops Presented at Conferences

ILI presented workshops about the findings of our two-year national language survey at the following national conferences.

- "Journey Home: Language and Cultural Preservation Conference", Center for School Improvement, Office of Indian Education Programs, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Portland, Oregon, March 11-13, 2002. Presenters: Tessie Naranjo, Sheilah Nicholas and Inée Slaughter.
- "Preserve Our Culture, Strengthen Our Economy & Build Our Future", organized by National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) for their Trade Show,



Terrv Guittierez, Tessie Naranjo,  
Carol Brewer, Inée Slaughter

- San Diego, California, April 23-26, 2002. Presenters: Gerald Hill, Jerry Thompson, Inée Slaughter.
- "Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museums: Preserving Our Language, Memory and Lifeways", Institute of Museum & Library Services, Mesa, Arizona, May 7-10, 2002. Presenters: Ofelia Zepeda, Inée Slaughter.

