



AAIA
Association on American Indian Affairs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Faith Roessel

Business Phone: [240-314-7155](tel:240-314-7155)

Email: fr.aaia@indian-affairs.org

ASSOCIATION ON AMERICAN INDIAN AFFAIRS ANNOUNCES INDIGENOUS
INTERNATIONAL REPATRIATION CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 25 AND 26, 2017
ISLETA RESORT AND CASINO, ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

WASHINGTON – Today, AAIA Board President Faith Roessel announced the convening of the Third Indigenous International Repatriation Conference on September 25th and 26th, 2017 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This year's theme, "*Journey Home: Empowering Indigenous Indian Communities in International Repatriation*," focuses on how Native communities and tribes can become more informed advocates in seeking the return of ancestors, cultural, and sacred items to their homelands.

Acoma Governor, Kurt Riley, headlines the conference with the keynote address on the Acoma Pueblo's quest to regain the Acoma Shield, put up for auction in Paris, France. Brian Vallo, Director of the Indian Arts Research Center at the School for Advanced Research in Santa Fe, will present a joint project with the National Museum of the American Indian on guidelines for tribal communities and museums to work toward greater collaboration.

Roessel expressed, "The conference has been an important centerpiece of AAIA's efforts to educate and bring like-minded individuals together. It continues AAIA's decades-long advocacy in repatriation and the protection of our cultural resources."

Conference topics include the following areas:

- History of Repatriation Movement and Its Future
- Gaining Insight: The Dynamics of the Tribe and Museum Relationship
- Guidelines for Collaboration: Community and Museum
- Lessons Learned: Case Studies in Indigenous Domestic & International Repatriation
- Legislative and Policy Updates
- Blueprint for Action: Dialogue for Change
- Special One Day Native Youth Track

Click [here](#) to view the conference agenda

The Association on American Indian Affairs is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that serves and advocates for Indian tribes and Native Americans in areas of education, health, children and youth, environmental and cultural preservation, and tribal sovereignty. AAIA is governed by an all Indian Board of Directors from all regions of Indian Country and works in close cooperation with Native communities, tribes and other organizations with related missions. AAIA is unique in that, in addition to providing assistance in areas of national Indian policy, also supports programs on a grass roots level. AAIA was founded in New York City in 1922.

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