Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The 2023 Indigenous Peoples Summit will take place across two days in Omaha, Nebraska, ancestral home of the Umoⁿhoⁿ Nation

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The 2023 Indigenous Peoples Summit will take place across two days in Omaha, Nebraska, ancestral home of the Umoⁿhoⁿ Nation. The public-facing elements of the Summit will take place between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at Metropolitan Community College South Omaha Campus on Wednesday, August 9 and Thursday, August 10. The financial cost to attend is $50.00 per day or $90.00 for a two-day ticket. There is no financial cost for attendance for Indigenous People. Registration is required for all attendees. Register HERE. Additional private and ticketed events will take place at other times and places throughout the week.

The Summit will feature a mighty schedule of presentations, panels, and Indigenous cuisine and music. The two-day experience promises to be a multilateral, dynamic, interdisciplinary gathering of Indigenous and nonindigenous people from all walks of life to discuss this year’s themes of Indigenous womanhood, seedkeeping, and rematriation, a word meaning a return to matriarchal structures and worldviews. Perennial issues of climate change, decolonization, the rights of nature, the necessity of clean water in this region and globally, and food sovereignty will also be discussed.

While many symposia, summits, conferences and gatherings take place on this day, few of these events draw from such a professionally, geographically, demographically diverse array of speakers, panelists, and guests as the Indigenous Peoples Summit.

The event is collaboratively designed by a planning committee and is co-hosted by two Omaha-based nonprofit organizations: Comunidad Maya Pixin Ixim and the Maya Economic Development Corporation.

Confirmed Summit speakers and panelists include Great Grandmother Mary Lyons (Ojibwe), Deb Echo-Hawk (Pawnee), Renee San Souci (Umoⁿhoⁿ), Dr. Elena Darshan Campos (Boricua), Chef Anothony Warriror (Absenent Shawnee/Mvskoke/Sicangu Lakota), Chef Nico Williams (GWY,Dąłp Cherokee Nation) , Dr. Kristina Kintziger and many others. A full list of speakers, panelists, and topics may be found here.

The Summit’s goals are as follows:

- **Goal 1**: Create Working Councils of Indigenous Peoples on urgent issues, such as Conservation and Indigenous Agriculture Systems
- **Goal 2**: Create international, multilateral, cross-sector conversation around the most pressing issues facing Indigenous People
- **Goal 3**: Inspire greater appreciation and preservation of Indigenous Spiritualities and The Sacred through the incorporation of ceremony, ritual, prayer and other forms of spiritual expression
Goal 4: Produce written formal documents to guide action toward greater Justice for and Sovereignty of Indigenous People including trade

Led by Renee Sans Souci, an educational and cultural consultant and member of the Umo"ho" Nation, Summit Planning Committee members seek to convene the World’s Indigenous Peoples in collaborative international, multilateral, cross-sector conversation to advance our inherent and inalienable spiritual, territorial, political, and economic Sovereignty; consistent with the Principles of Equality, where men, women, and two-spirited people in all expressions of humanity are co-creators of society where the rights of Children and Nature are protected.

Committed Summit sponsors include Oatly; The Nature Conservancy; University of Nebraska Medical Center Water, Climate & Health Program; and ACLU Nebraska.

Questions about the Summit may be directed to Summit Planning Committee Members Sheelah Bearfoot (sbearfoot@gmail.com) and Renee Sans Souci (renee.sans.souci@gmail.com).

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About the Summit’s Co-Hosts:

**Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim** (CMPI) is a 501 (c)(3) organization of the Maya Community in Nebraska dedicated to empowering the Maya people through community development programs. CMPI’s mission is to improve the health and well-being of Mayan people through community development strategies in Omaha, Nebraska, the United States, and Q'anjob'al Maya territory consistent with the Q'anjob'al Maya system of social organization, in honorable relationships with U.S. sovereign tribal nations, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN DRIP). More information: [www.pixanixim.org](http://www.pixanixim.org) // leah@pixanixim org

**Maya Economic Development Corporation** (MEDC) is a 501 (c)(3) organization of the Maya Community in Nebraska furthering the economic integration and advancement of Mayan citizens by fostering entrepreneurship. The ongoing mission of the Maya Economic Development Corporation, as a Q'anjob'al Maya-led enterprise, is to foster entrepreneurship among all Maya citizens, create socially responsible investment opportunities, provide access to competitive capital for Maya-owned businesses, and drive trade with other Indigenous communities and the world. More information: [https://www.linkedin.com/company/maya-economic-development-corporation/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/maya-economic-development-corporation/) // luis@mayaedc.org