



2022

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES SUMMIT
Opening Ceremonies

Tuesday, August 9, 2022 | 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Maya Sacred Community Site
Maya Community Center
4913 S. 25th St. Ste. 100 Omaha, Nebraska



Commemoration Ceremony

VERNON MILLER, FORMER CHAIRMAN (2013-2016), OMAHA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA AND IOWA

JEFF GILPIN, ROADMAN, NATIVE AMERICAN CHURCH

DR. RUDI MITCHELL, FORMER CHAIRMAN (1992-95), OMAHA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA AND IOWA

LUIS MARCOS, SPIRITUAL AND POLITICAL AUTHORITY, Q'ANJOB'AL MAYA NATION

LOLA MARINA JUAN TOMAS, SPIRITUAL AND POLITICAL AUTHORITY, Q'ANJOB'AL MAYA NATION

GWEN VARGAS PORTER, SECRETARY, TRIBAL COUNCIL, OMAHA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA AND IOWA

Former Chairman Miller will commemorate the diplomatic relations between the Omaha Nation and the Q'anjob'al Maya Nation, first established in 2015, and formally announce the 2022 resolution to continue this alliance.

The continued diplomatic relations will expand to include cooperation for spiritual, political, economic, cultural, and social development for both nations.





Cedar Ceremony

JEFF GILPIN, ROADMAN, NATIVE AMERICAN CHURCH

DR. RUDI MITCHELL, FORMER CHAIRMAN (1992-95), OMAHA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA AND IOWA

LUIS MARCOS, SPIRITUAL AND POLITICAL AUTHORITY, Q'ANJOB'AL MAYA NATION

LOLA MARINA JUAN TOMAS, SPIRITUAL AND POLITICAL AUTHORITY, Q'ANJOB'AL MAYA NATION

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The Cedar Ceremony is a blessing ceremony in which the officiant adds cedar tree branchlets (needles) to burning embers. An eagle feather is used to fan and absorb the essence of the cedar smoke. Two honorees will be blessed by the officiant with a prayer as the eagle feather touches their bodies and imbues them with the essence of cedar smoke.

NOTE: No pictures are to be taken **during the prayer portion of the Cedar Ceremony as we do not want to interrupt the transmission of our words to Wakonda (God).**



Breaking the Mourning Ceremony

DR. RUDI MITCHELL, FORMER CHAIRMAN, OMAHA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA AND IOWA,
AND FAMILY MEMBERS

JEFF GILPIN, SPOKESPERSON, ROADMAN, NATIVE AMERICAN CHURCH

The Breaking The Mourning Ceremony is an Omaha cultural tradition in which a person ends the mourning period.

Four elders will break the mourning of a grieving person through a ritual that signifies the combing of the hair the mourning person.

The mourning person then gives gifts to individuals to officially end the period of mourning.

END OF OPENING CEREMONIES

Guests may proceed indoors for brief coffee and light breakfast.

*Summit continues at the CAM Building of the Metropolitan Community College South Omaha
Campus (2909 Edward Babe Gomez Avenue)*

at 9:00am

