



Miss Indian World Youth Art Project 2011

@ the Gathering of Nations Powwow



ATTENTION TEACHERS:

VISION: From Dakota Brant, Miss Indian World 2010-2011

There are three things that have been prominent in my life in terms of my where my passions and commitments lie; my language, my people, and the land. As Miss Indian World I find myself both responsible with and committed to developing an idea of how best to reach my potential as a servant to Indian Country, and to focus my strengths in these three areas. My own education has brought me to the threshold of being one who can be of benefit to the redevelopment of our National identities, as I am a lifelong learner of the Mohawk language, and have earned my Degree in Indigenous Environmental Studies.

As your current reigning Miss Indian World, it is my dream to pursue a project for the 2011 Gathering of Nations powwow that will be the collective effort of every youth in Indian Country, Kindergarten to Grade 12. I want to focus my attention to the youth as they are our future, foundation, and give us the reason to live. If I had to ask myself one question I would ask "what am I doing to give my children something to be proud of?" Focusing on the combined effort of us today, what is Indian Country going to look like for them? In 20 years? In 50 years?

THE PROJECT:

The project which I am writing about is simply called "***Gathering of Nations 2011: The Year of the Youth***". It will be an Art Exhibition in which we invite all American Indian youth to submit an art project of what they feel they want their community to look like in 20 years. I have spent my university education focusing on Community Development for Indigenous communities and I continue to find youth to be the voice with most creativity, ingenuity, and conscious of what our communities need to raise children that feel wanted and encouraged by their own people to reach their potential in life.

This is my project and dream for the GON 2011. I feel that information can be distributed to every school in Indian Country and can be treated as a class project in which this will be promoted as being the world's largest American Indian art exhibition at the world's largest powwow! All art will be exhibited on the Gathering of Nations Web Site from January-May 2011. The best pieces of artwork will be digitally displayed at the Gathering of Nations Powwow in April.

TEACHERS: If you would like to have your class/students participate. Have each student create an original work of art on 1) white 8 ½" x 11" paper (standard printing paper); 2) using either, pencil (colored), ink, charcoal or paint; 3) art MUST be delivered DIGITALLY to Gathering of Nations either using a digital photo or scanned and emailed as either a Jpeg file or a TIF file to Gathering of Nations at Melonie@gonmail.com.

DEADLINE for submitting photos is January 30, 2011, or if you wish to submit them by mail: Must be mailed by January 21, 2011 to: Gathering of Nations Art Project, 3301 Coors Blvd NW #R300, Albuquerque, NM 87120, USA. Be sure to include the name of the student, grade, tribe, name of school and the title of the artwork. If you have any further questions on this project only, you may email to Melonie@gonmail.com.