Inter-Tribal Youth Climate Leadership Congress

July 5-12, 2016

National Conservation Training Center, Shepherdstown, West Virginia

Student Applications now being accepted!

Student enrollment from each community may be limited

Application Deadline: April 4, 2016

See attached Application Form

Join students from across the country to tackle climate change and related environmental issues impacting Native peoples. The mission of the Inter-Tribal Youth Climate Leadership Congress is to develop future conservation leaders with the skills, knowledge, and tools to address climate change and conservation challenges to better serve their schools and home communities.

"…I felt so empowered when we all came together. I felt that we could all change the world because we were all so motivated to do so. We know how our traditional ways are being affected due to climate change. We all want to keep our traditional ways and this can only happen if we come together for this common cause. The future belongs to us and we are the ones who can change what is happening..."

-2015 Congress Student

THE DETAILS

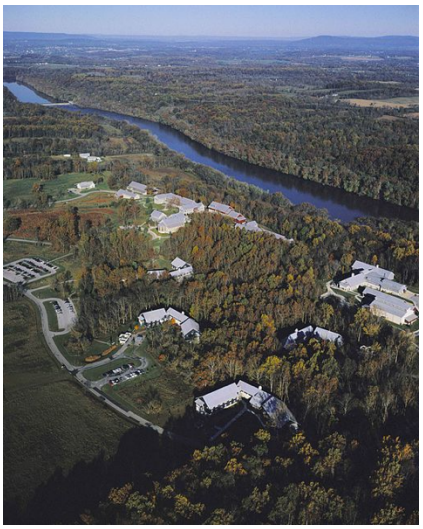
WHO: Small groups (3-5) of Native American, Alaskan Native, and Pacific Islander High School Junior* Students

Accepted students will travel with an adult mentor from their community to and from the event.

WHAT: The Inter-Tribal Youth Climate Leadership Congress

WHEN: July 5-12, 2016

WHERE: National Conservation Training Center (NCTC), Shepherdstown, West Virginia, followed by an overnight trip to Washington DC!



COST: None

All student travel to the Congress, lodging, and food costs at NCTC will be paid for by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and other federal agency partners.

*Students beginning their senior year Fall 2016

Inter- Tribal Youth Climate Leadership Congress (ITYCLC)

July 5 – July 12, 2016

National Conservation Training Center, Shepherdstown, West Virginia

To: School Principals, Teachers, and Youth Program Leaders,

The Inter-Tribal Youth Climate Leadership Congress is a week-long student climate change conference for approximately 100 Native American, Alaskan Native, and Pacific Islander high school students interested in environmental issues, natural resource conservation, community leadership and public service. We aim to achieve a broad representation of Native communities across the country, so student enrollment from each community is competitive and may be limited. This event is sponsored by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Geological Survey, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Students competitively selected via the attached application will be admitted as a school or community group of 3-5 current junior students (becoming seniors Fall 2016) with 1 adult mentor per group, who will serve as their event travel supervisor and team leader during the entire event. Travel to and from the event, conference lodging/meals for both students and adult mentors will be paid for by the federal agency partners.

Please distribute the attached application materials to your most engaged and mature junior students, especially those demonstrating aptitudes in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, Environmental Studies, Traditional Ecological Knowledge, Community Health, and Community Leadership, with the ultimate goal being groups of 3-5 student leaders to represent their school or community accompanied by an adult mentor.

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Goal of the ITYCLC

The goal is to foster an inclusive, meaningful educational event for aspiring Native youth leaders interested in addressing climate change issues facing Native American, Alaskan Native, and Pacific Islander communities. The Congress will include a diverse mix of Native communities from various geographic locations, including both urban and rural students. The Congress teaches about climate change and environmental conservation to help develop leadership skills for addressing conservation issues in Native communities.

Benefits of Attending

- Opportunity for students to actively participate with a larger group of like-minded youth on issues related to climate change and natural resource conservation in their home communities.
- A chance to identify key climate-related issues facing tribal youth and their communities—involvement inspires change!
- Opportunity to learn and demonstrate leadership and communications skills to engage with peers and home communities about climate change.
- Grant funding available after the Congress for climate-related student projects in their communities.
- The Congress will conclude with a guided, educational overnight trip to Washington, DC, which includes a visit to the National Museum of the American Indian among other national attractions.

Questions?

If you have any questions about the program or the application process, please contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service via e-mail at nctc_deo_programs@fws.gov or by phone at 304-876-7772 or 304-876-7388.

Student Application

Please fill out all fields completely either typed on a computer or neatly printed in blue or black ink. Submit completed applications via e-mail to: nctc_deo_programs@fws.gov or via fax to: 304-876-7231.

Application Deadline: **April 4, 2016**

Student Information

First Name: Last Name:

Home Address:

Street Address

City State Zip Code

Birth date (Month, Day, Year):

Contact Phone Number:

Home

Cell

Contact E-mail address:

School Information

School (Name):

School Address:

Street Address

City State Zip Code

Your Current Grade in School (Check one)*:

☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12

**To be eligible, you should be a current junior in high school who will become a senior Fall 2016*

Mentor who would accompany you to the Congress (Check one):

- ☐ Principal
- ☐ Teacher
- ☐ Guidance counselor
- ☐ Youth leader
- ☐ Family member
- ☐ Other:

Mentor Contact Information

Mentor First Name: Mentor Last Name:

Mentor Address:

Street Address

City State Zip Code

Mentor Contact Phone number:

Home or Work:

Mentor Contact E-mail address:

Additional Student Information

Extracurricular activities you participate in:

Community organizations you are a part of:

Volunteer experience you have had:

Any accomplishments or awards you have received:

Application Questions

Please answer each of the questions in 600 words or less.

1. What are 3 climate change impacts that you are observing in your home community and how are they being addressed?

2. How can you help lead your community in meeting the challenges of climate change?

Questions?

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