

Plains Indian Woman Hunting Buffalo ca 1837

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Bay Area American Indian Two Spirits



Dance of the Berdache ca 1830 by George Catlin

Bay Area American Indian Two Spirits (B.A.A.I.T.S) is hosting the Twelfth Annual International Two Spirit Gathering for 1999. At these gatherings. Two Spirit Peoples (Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual, Transgendered people of American Indian ancestry) and their invited guests come together to socialize, share and network. Cultural activities will be held, including a Pow Wow, talent show, a giveaway, talking circles, sweat lodge ceremonies. This event is open to all Native American people, their families and invited guests, however it is not an educational forum for non-Native peoples. Although we do not wish to question people's metaphysical beliefs, this is a gathering for people who are Native American in this lifetime. Non-Native peoples are welcome to attend as sponsored guests of Native American attendees.

The Tyelfth Annual International Two Spirit Gathering will be held during the Labor Day holiday weekend September 1999. Starting at 3 PM Thursday September 2nd and ending at 3 PM Monday September 5th. This event is to be held in beautiful Saratoga California, south of San Francisco. The cost of the event is \$150 (US funds) and includes cabin style group lodging and three meals a day (camping is available). If you have special dietary or medical needs, please notify us so that we may accommodate you. Scholarships are available on a limited basis. Minors under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. The camp is 20 minutes from San Jose International Airport and 45 minutes from San Francisco International Airport and 45 minutes from Oakland International Airport. Fares and frequency of flights vary from airport to airport. Please check with your travel agent for the best available flights. Detailed directions to the campground will be sent with confirmed registration. There are reliable and inexpensive shuttles available from the airports.

Those requesting scholarships should apply by July 1, 1999. Non Scholarship registrations should be received by August 1, 1999. Later registration and on-site registrations will be done on a space available basis. Scholarship requests received after July 1 will be subject to availability of funds. We are in the process of applying for grants and are holding fundraisers to enhance our scholarship fund. If you are able to donate money for this fund in order to enable others to attend the Gathering please let us know. Checks and or money orders for registration (please NO cash) or donations to the scholarship fund should be made out to BAAITS with "registration" or "scholarship donation" in the memo space of the check.

For more information contact Bay Area American Indian Two Spirits at 415-282-4176 Fax 415-522-2470 or via email at bayarea2spirits@hotmail.com or online at http://www.geocities.com/westhollywood/castro/8260

Bay Area American Indian Two Spirits meet weekly at MCC Church 18th and Eureka in San Francisco's Castro neighborhood. Contact us for meeting times.

Thank you,