

2019 Think Indian Grantees

Idaho State University (ISU) – Their Bengal Warrior Camp program served 61 middle school and high school Native youth in July, preparing them for college and adult life skills. Physical and creative activities like the obstacle course, vision boarding and t-shirt design reinforced the classroom lessons, and inspired the students to think about the future.

Redlands University – On September 20th, Redlands University unveiled a mural dedicated to local Native peoples, cultures and history. 63 Native students and 12 adults from different local community groups helped create the mural, led by local indigenous artist Joe Galarza. The project kicked-off earlier in the summer with written reflections from Native children about what it meant to “Think Indian.” Hundreds of current and prospective Native students have viewed the mural since its completion.

College of Menominee Nation (CMN) – CMN held their annual theatrical pageant “Legend of Hiawatha” on July 30th. They promoted educational opportunities to hundreds of pageant participants and audience members in the production program, with free t-shirts, and with Native scholar profiles that were a part of the event’s promotion.

George Washington University (GWU) – The Indigenous Guide to DC was launched as a mobile app on July 2nd, and provides a walking tour of sites of importance to Native peoples in our nation’s capital. The app builds upon 10 years of work by GWU’s Center for Indigenous Politics and Policy, and was also used as an educational tool for Native students in their internship and pre-college programs. It has been downloaded almost 1,300 times, received wide media coverage, and will continue to add features.

New Mexico State University (NMSU) – The Dream Keepers Summer Camp was held June 16-28, serving 36 Native New Mexico high school students. The camp prepares the students for college through on-campus experiences, best practice seminars and inspiring examples. The students participated in a community mural creation, led by Native artist Saba, and attended a community concert featuring Native musical artists.

White Earth Tribal and Community College (WETCC) – White Earth created an educational presentation about boarding schools, and their traumatic effects on Native people. They also hosted an event on Sept 18th to allow tribal members to share their generational hurt, and offer healing. They hope to share this educational experience beyond their institution and community.