



Vol III,
No. 12

CAMP CRIER:

NEWSLETTER OF THE COLORADO SPRINGS INDIAN CENTER

January
2011

701 N. 20th Street Colorado Springs, CO 80904 719-599-8630 www.coloradospringsindiancenter.com



The Colorado Springs Indian Center 2007—2010 and Beyond: Seasons and Cycles

*A State of the Center Message from
the Board of Directors*

(2) Why Are We?

CSIC Mission Statement:

Our mission is to bring unity to our American Indian, Alaska Native community and the community at large, by fostering emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual well being.

CSIC Purpose Statement:

The purpose of the CSIC is to reach out to the American Indian / Alaskan Native community, and the community at large, in the Pikes Peak region to identify needs, to develop new programs and/or network with existing service providers for more culturally sensitive social, health, education and other services for American Indians / Alaskan Natives. The CSIC also acts as the focal point for the Native American community by sponsoring social / cultural events and activities.

Strategic Goals for the CSIC

- Strategy #1: Create a sense of community for the American Indian people in the Pikes Peak Region
- Strategy #2: Provide support for American Indian youth to encourage them to graduate from both high school and college
- Strategy #3: Increase access to culturally relevant social and family services, mental health, health care, and educational services
- Strategy #4: Increase awareness and understanding of American Indian culture and traditions in the Pikes Peak Region
- Strategy #5: Develop the leadership capacity of American Indians in the Pikes Peak Region

The implementation objectives for each of these strategies can be found online at <http://www.coloradospringsindiancenter.com/about/>

The mission, purpose, goals and objectives provide the framework that guides the decisions and the activities that the Board of Directors use in guiding the development of the Colorado Springs Indian Center.

Greetings!

In October of 2010, the Colorado Springs Indian Center entered its fourth year. In terms of the Circle teachings, this is the season of winter. As we know from Nature, winter can be challenging and, even dangerous.

While in Colorado Springs, we do not experience the extreme winter cold and snow, many of us know how winter can be an trying time emotionally, mentally, physically and spiritually. The Elders have told us that in winter there are several questions that we need to ask: (1) **Who are we?** (2) **Why are we?** (3) **Where are we going?** We would like to address these questions in relation to the current status of the CSIC. The Interim Board of Directors has completed its first year.



(1) Who are We?

Our focus this year has been to create links to community organizations in order to position the CSIC for funding, for access to resources, for visibility as an educational and cultural resource for other community organizations, including schools and non-profit agencies that work with Native people.

- Our website was launched in January to expand the reach of the CSIC to the larger community, provide access to resources (via links)

and information to benefit members of the local Native American community. Part of that communication effort resulted in the design of the newsletter to incorporate more photos, celebration of community members, partners, and posters about local community events.

• Each month we have held a community dinner for 30 –75 people. The Tecumseh Center provided the main dish and community members brought pot luck items. During the dinners there were “kitchen” activities for children and on occasion, (see page 2)

Board of Directors

James Ramirez (So. Ute) ,
Chairman of the Board
Don Coyhis (Mohican)
Marguerite Cantu (So. Ute/Cherokee)
Karen Medville, Ph.D. (Cherokee)
Lorenzo Tsosie (Navajo)

Newsletter contact:

info@coloradospringsindiancenter.com

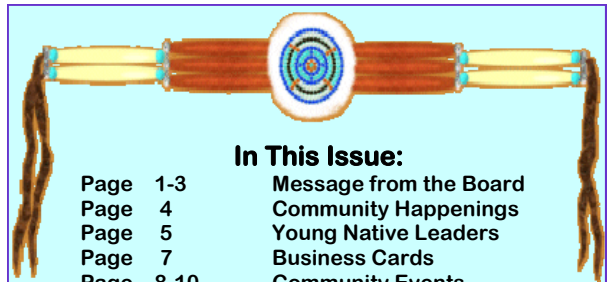
Publisher:

Colorado Springs Indian Center
info@coloradospringsindiancenter.com

The Colorado Springs Indian Center is sponsored by White Bison Inc.

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“State of the Center”



Greetings from the Board —Who Are We? Continued

young people participated in sports activities in the gymnasium. Our programs were informal and focused on information sharing: what services are offered by whom, getting to know one another, and occasionally we had speakers. And we ate wonderful food!



- Before we moved to our new location at Trinity United Methodist Church we held Steering Committee Meetings once a month, offered a variety of youth activities, Elder Story telling events, youth basketball events, bake sales, and volunteers guided youth in writing articles for the newsletter and in other arts, crafts and community activities. Some of these continued through the coming year and others did not.
- In January of 2010 we held an open house event to introduce community members and local organizations to our new facilities at Trinity United Methodist Church. Approximately 200 people shared conversation, snacks, and information about the CSIC. We distributed our CSIC Vision book to all who came and then posted it on the website:

<http://www.coloradospringsindiancenter.com/about/>



- In May, over 100 community members celebrated the graduation of 35 Native people from Kindergarten through Doctoral level!
- The largest gathering was the Garden of the Gods– Rock Ledge Ranch Powwow. 3000 people attended that event and the collaborative effort that was made with other community organizations (Rock Ledge Ranch, Project Lighthouse Ministry, Pueblo Friendship Powwow Association, One Nation Walking Together) was just awesome! (The October Newsletter describes this event).
- Throughout the summer and fall, Board Members and volunteers participated in various community events to increase visibility of the CSIC: Territory Days, Tri-Lakes Intertribal Fair, KOA Camp Indian Arts Fair, the Woodland Park Indian Arts Market & Powwow, and the Project Lighthouse Christmas Powwow. (Stories are in the newsletters).
- Board members attended events sponsored by many community based organizations and have appeared on TV and radio to present information about the CSIC.



The CSIC has been blessed by the Creator. We have been honored to receive the financial, emotional, spiritual and material, and creative gifts donated by so many friends and supporters. We would not be here without your help and encouragement. We have made many wonderful friendships and helpful relationships within the Front Range area. With the help of our community partners, we have been able to assist many people who need help.

Thank you and Many Blessings!



- Board members and other volunteers attended leadership trainings and other gatherings sponsored by the El Pomar Foundation
- Several community members received scholarships to attend recovery and healing trainings through the Wellbriety Institute.
- One Nation Walking Together and CornMasters sponsored a Christmas Giveaway during the December Community Dinner. Nearly 70 people attended the dinner, made new friends, and took home blankets, coats, sweaters, gift boxes and good feelings.
- We were honored to have the commitment of Marva Black Elk (Teton) who answers the phone and responds to emails once a week, Kim Green who has offered to help us write grants, and Carolena Jackson (Navajo) who is our link to the Education community.
- Beading workshops were held in the summer and recovery oriented Talking Circles met in the spring.
- We saw the women’s association connected to the CSIC, so she gathered a group of women, who then created a plan and began implementing their plan with two big events, a Cookie bake day, and a day of making Christmas Baskets for seniors. More than 25 women and children attended each of these events. (See the stories in the December newsletter).
- We have partnered with the Greenberg Foundation to support the *When our Land was Sacred* exhibit at the East Library in February.
- During all of this time, we have had the financial, emotional, mental, spiritual, and physical support of White Bison, Inc., with whom we share space and whose resources fill in the gaps that limited means do not fill.



“State of the Center”



Greetings from the Board....

(3) Where are we Going?

Yes, we have been busy!! And it has been an exciting year! So that brings us to the future! Here is a list of activities and events that our members have suggested. They are wonderful community sharing cultural and educational activities:

Here are the activities people tell us they want:

- Drum clinic
- Dance clinic
- Quilting
- Family picnic
- Field Trips
- Parade Float
- Story telling
- CSIC Princess
- Learning from the Elders
- Healing from Unresolved Grief
- Watching Native Films
- Talking Circles
- Spiritual meetings
- Sharing of Cultural traditions
- Learning about our History
- Learning about various tribal customs



This is the kind of support we need:

- People to help us get the word out in more places about the activities we have (social networking, community newspapers, and corporation/military newspapers).
- A fundraising team that can develop relationships with sponsors and community donors.
- Parents who want to help with youth activities.
- Individuals who want to plan and implement community gatherings and cultural activities on a long term basis.
- Volunteers who can help with short term administrative and clerical projects.
- Volunteer who are willing to take on a more project management role helping to schedule, manage and staff the many projects that are suggested.
- Help us connect with the Native people who don't know about the Center.
- Develop a demographic database of names, addresses, needs and skills so we can tell potential funders who we serve.
- Volunteers to sort, catalog and inventory the various donations (i.e. books and supplies) that we receive.
- Individuals in recovery to lead 12 Step circles for women and for men.



So we are asking your help to get where we are going....

And that brings us back to those three questions....In relation to the Colorado Springs Indian Center in 2011, where should we be going?

- Who are we? Why are we?
- What is your vision for the CSIC?
- What should our Board be doing?
- Where should our focus be?



- Do we need a different Board?
- Do the Strategic Goals and Objectives still reflect the needs and interests of the community?
- What are our strengths?
- What should we keep doing?
- What should we do differently?



As you can see there are many opportunities and options available for the CSIC. And, until we have more volunteers to implement these ideas, the Board agreed on the following activities for 2011:

- Continue developing relationships with schools & colleges.
- We are partnering with the Greenberg Center for Learning and Tolerance to help with the “When our Land was Sacred” Native American History Exhibit scheduled for February—March at the East Library.
- We are planning the youth graduation celebration for May.
- We are partnering with Rock Ledge Ranch, Pueblo Friendship Powwow Association, Project Lighthouse, and One Nation Walking Together to coordinate the 2nd Annual Garden of the Gods Powwow, scheduled for Sept 24, 2011.
- We will add Cultural teachings to our Community Dinners.
- Beading workshops are scheduled for Jan 26, Feb 2, Feb 9.
- We will support & encourage the CSIC Women’s Circle.

In the meantime, we have implemented the following actions:

- We have posted volunteer position descriptions on page 8 of the newsletter. The position descriptions and the applications are posted on the homepage of the website.
- We will be having a planning session at our regular January 22 Community Dinner. There, we will be requesting that you complete the Community Needs Assessment. And we will be asking participants to help us address the questions for the coming year: Who are we? Why are we? And Where are we going?

We Invite You to Join Us and Make Your Voice Heard!

*Many Blessings,
Jim Blackwolf Ramirez (So. Ute)*



Community Happenings



Denver Art Museum American Indian Art



The Denver Art Museum has remodeled its American Indian Art exhibit. The newly remodeled gallery opening is January 30, 2011. The new gallery features American Indian and Northwest Coast exhibits, including art from pre-historic to contemporary. The collection includes over 18,000 objects. Visitor favorites can still be found, along with hundreds of brand new items in the collection. Visit the website for more information: <http://www.denverartmuseum.org>

GCLT promotes learning, understanding, and acceptance that honors the cultural dignity of all humanity.

WHEN THE LAND WAS SACRED: OUR LIVING HERITAGE

An Exhibit of The Greenberg Center for Learning and Tolerance
FEBRUARY 1 - MARCH 4, 2011
 East Library • 5550 N. Union Blvd.

The Greenberg Center presents programs designed to explore, think critically, and dialogue about issues related to the rights, sovereignty, and contributions of Native Americans to the life of our community.

EXHIBIT GRAND OPENING & RECEPTION • Sunday, February 6
 1:30 - 3:30 P.M. **CEREMONIAL OPENING, RECEPTION AND PROGRAM**
www.thegreenbergcenter.org

ARIEL LUCKEY'S FREELAND
 Wednesday, Feb. 2
 6 p.m.
 Berger Hall, UCCS

A live performance by artist and teacher Ariel Luckey, who in story, song, and pictures tells his own tale of learning about the sacred land of his ancestors.

SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

Colorado Springs Indian Center
 "Generation to Generation"

Beading Workshop with Carolena Jackson (Navajo)

All Ages Welcome—there is no charge!

Wednesday Evenings: Jan 26, Feb 2, Feb 9, 2011
 7:00pm -9:00pm

Colorado Springs Indian Center
 @Trinity United Methodist Church
 701 N. 20th Street
 Colorado Springs, CO 80904
 719-599-8630





Recognizing Young Native American Leaders



Maria Melendez (Pueblo)

Poet Maria Melendez read her poetry on the evening of December 1st at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs.

This Pueblo poet has produced two collections, *Flexible Bones* (2010), and *How Long She'll Last in This World* (2006), both published by the University of Arizona Press and part of the Camino del Sol Series.

Maria is also the editor/publisher of the nationally-recognized literary journal, *Pilgrimage: Story, Spirit, Witness, Place*, which has published such notables as Mary Crow, William Pitt Root, David Mason, Kim Stafford, and Aleida Rodriguez. She was also interviewed by UCCS radio earlier that day.

For more information about this Young Native Leader, please contact Dr. Janice Gould, Women's and Ethnic Studies jgould@uccs.edu or by phone at 719-255-5147.



Kateri Vergez (Mohican)

is the Executive Director of White Bison, Inc. In 2000, at 16, she participated in the Sacred Hoop Journey, a 3400 mile run from Los Angeles to Washington, DC. On that trip, she distinguished herself by speaking about the prevention of domestic



violence. She was recognized with an Award of Completion by the Department of the Interior for her role in this effort. She began working for White Bison at the age of 18 and has held a variety of positions including administrative assistant, evaluation technician, trainer for the Daughters of Tradition, program coordinator, and she also monitors the Wellbriety Technical Assistance Center. She is finishing her bachelors degree at UCCS.



Ernest D. House, Jr. (Ute Mountain Ute)

former Secretary of the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs (part of the Lt Governor's Office), has been selected to co-chair Governor Hickenlooper's sixteen person transition team, which also includes Bill Hybl, Chairman and CEO of the El Pomar Foundation former Republican Governor Bill Owens, former Republican Congressman Bob Schaffer and Lt. Governor Elect, Joe Garcia.

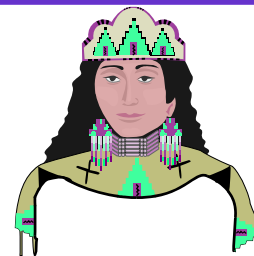
Ernest D. House Jr. currently works for the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce. The purpose of this transition team is to develop strategic plans for the governance of the State of Colorado and recruit the best candidates to oversee various state agencies. During November, the transition team held eleven public transition meetings throughout the state.





"Generation to Generation"

Recognizing our Youth CSIC Princess



2011 CSIC Princess will be selected February 2011

The families of young ladies between the ages of 10 and 16 are invited to apply (form below). Applicants will need to be able to dance at powwows and must have their own regalia. As representatives of the Colorado Springs Indian Center, they will need to be comfortable speaking to large groups of people. The Princess will be requested to perform and present at CSIC and other community events for 12 months (March—February) each year. The applicant will need to submit a paragraph describing what it would mean to her, to be Princess of the Colorado Springs Indian Center. For example, how would she represent the Center at school and in the community? The family of the Princess may have either a traditional "Give Away" at a community event, or they may sponsor and event at the Colorado Springs Indian Center.

To be considered for this honor, applications and paragraphs must be received at CSIC : address: 701 N. 20th St, Colorado Springs, CO 80904 or e-mailed to: info@coloradospringsindiancenter.com. All entries must be **received** by 5:00pm, Thursday, February 10, 2011. Princess will be crowned at the February 26th Community Dinner.

CSIC PRINCESS - 2011

Applicant's Name: _____

Parent's Name (s): _____

Tribal affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Age: _____ Grade: _____ School: _____

GPA (Grade Point Average) _____

Dance Style: _____

Please write a 100 word paragraph about what it means for your to be the CSIC Princess on an attached page (be sure to include your name).





alterNativeVoices

www.alterNativeVoices.org



2010 CENSUS: IT'S IN OUR HANDS



Buffalo Indian Room

Jewelry
Sculptures
Paintings
Beading Supplies
Silver Supplies

1240 Ken Pratt
555 Main Street
Longmont, CO 80501
303-442-8440

Bettye Star Cloud
CARLOTTA
upshaw DAVID



Custom Apache Beadwork

Tom Ortega
aka Sleeping Bear

719-289-2401

Eye Impressions
The \$59.95 Optical Store

Bring in your prescription – it belongs to you
"Finally quality eyewear at affordable prices"
Eye Exams Available

Karl Minzenmayer
"Tex"
Optician/Owner

352 Main St.
Security
391-0495
Close to Albertson's



Phone: 303-570-7482
Fax: 303-477-5351

NightEagle Gallery
nighteaglegallery@comcast.net

CUSTOM ORDERS TAKEN

Men's Bandolier
Gourd Dance P
Ribbon Shirts

Fancy Shawl outfits
Jingle Dresses
Northern / Southern
Traditional Dresses
jewelry, Fancy Feather Hair ornaments, Bead / Bone Chokers

STEVEN DREMER

Subcontractor | All phases of Drywall
Handyman | Eagle Feather Services
Over 30 yrs. experience
Mobile: 303-898-8484

Turquoise Boy Designs
Navajo Beadwork

Derrick Thompson
14072 East Iowa Drive
Aurora, CO 80012

turquoise_boy@live.com

Red Feather Woman
(Lakota / Assiniboine)

Traditional Storyteller ~ Singer Songwriter

Rose Red Elk
303-579-8713

www.redfeatherwoman.com
rose@redfeatherwoman.com



Project Lighthouse Powwow

Dec. 11, 2010



Brad Bearheart, his family, and Project Lighthouse were honored as Everyday Heroes by Channel 7 News, in December. Project Lighthouse sent 65 semi-trucks (53 footers) to three reservations in North and South Dakota filled with clothing, household items. Project Lighthouse was started in 2005 by Brad and his wife Gabrielle. The Moses Plenty Concert on Dec 10th and the Project Lighthouse Powwow on Dec 11th raised money to support this project. The story and video are posted at Channel 7 News: <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/7everydayhero/26311408/detail.html>





CSIC Community Dinner & One Nation Walking Together Christmas Give Away





Education Opportunities

For information about college programs, schools, online or on campus, undergrad and graduate (and available scholarships) check these websites:

- <http://education-portal.com>
- <http://www.collegeboard.com>
- <http://www.fastweb.com>
- <http://www.collegeanser.com>

Anthropology Scholarships for Native American students

<http://www.saa.org>
Phone: 1-202-789-8200

Religious Journalism Scholarships and Fellowships

<http://crt.umc.org/rem>
(any denomination welcome; mentoring available)
Phone: 1-888-278-4862

University of North Dakota

Scholarships for Native Students
<http://www.und.edu/newviewbook>
Call Native American Programs:
Phone: 1-800-225-5863 (1-800-CALL-UND)

Unique Mentoring Opportunity

For students interested in a career in media
Emma Bowen Foundation for Minority Interests in Media
<http://www.emmabowenfoundation.com>

CSIC WEBSITE

<http://www.coloradospringsindiancenter.com>

Visit these resources on the CSIC Website:
(Be sure to explore the TABS at the top of the page)

- Colorado Springs Indian Center Vision Book
(See: About CSIC)
- Colorado Springs Indian Center Strategic Objectives
(See: About CSIC tab)
- Beading Workshop: (See Recent News heading: right side of page)
- Volunteer application materials (See: Recent News heading—right side of page)
- K-12 Education Information (See: Education tab)
- Scholarship Information (See: Education tab)
- Resources for Veterans (See: Veterans tab)
- Community events (See: Calendar tab)



Archive of Previous Camp Crier Issues

All of the newsletters are archived on the website inside the Camp Crier post.

The website link for this resource is:

<http://www.coloradospringsindiancenter.com/2010/05/campcrier-newsletter-headline/>



Other Volunteers Needed

(info@coloradospringsindiancenter.com)

Volunteer Coordinator: 8-10 hours per week; individual to supervise volunteers, plan, schedule, and staff activities; Skills needed computer skills (PC); project management, public relations, social skills, team building, administrative, management (Length of commitment: one year)

Event/Activity Coordinators: a number of volunteers are needed to coordinate an activity, event or project. Volunteers would work with the Volunteer Coordinator to implement plans. Tasks would require 2 or 3 hours per week until activity was completed.

Help Wanted at the Colorado Springs Indian Center



"Generation to Generation"

Photo-Stories: If you attend a Native event and have photos to share, you are invited to submit them with your 'byline' and a paragraph explaining the event. Send inquiries to info@coloradospringsindiancenter.com

Office Volunteers and Community Dinner If you would like help with the community dinners, or volunteer in the CSIC office please

leave a message at 719-599-8630 or send an email to info@coloradospringsindiancenter.com





**Rock Ledge Ranch
Historic Site staff and its
Living History Association
thank you for your strong
support throughout 2010!**

**We are looking forward
to more years of family
fun and history while
showcasing history of
Colorado Springs.**

*Yesterday is history
Tomorrow is a mystery
But today is a gift
We thank you for your gift!*



THE GREENBERG CENTER FOR LEARNING AND TOLERANCE

**PRESENTS
WHEN THE LAND WAS SACRED
FEBRUARY 2011**



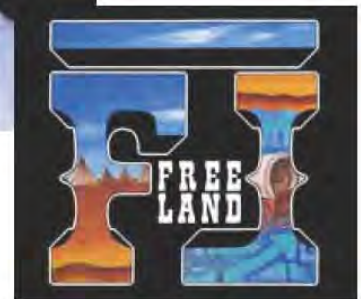
WHEN THE LAND WAS SACRED: Our Living Heritage -- In Picture, in Poetry and in Music
February 1 - March 4, 2011
PPLD East Library Gallery
Opening reception: Feb. 6, 2011--1:30 p.m.
A Greenberg Center Event

The tie between the Native Americans and the Land is unbreakable. It is the bond of the spiritual existence of life and the sustaining existence of faith. Native American faith is inextricably bound to the use of the land—for the land is itself a sacred living being. The Garden of the Gods, and the very land that is the Pikes Peak region has been sacred ground to the American Indian tribes that both dwelt and traveled here from the beginning—and that beginning can be traced back 3,400 years. This multi-media exhibit celebrates the powerful contribution of the Native American people who lived here before us and who live among us now.

1523 E. MONUMENT ·
COLORADO SPRINGS CO 80909 ·
719.634.5311
www.thegreenbergcenter.org



FREE LAND
6:00 p.m.
FEBRUARY 2, 2011
UCCS BERGER HALL
Reception Following
A Greenberg Center Event



Free Land: A Hip Hop Journey

.....from the Streets of Oakland to the Wild Wild West is a dynamic hip hop theater solo show written and performed by **Ariel Luckey**, directed by Margo Hall, and scored by Ryan Luckey. The show follows a young white man's search for his roots as it takes him from the streets of Oakland to the prairies of Wyoming on an unforgettable journey into the heart of American history. During an interview with his grandfather he learns that their beloved family ranch was actually a Homestead, a free land grant from the government. Haunted by the past, he's compelled to dig deeper into the history of the land, only to come face to face with the legacy of theft and genocide in the Wild Wild West. Caught between the romantic cowboy tales of his childhood and the devastating reality of what he learns, he grapples with the contradictions in his own life and the possibility for justice and reconciliation. **Free Land** weaves spoken word, poetry, acting, dance, and hip hop music into a compelling performance that challenges us to take an unflinching look at the truth buried in the land beneath our feet.



THE GREENBERG CENTER FOR LEARNING AND TOLERANCE:

WHEN THE LAND WAS SACRED



“When The Land Was Sacred: Our Living Heritage”

A series of programs to explore, think critically, and dialogue about issues related to the history of our region and the daily heritage that of Native American experience among us.

In February of 2011, the Greenberg Center will present “When the Land was Sacred: Our Living Heritage.” The focus of this program is to present a multimedia experience that allows the public to explore, think critically, and discuss issues related to the experience and the history of Native Americans, and to raise awareness of the Native American population in our community and our daily experience of that heritage.

***Native Americans were living in Colorado continually for 3400 years**

***Twenty different Indian tribes have been part of the historical Colorado population.**

The rich heritage of art, spirituality, community and environmental awareness that is part of the Native American culture will be central to the “When the Land was Sacred” program. Clearly one question addressed in this program, is “What is our Living Heritage?”

Following the successful model of other programs, **When the Land was Sacred** will include the following elements:

- 1) **An exhibit of photographs, art work, and video interviews** at the East Library Gallery that will be on display for the month of February, 2011--Including “50 Years of Powwow”--an exhibit from The Field Museum, Chicago, Illinois
- 2) **An opening reception** featuring speakers from the Native American community and local leaders involved in celebrating and sustaining the contribution of the Native American population in Colorado Springs
- 3) **A live theatrical, multimedia presentation entitled FREELAND by author, poet, professor Ariel Lucky**—presented at UCCS on February 2, (www.freelandproject.com)
- 4) **Curriculum materials** to be provided to local schools who wish to host the exhibit following the installation at the East Library
- 5) **A permanent, easily transportable multi media exhibit** that can be used by schools, educational programs and other venues to allow more people to experience the program

The Greenberg Center experience has been that a multimedia presentation of this type over a period of time has the most impact on Community Awareness, and achieves the GCLT goal of bringing cultural issues of tolerance and learning to greater community awareness. An unstated, simple goal of a Greenberg Center Program is to push people to action.



Contact People for The Greenberg Center for Learning and Tolerance

Robin Woods Summers: Executive Director: rwc@prismnet.com Phone: 1-866-361-3655

