

# Student Days Presentation Information

**The 55th Annual NIEA Convention & Tradeshow is hosted at the Palm Springs Convention Center in Palm Springs, CA, October 9-12, 2024.**

NIEA is accepting submissions for Student Days, held on Thursday, October 10, 2024, for students in 11th grade through Postsecondary and on Friday, October 11, 2024, for grades 6th-10th. The presentations should revolve around this year's theme, **Education Sovereignty: A Declaration of Change**.

The aim of NIEA Student Days is to promote and celebrate Indigenous students' cultural identity, leadership, advocacy efforts, financial aid literacy, and financial support available to Indigenous students. The topics can include language revitalization, inclusive education policies, mental health support, digital sovereignty, artistic expression, and higher education leadership.

Here are the strands for proposals:

## **1. Student-Led Initiatives for Indigenous Language Revitalization**

- Share success stories and challenges in preserving Indigenous languages in communities and schools.
- Showcase innovative approaches that use technology to keep languages alive and thriving.
- Inspire others with strategies for passing language skills to younger generations.

## **2. Integrating Indigenous Knowledge in School Curricula**

- Present campaigns and projects advocating Indigenous perspectives in school lessons.
- Showcase how you're making history classes and other subjects more culturally relevant and exciting.
- Demonstrate how Indigenous knowledge can be integrated into science, art, and literature classes.

## **3. Advocacy for Culturally Responsive Education Policies**

- Become a voice for change by sharing your efforts in advocating for policies that respect and celebrate Indigenous cultures in textbooks and classroom activities.
- Celebrate successful advocacy strategies and collaborations with teachers, school leaders, and community members.
- Explore ways to make your school more inclusive and welcoming for everyone.

#### 4. **Cultural Identity and Mental Health Support in Schools**

- Explore the connection between embracing cultural identity and improving mental health and academic success.
- Present initiatives and activities that support students' well-being through cultural activities, peer support groups, and understanding teachers.
- Share tips and strategies for building resilience and staying connected to your community.

#### 5. **Indigenous Youth Leadership and Empowerment**

- Inspire others with your stories of leading positive changes in your schools and communities.
- Discuss how your voice and actions can shape policies and practices that make a difference for Indigenous peoples.
- Highlight leadership opportunities and resources that have empowered you to become a powerful advocate for social justice.

#### 6. **Digital Sovereignty and Indigenous Technology Innovation**

- Explore how you're using technology to reclaim digital sovereignty and share cultural heritage.
- Present innovative projects using digital storytelling platforms, language preservation, and cultural education.
- Discuss ethical considerations and opportunities for Indigenous youth in the digital age.

#### 7. **Artistic Expressions of Identity**

- Encourage students to create art, poetry, music, or storytelling that reflects their cultural identity and connection to Indigenous heritage.
- Host a showcase or performance to celebrate their creative expressions.

#### 8. **Indigenous Leadership and Advocacy in Higher Education**

- Showcase examples of indigenous student leadership, advocacy campaigns, and grassroots movements in higher education.
- Discuss strategies for fostering Indigenous student empowerment and collective action.

#### 9. **Financial Aid Literacy and Support**

- Learn about available financial aid options and resources for Indigenous students pursuing higher education.

- Explore strategies for financial planning, budgeting, and accessing scholarships and grants.
- Financial literacy and empowerment in navigating education expenses.