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Documentary film about Native American suffrage Premieres in Taos

RECLAIMING Their VOICE:

The Native American Vote in New Mexico
narrated by Peter Coyote

Thursday, August 12, 7 pm

Taos Center for the Arts

145 Paseo Del Norte, Taos

On August 12, Taos will host the Premiere screening of ***RECLAIMING Their VOICE: The Native American Vote in New Mexico*** (narration by Peter Coyote) a new film by OSCAR-nominated, EMMY Award-winning filmmaker, Dorothy Fadiman (*STEALING AMERICA: Vote By Vote*). A panel of interviewees who appear in the film will speak and answer questions after the showing. The filmmaker will also be present at the screening. Taos, the first of three KUNM sponsored events, will be followed by screenings in Albuquerque and Santa Fe.

The Taos panel includes:

Linda Yardley – Tribal member, Red Willow people, Taos Pueblo

Billy J. Knight - Taos Community Foundation Board

Santiago Juarez – Attorney, Former Executive Director of NM PACE

GloJean Todacheene - San Juan County Commissioner

Arcie Chapa, host of KUNM's Call-in show, will be the moderator for this panel.

RECLAIMING Their VOICE follows people moving from disenfranchisement to becoming politically active. Interviewees include voices from Taos, Ohkay Owingeh, the Navajo Nation, Laguna, Acoma, plus Chicano/a voices and more. Each story illustrates courageous stances taken by Native Americans, with examples of people stepping forward and speaking out. The film highlights key moments from New Mexico history, including the Pueblo Revolt. The Taos Pueblo is part of the story with significant irregularities during recent elections. We see Precinct Captain Taos Tribal Member Linda Yardley stress the need for voting reform.

We also follow the Sacred Alliance for Grassroots Equality (SAGE) Council, a diverse group of urban minority activists, in their efforts to protect the sacred rock art of the Petroglyph National Monument from being bisected by a highway.

Another story documents the Laguna 500 Voter Project. Their goal, which they exceed, is to register at least 500 new voters before the 2004 election. Their initial frustration gives birth to a realization that it is their responsibility to be informed and involved, and not to be victimized by a system that treats them unfairly. Both stories underscore the ways people can work together to improve their lives through education and activism.

The public is warmly invited to the screenings. Admission \$5. Free admission for KUNM members includes 2 free tickets per member household and requires an RSVP stating which screening (Taos, ABQ, or Santa Fe) at membersfree@kunm.org or 505-277-3968. For details regarding the Albuquerque (Aug. 13) and Santa Fe (Aug. 15) screenings, visit our website at www.concentric.org/reclaiming.

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