

**THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF
AMERICAN INDIANS**

RESOLUTION #SPO-01-054

**Title: Support for the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) FY 2003
Federal Appropriations**

WHEREAS, we, the members of the National Congress of American Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants the inherent sovereign rights of our Indian nations, rights secured under Indian treaties and agreements with the United States, and all other rights and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and Constitution of the United States, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the health, safety and welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

WHEREAS, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) was established in 1944 and is the oldest and largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments; and

WHEREAS, the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) is a national fine arts college devoted solely to the teaching and preservation of American Indian/Alaska Native arts and culture; and

WHEREAS, the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) is a national fine arts college offering baccalaureate degrees in Museum Studies and Creative Writing and the Associate of Fine Arts degrees in 2 and 3 Dimensional arts; and

WHEREAS, IAIA has educated approximately 4,000 American Indian/Alaska Native students since its inception in 1962; and

WHEREAS, NCAI is cognizant of the positive impact IAIA has made on the recognition of American Indian/Alaska Native cultures via the arts; and

WHEREAS, NCAI is strongly committed to the enrichment and preservation of American Indian/Alaska culture and art, and to the continuance of IAIA; and

WHEREAS, NCAI and tribal leaders continue to support the IAIA's Board of Trustees as it works to ensure its future.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby support and urges the President of the United States and Congress to fully fund the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) at a level of \$5.0 million for core operation for FY 2003 and \$1.5 million for construction of the Library Technology Center; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI realizes the national recognition the institute maintains as a cultural and historical entity serving all Indian nations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI does hereby support this resolution in funding the work and mission of the Institute of American Indian Arts; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 58th Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Spokane Convention Center, in Spokane, Washington on November 25-30, 2001 with a quorum present.

Tex Hall, President

ATTEST:

Colleen Cawston, Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 58th Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Spokane Convention Center, in Spokane, Washington on November 25-30, 2001.