# **Press Release**

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# 11<sup>th</sup> Annual NATIVE ROOTS & RHYTHMS®

Native American Performing Arts Festival

Santa Fe, NM August 20, 2005

The Native Roots & Rhythms Festival is recognized as one of the nation's top venues for contemporary and traditional Native American music, dance, storytelling and comedy. Consistently known for impressive lineups, the 2005 NR&R presentation is no exception, featuring an ambitious four sensational showcases in one night sure to captivate the diverse national audience NR&R draws annually.

# LAUNCH – A Native Youth Showcase

**Ria Thundercloud** (Ho-Chunk/Sandia Pueblo) 14 year-old traditional and contemporary dance sensation. **The Browns** Comedy Duo (Navajo) Fabulously funny sister comedy duo.

Lil' Dre (Navajo) At 14, Lil' Dre performed original Hip Hop/Rap live on ESPN and was featured in Europe.

**Yellow Bird Hoop Dancers** – This award-winning hoop dancing team of brothers has performed around the world. They will perform at the Kennedy Performing Arts Center in Washington, D.C. in September.

## **Unsung Heroes Tribute**

Showcasing "behind the scenes" individuals/organizations who have benefited many.

Po'pay – Pueblo Leader Seminole Tribe of Florida

# **One World Beat – Indigenous Showcase**

#### Maori Peoples of Aotearoa/New Zealand

**Matou** - An eclectic fusion of Native American music and powerful traditional Maori chants **Ardijah** - Platinum selling, internationally touring 2005 Pacific Music Award Winners Ardijah (pronounced "R-D-Jah") are the pioneers of POLY FONK; the fusion of Polynesian roots, rhythms and melodies with inspired R&B/Funk/Reggae grooves. Ardijah's music has received Special Guest support from music legends George Benson, James Brown, Simply Red, and Quincy Jones

## 2005 Native American Music Award Winners Showcase

**Jim Boyd** (Spokane) – NAMA Record of the Year – Boyd's Contemporary Native American music was featured in the Miramax film "Smoke Signals."

**Litefoot** (Cherokee) – NAMA Artist of the Year – Native Rap/Hip Hop pioneer; Best-known for his staring role in the movie "Indian in the Cupboard."

**Randy Wood (Cree)** – Best Traditional Recording – Randy is known for his powerful lead singing with the legendary Northern Cree Drum of Canada. He has a mesmerizing singing style all his own.

#### <u>Plus</u>

• Trickster Tales – Theatrical Storytelling, troupe includes Shkeme of Native Roots, James and Ernie, Brigadier and Delicate Brown, and more!

• Special Guests

• An entertainment industry pavilion featuring Native American modeling/acting agencies, websites, publications, etc. and an opportunity to Meet & Greet Native America's Celebrities.

WHEN:	Saturday, August 21 GATES OPEN: 6:00 PM SHOW AT: 7:30 PM
WHERE:	Paolo Soleri Amphitheater, 1501 Cerrillos Rd. (Santa Fe Indian School)
TICKETS:	General Admission: \$10, Reserved: \$20 CHILDREN 10 & UNDER FREE
	505-988-1234 - Lensic box office in Santa Fe, www.tickets.com
INFO:	505-989-8898 or 505-620-8539 web site: www.santafe.net/nativerootsnrhythms

"The Native Roots & Rhythms Festival has always been the showcase music & dance event of Indian Market." – Indianz.com

**Native Roots & Rhythms** '05 is presented by Emergence Productions and the non-profit Southwest Learning Centers, Inc.