USET Resolution No. 2005:001

SUPPORT FOR THE INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN INDIAN ARTS (IAIA)
FISCAL YEAR 2006 FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-four (24) federally recognized Tribes; and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribes' leadership; and

WHEREAS, the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) is devoted solely to teaching and preserving American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) arts and culture; and

WHEREAS, the IAIA is a national fine arts college offering baccalaureate degrees and associates degrees; and

WHEREAS, the IAIA has educated over 6,000 AI/AN students since its inception in 1962; and

WHEREAS, USET, Inc. is cognizant of the positive impact the IAIA has made on the recognition of AI/AN cultures via the arts; and

WHEREAS, the IAIA is expanding its educational programs and is building a center for Lifelong Education, Research, and Cultural Exchange; and

WHEREAS, the IAIA has been challenged by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to raise matching funds in the amount of twelve million dollars; and

WHEREAS, USET is strongly committed to the enrichment and preservation of AI/AN culture and arts, and to the continuance of IAIA; and

WHEREAS, USET continues to support the IAIA's Board of Trustees as it works to ensure its future; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors does hereby urge the President of the United States and Congress to fully fund the IAIA at a sufficient level to support core operations during Fiscal Year, and, be it further

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors does hereby urge the President of the United States and Congress to appropriate funding to assist the IAIA to raise matching funds for the Center for Lifelong Education, Research and Cultural Exchange.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting & EXPO, at which a quorum was present, in Verona, NY, on Thursday, October 28, 2004.

Keller George, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Beverly McWright, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"
REQUEST TO INCREASE THE MAXIMUM PAYMENT STANDARD FOR BURIAL ASSISTANCE

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-four (24) federally recognized Tribes; and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribes' leadership; and

WHEREAS, the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs established a policy in Fiscal Year (FY) 00 on the maximum allowable costs for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) burial assistance program; and

WHEREAS, burial costs have continued to increase over the past several years and these costs are placing undue hardship on Tribes attempting to provide burials that are culturally sensitive and appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the rise in burial costs has created a need for an increase to the standard burial assistance allowable costs; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors requests the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs to increase the maximum allowable cost for burial assistance from $2500 to $7000; and, be it further

RESOLVED that the USET Board of Directors requests that the BIA Central Office and Eastern Regional Office advocate on behalf of the Tribes in support of an increase to the BIA burial assistance program.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting & EXPO, at which a quorum was present, in Verona, NY, on Thursday, October 28, 2004.

Keller George, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Beverly M. Knight, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"