



DEOMI

DEFENSE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

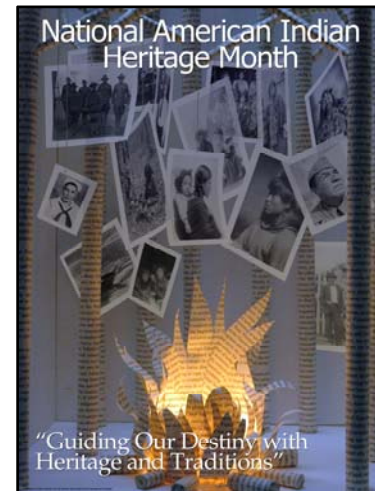


NEWS RELEASE

DEOMI RELEASES NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH OBSERVANCE PRODUCTS

October 16, 2013
Release No. 13-10-28

PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. – In observance of National American Indian Heritage Month, celebrated each year from November 1-30, the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) proudly announces the availability of observance products that may be used as part of a turn-key solution to a successful special observance. Now available are DEOMI's 2013 National American Indian Heritage Month poster, a PowerPoint presentation, and Facts of the Day document.



In accordance with Public Law 101-343, National American Indian Heritage Month honors the many contributions and accomplishments of American Indians and Alaska Natives. During November, we remember the legacy of the first Americans and celebrate their vibrant culture and heritage. Since the Revolutionary War, Native Americans and Alaska Natives have played a vital role in our country's freedom and security. They proudly serve in all departments of the United States Government today.

From the Aleutian Islands to the Florida Everglades, American Indians and Alaska Natives have contributed immensely to our country's heritage. During National American Indian Heritage Month, we commemorate their enduring achievements and reaffirm the vital role American Indians and Alaska Natives play in enriching the character of our Nation.

In 1976, the United States' bicentennial year, Congress passed a resolution authorizing President Ford to proclaim a week in October as "Native American Awareness Week." On October 8, 1976, he issued his presidential proclamation doing so. Since then, Congress and the President have observed a day, a week or a month in honor of the American Indian and Alaska Native people. And while the proclamations do not set a national theme for the observance, they do allow each federal department and agency to develop their own ways of celebrating and honoring the nation's American Indian heritage.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs developed the theme for this year's National American Indian Heritage Month observance products: "*Guiding our Destiny with Heritage and Traditions.*"

Mr. Peter Hemmer, DEOMI illustrator, describes the artistic design of this year's National American Indian Heritage Month Observance poster:

"The artwork for this year's poster revolves around "*Heritage and Traditions,*" taken from the theme. Both of these are shared in native tribes in an oral tradition, in some cases around a fire. The images all come from the Library of Congress spanning many years and diverse tribes; the illustration is a thread of legacy that runs throughout the ages from one generation to the next," said Mr. Hemmer.

Please note that you may take this hi-resolution poster image to your preferred printing facility for display in your organization or use during your special observance programs. All DEOMI special observance poster images are hi resolution and may be used to print posters up to 30 X 40 inches. DEOMI does not have the capability to print posters and mail them out to customers upon request.

All DEOMI observance month products are in the public domain unless otherwise indicated. Please credit the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute when using them.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs Indian Affairs (IA) is the oldest bureau of the United States Department of the Interior. Established in 1824, IA currently provides services (directly or through contracts, grants, or compacts) to approximately 1.9 million American Indians and Alaska Natives. There are 566 federally recognized American Indian tribes and Alaska Natives in the United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is responsible for the administration and management of 55 million surface acres and 57 million acres of subsurface minerals estates held in trust by the United States for American Indian, Indian tribes, and Alaska Natives. For more information about IA, please visit, www.bia.gov.

**DEOMI PUBLIC AFFAIRS · MR. BRYAN RIPPLE (321) 494-6208 · WWW.DEOMI.ORG
366 TUSKEGEE AIRMEN DRIVE · PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA 32925
READINESS...IS DEOMI'S GUIDING PRINCIPLE
BECOME A FRIEND OF DEOMI ON FACEBOOK AT WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/DEOMI.DOD**