



The Blue Lake Rancheria Tribal Education Agency is looking for multiple independent contractors interested in the following:

Contract Opportunity 2:

- Native Maker Workshop Leaders

Native Maker Workshops:

Native Maker workshops typically run four to five weeks, offered once a week for approximately two to three hours per meeting, for a minimum of 8 hours and a maximum of 15 hours per workshop. Workshops normally take place in the afternoon or on weekends. Workshops are focused on local tribal Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK). Native Makers workshop leaders operate in classrooms and makerspaces, where they can: 1) tell the stories of how they became makers, 2) describe the history and cultural relevance of what they make, 3) demonstrate their skills, and 4) mentor students interested in learning how to make similar things. A variety of levels of involvement are possible.

Contract Opportunity 2: Submission

Persons having questions about the contracting opportunity 2 shall submit their questions in writing via email to: TribalEd@bluelakerancheria-nsn.gov . All questions will be responded to in writing. Emails should use the following description in the subject line: *RE: Contract Opportunity 2 Native Maker Workshop Leaders*

Submissions must include:

- Proposed Native Maker Workshop lesson including:
 - Level of involvement of the contractor, classroom teachers, and students
 - Skills to be learned
 - Language(s) of instruction
- Estimations of the following:
 - Total number of students accommodated in workshop
 - Total number of hours –
 - Workshop preparation
 - Actual workshop hours with students (# of workshop days, # of hours per day)
 - Space requirement (*example: classroom, gymnasium, outdoor space, river access, etc.*)
 - Supplies list per student or workshop
- Scheduling of dates and times of the workshop
- Contact information for two references knowledgeable of the contractor's previous work

More Information about our Tribal Education Agency

The Blue Lake Rancheria Tribal Education Agency is a member of the Center for Tribal Innovation and Entrepreneurship (C-TIE), a consortium of the Blue Lake Rancheria, Northern Humboldt Union High School District, Humboldt County Office of Education and College of the Redwoods. Programs created under the guidance of C-TIE provide culturally responsive makerspace programming for Native and non-Native youth in grades K-12.

Traditional Learning

Traditionally, indigenous people tended to be taught how to be or how to do something by going with elders and doing those things, learning by demonstration, observation, practice, and reflection. Youth learned by doing, failing, trying again, and ultimately succeeding. This is the same type of learning that can and does happen in makerspaces.

Focus on Student Interests

Following the philosophy of Big Picture Learning, which prioritizes relationship and real-work relevance in learning, letting students drive their academics based on individual interests. Contextualizing classroom lessons and building on students' prior knowledge and interests positively affects students' engagement and persistence toward achieving their goals.

In C-TIE programs, students will have opportunities to explore their interests, where they can set individualized learning goals, and incorporate learning about their native identities into their goals and into what they make. The idea is to give students voice to express their identities, to let them take greater ownership over the curriculum, and to allow them to bring their diverse individual experiences and interests into the makerspaces.

Connection to Tribal Communities

When school is connected and relevant to tribal communities, students are more likely to enjoy learning, to persist in their studies, and to graduate, after which they can find a job or move on to further educational opportunities. They graduate in part because they are more prepared and confident, more active members of their community(ies), and more knowledgeable about what it takes to achieve "success in both worlds".

Guiding Principles

C-TIE programs are guided by the belief that students do better when:

- Teachers and students work together,
- Lessons are connected to students' lives,
- Students are engaged in their work, and
- Dialogue and collaboration with peers is emphasized over lectures.

Trusting Relationships

Makerspace teachers and guest maker experts will make a big difference if they can create trusting relationships with students so they feel more comfortable sharing themselves and their creative ideas.

The project-based, real-world learning provides promising avenues to engage and motivate Native youth for whom conventional education may not be working as well as desired.