





# Celebrating 20 Years of Making a Better Arizona for Us All!

November 7, 2023 | AIGA Desert Classic Golf Tournament Ak-Chin Southern Dunes Golf Club – Maricopa, AZ

> November 8-9, 2023 | AIGA Expo Harrah's Ak-Chin Hotel & Casino – Maricopa, AZ





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# WELCOME





**Chairman Robert Miguel** Ak-Chin Indian Community Arizona Indian Gaming Association

Sape Mas Ma (Hello Friends!),

Welcome to the 2023 Arizona Indian Gaming Association (AIGA) Expo, to the Ak-Chin Indian Community, and to Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino Resort! As both the Chairman of the Ak-Chin Indian Community and the AIGA, I am humbled to you have joined us at this year's event, where we'll showcase over three decades of Tribal Gaming in our great state of Arizona. The journey of our Nations, Tribes, and Communities in securing and safeguarding our inherent rights to gaming on Indigenous lands showcases resilience at its finest. Let's gather to celebrate these incredible achievements!

The narrative of Tribal Gaming — our collective narrative — has its roots deep within our Tribal Nations. From the outset, Arizona's Tribal Leaders foresaw gaming as a potential avenue for economic growth, benefiting our communities. This foresight has since forged many bonds, alliances, and collaborations within Arizona and across Indian Country, further reinforcing our Tribal governments and uplifting our economies. Reflecting on Tribal Gaming's outstanding success, we'll also pay homage to those who've walked this path alongside us.

Please enjoy your time with with us, enjoy networking and getting to know one another, and be sure to let our AIGA and Harrah's Ak-Chin team know if there is anything you need.

Warm Regards, Chairman Robert Miguel **THANK YOU SPONSORS!** 



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# Agenda | Nov. 7-9, 2023



### Tuesday, November 7, 2023 | AIGA Golf Tournament | Ak-Chin Southern Dunes Golf Club - Maricopa, AZ

6:30 AM – 7:30 AM	Registration & Continental Breakfast
7:30 AM – 7:45 AM	Welcome by AIGA
8:00 AM	Tee Time
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Lunch, Awards, and Raffle

### Tuesday, November 7, 2023 | AIGA Expo Welcome Reception | Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Center

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	AIGA Expo Welcome Reception @ Luxe Lounge
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	AIGA Expo Bowling Tournament

### Wednesday, November 8, 2023 | AIGA Expo - Day 1 | Harrah's Ak-Chin Hotel & Casino

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	Tribal Leaders Breakfast with event Sponsors and AIGA Associate Members (Location: Oak & Fork Restaurant) (invitation only)		
	Continental Breakfast for Attendees		
9:00 AM – 10:15 AM	Opening General Session (Location: B1/B2)		
	<ul> <li>Blessing</li> <li>Posting of Colors</li> <li>National Anthem</li> <li>Welcome by Judy Ferreira, Executive Director, Arizona Indian Gaming Association</li> <li>Welcome by Chairman Robert Miguel, Ak-Chin Indian Community, and Arizona Indian Gaming Association (AIGA)</li> <li>Welcome by the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC)</li> <li>Welcome by the Indian Gaming Association (IGA)</li> </ul>		
10:15 AM - 10:30 AM	Break		





### Wednesday, November 8, 2023 | AIGA Expo - Day 1 (con't) | Harrah's Ak-Chin Hotel & Casino

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM Breakout Session 1

# 1. Sports Betting in Arizona: A Two-Year Retrospective (Location: Meeting Room 1)

In September 2021, a significant shift occurred in Arizona's gaming landscape with the legalization of Sports Betting. The updated 2021 Tribal-State Compacts ushered in a new era, permitting Event Wagering and Fantasy Sports Contests. Join our panelists as they delve into the impact and outcomes of this gaming transformation over its initial two years. **Moderator:** 

Bradley G. Bledsoe Downes, Attorney, Bledsoe Downes, PC **Panelists:** 

E. Sequoyah Simermeyer, Chair, National Indian Gaming Commission Steve Hart, Partner, Matt Olin, Chief Executive Officer, San Carlos Apache Gaming Enterprise

Sarah A. Murray, Attorney, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP

# 2. International Relations – Business Beyond Borders (Location: B5/B6)

Join our esteemed panel as they delve into the unique prospects of partnering with Tribal Nations. Discover how these collaborations can pave the way for economic growth, enriching tourism experiences, and unparalleled cultural immersion. Dive deep into the untapped potential that lies beyond borders.

#### Moderator:

Rex Bartlett, Senior Associate, Molera Alvarez

#### Panelists:

Hector Vazquez del Mercado, Director, Las Palomas Resort & Golf Leandro Solorzano, Director, U.S. Commercial Service Arizona Chairman Robert Miguel, Ak-Chin Indian Community Jesus Rodriguez Diavalos, Founding Partner, Rodriguez Diavalos Attorneys

#### 3. National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) Training: Tips and Tricks on Building an Audit Checklist Based on the Class III Minimum Internal Controls Guidance (Pt. 1 of 2) (Location: Meeting Room 2)

Join us this session to learn about developing class III audit checklists utilizing the NIGC's Class III Minimum Internal Controls Guidance. We will guide you through discussion and activities, providing you with practice on checklist formatting, understanding your audit criteria, the process for developing an audit checklist, testing methods, and document request listings. Attendees will gain the skills and knowledge needed to develop a class III audit checklist and customize testing that meets the needs and risk mitigation of the tribe. **Trainers:** 

Gena Caviness, Supervisory Auditor, National Indian Gaming Commission Steven Brewer, Training Manager, National Indian Gaming Commission





## Wednesday, November 8, 2023 | AIGA Expo - Day 1 (con't) | Harrah's Ak-Chin Hotel & Casino

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM	Luncheon (Location: B1/B2)		
	<b>The Impact of Tribal Gaming Beyond the Gaming Floor</b> How has Tribal Gaming impacted Arizona communities? Speakers will delve into the transformative impact of Tribal Government Gaming and its far-reaching significance. <b>Featured Speakers:</b> Lynnann Yazzie, Deputy Associate Superintendent, Office of Indian Education, Arizona Department of Education Jon Cooley, Tribal Liaison, Arizona Fish & Game Department		
1:15 PM – 2:15 PM	<ul> <li>Breakout Session 2</li> <li>1. Tribal Digital Sovereignty &amp; Economic Progress: Navigating the Future of Tribal Gaming (Location: B5/B6)</li> <li>In the age of the internet and digital transformation, understanding the rights and roles of Indigenous communities in the digital realm becomes crucial. As the digital era reshapes global economies, it is essential to understand and respect the unique position of Indigenous communities in the online space. This workshop will address Tribal Digital Sovereignty, focusing on its implications for economic development and the evolving landscape of Tribal gaming. Panelists will explore the synergy between traditional rights and contemporary opportunities in the digital age.</li> <li>Speakers:</li> <li>Joe Valandra, Chairman &amp; Chief Executive Officer, Tribal Ready, PBC.</li> <li>Adam Geisler, President &amp; Chief Operating Officer, Tribal Ready, PBC.</li> </ul>		





### Wednesday, November 8, 2023 | AIGA Expo – Day 1 (con't) | Harrah's Ak-Chin Hotel & Casino

1:15 PM – 2:15 PM

#### **Breakout Session 2 - continued**

# 2. 2024 & Beyond: Forecasting the Legislative Landscape for Tribal Nations (Location: Meeting Room 1)

As the horizon of 2024 nears, it's crucial to anticipate what lies ahead. The unique rights of Tribal Gaming are continuously being tested. As non-Tribal entities seek to penetrate the market and ongoing court cases emerge, the landscape becomes more complex. Dive into an insightful session with a distinguished panel that will illuminate key topics to shape the future of gaming among Tribal Nations. Panelists will offer a dual-lens view, covering both state and national landscapes. Conversations will include the latest Supreme Court rulings and will explore both present and potential challenges confronting the Tribal-State Compact in Tribal Government Gaming.

#### Moderator:

Jaime A. Molera, Partner, Molera Alvarez **Panelists:** David Cook, Arizona State Representative Mitzi Epstein, Minority Leader, Arizona Senate

#### 3. National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) Training: How to Conduct an EPHS Assessment for TGRA's

#### (Location: Meeting Room 2)

This session will prepare your TGRA to conduct an Environmental, Public Health and Safety (EPHS) assessment through the 5 W's (who, what, why, when, where) and proven tools such as pre-assessment document preparation, creating a gaming facility-specific checklist, walk through tools, conducting and documenting the walk through assessment, post assessment review, all of which will assist in identifying gaps and trends for improving the overall EPHS program in order to reduce injuries and hazards by creating a robust safety culture in your workplace.

#### **Trainers:**

Eddie Ilko, Safety and Occupational Health Manager, National Indian Gaming Commission Francisco Olea, Phoenix Region Director, National Indian Gaming Commission





### Wednesday, November 8, 2023 | AIGA Expo - Day 1 (con't) | Harrah's Ak-Chin Hotel & Casino

2:15 – 2:30 PM	Break
2:30 PM	AIGA Trade Show Ribbon Cutting (Location: B3/B4)
2:30 PM – 5:30 PM	Trade Show
6:30 PM – 9:00 PM	AIGA Chefs Challenge (Location: Oak & Fork Restaurant)

### Thursday, November 9, 2023 | AIGA Expo - Day 2 | Harrah's Ak-Chin Hotel & Casino

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	Continental Breakfast on the Trade Show Floor		
8:30 AM – 10:00 AM	General Session (Location: B1/B2)		
	<ul><li>Blessing</li><li>Judy Ferreira, Executive Director, Arizona Indian Gaming Association</li></ul>		
	Featured Panel: Tribal Leaders Symposium on Gaming		
	Distinguished leaders from Tribal Nations and Communities come together for a meaningful discussion surrounding Tribal Gaming. With years of invaluable experience, many of these panelists have been at the forefront of pioneering moments in Tribal Gaming. Their insights and contributions have been pivotal in molding and safeguarding Tribal Gaming in Arizona. Hear their unique perspectives and narratives. <b>Moderator:</b>		
	Councilman Jerold Altaha, White Mountain Apache Tribe Panelists:		
	President Bernadine Burnette, Ft. McDowell Yavapai Nation		
	Chairwoman Sherry Cordova, Cocopah Indian Tribe, and Arizonans for Tribal Government Gaming		
	Chairman Verlon Jose, Tohono O'odham Nation		
	Chairwoman Ona Segundo, Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians		
10:00 AM – 10:15 AM	Break		





#### Thursday, November 9, 2023 | AIGA Expo - Day 2 (con't) | Harrah's Ak-Chin Hotel & Casino

#### 10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

#### 1. Cybersecurity: The Evolving Battlefront

#### (Location: Meeting Room 1)

With the rise in ransomware incidents, sophisticated phone scams, and multifaceted technology threats, the stakes have never been higher for IT management in the Casino and Gaming sector. These emerging challenges underscore the imperative for a robust and diverse team to shield the sensitive data patrons collaboratively and guests entrust to Casinos.

#### Moderator:

RJ Huskey, M.Eng., President & vCISO

#### Panelists:

Manjit Gombra Singh, Founder, DruvStar

Hannah Hoeflinger, National Cyber Risk Operations Leader, Lovitt & Touche / Marsh McLennan Agency

#### 2. The Evolution of Tribal Gaming Marketing

#### (Location: B5/B6)

Since its inception in 1993, Tribal Gaming has revolutionized the Arizona landscape, introducing a new product dimension. Over the past thirty years, the marketing strategies and approaches behind these gaming experiences have witnessed significant transformations, including casino sponsorships, partnerships, and naming rights. Join us as we journey through the evolution of casino marketing in Arizona.

#### Moderator:

Jason Coochwytewas, Chief Executive Officer, Urias Communications **Panelists:** 

Chris Archunde, Strategic Operations & Marketing Performance, Raving Consulting Sheila Morago, Founding Partner/Chief Operating Officer, Trilogy Group Ralph Marchetta, Senior Vice President, Phoenix Suns/Footprint Center Karl Kim, Director Of Brand Management, Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise

#### 3. National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) Training: Tips and Tricks on Building an Audit Checklist Based on the Class III Minimum Internal Controls Guidance (Pt. 2 of 2) (Location: Meeting Room 2)

Part 2 on developing class III audit checklists utilizing the NIGC's Class III Minimum Internal Controls Guidance. We will guide you through discussion and activities, providing you with practice on checklist formatting, understanding your audit criteria, the process for developing an audit checklist, testing methods, and document request listings. Attendees will gain the skills and knowledge needed to develop a class III audit checklist and customize testing that meets the needs and risk mitigation of the tribe.

#### **Trainers:**

Gena Caviness, Supervisory Auditor, National Indian Gaming Commission Steven Brewer, Training Manager, National Indian Gaming Commission





## Thursday, November 9, 2023 | AIGA Expo - Day 2 (con't) | Harrah's Ak-Chin Hotel & Casino

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM	Luncheon			
	Presentation: 2023 Arizona Department of Gaming Update			
	Gain insight to the latest reporting and figures on Tribal Gaming in Arizona.			
	Featured Speaker:			
	Jackie Johnson, Executive Director, Arizona Department of Gaming			
	Presentation: Insights into Tribal Gaming in Arizona			
	In this engaging presentation, hear the results of extensive polling information that sheds light on public perception, opinions, and experiences related to the Tribal gaming industry in Arizona.			
	<b>Featured Speaker:</b> Mike Noble, Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Noble Predictive Insights			
	Chairwoman Sherry Cordova, Cocopah Indian Tribe and Arizonans for Tribal Government			
	Gaming (ATGG)			
	1:30 PM	2023 AIGA Expo Concludes		

In 1987, the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed Indian tribes' inherent rights to operate gaming on Indian land. In 1988, Congress passed the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) affirming Tribal sovereignty and establishing the statutory framework for Indian gaming. IGRA is intended to:

"Provide a statutory foundation for Indian gaming operations as a means of promoting economic development, tribal self-sufficiency and strong tribal government."

IGRA promotes Tribal economic development as federal policy. IGRA also established the regulatory framework and standards for the conduct of Indian gaming, including:

- Federal regulation through the National Indian Gaming Commission
- Requirement of a tribal-state compact between a state and each tribe engaged in gaming
- Tribal regulation through respective Tribal gaming regulatory agencies
- State review through state agencies, e.g., the Arizona Department of Gaming

#### The Arizona Indian Gaming Association (AIGA):

- Maintains and supports a strong commitment to Tribal sovereignty and governmental authority.
- Protects and promotes the welfare of Tribes by supporting Tribal gaming enterprises on Arizona Indian lands
- Serves as an educational, legislative and public policy resource for Tribes, policy makers, and the public on Indian gaming issues
- Is committed to maintaining and protecting Tribal sovereign governmental authority

#### **AIGA Key Objectives**

- Protect sovereign rights to operate Tribal government gaming and exclusivity
- Inform the public of the many benefits of Tribal government gaming
- Educate the public on the distinction between Tribal government gaming and commercial gaming
- Share economic impact data and personal stories of those that benefit from Tribal government gaming

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# Over \$2 Billion in contributions to date and counting.

## **Tribal Gaming** shares with Arizona

Since 2003, Arizona Tribes share a portion of revenues with all Arizonans through the Arizona Benefits Fund. These funds are dedicated to the following areas:



#### The impact of **Tribal Gaming**

The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act requires that funds from gaming must be used to promote economic development, self-sufficiency and strengthen tribal governments.

Tribal Gaming brings economic development to Arizona reservations, helping tribes meet longstanding deficits in social and economic conditions. In doing so, it also engenders new economic activity for the households and businesses that supply labor, goods, and services to Tribal casinos and governments, helping especially the economies of remote and rural counties.

> 521 South 48th Street | Suite 106 Tempe, Arizona 85281 480.284.4034 | AzIndianGaming.org **BenefitingArizona.org**





# Become an Associate Member

ASSOCIATE MEMBER RIZONA INDIAN GAMING ASSOCIATION

Membership in the Arizona Indian Gaming Association connects you with this dynamic industry and positions you to do business with Arizona Tribes and Tribal enterprises.

### **AIGA Associate Membership**

Join the Arizona Indian Gaming Association (AIGA) and put your name and business in front of Tribal leadership, decision-makers, and casino management by showing your support for Indian gaming in Arizona.

As an Associate Member of AIGA, you and your company will have the opportunity to meet Tribal leaders and network with casino executives at AIGA functions and the annual AIGA EXPO. Benefits include exposure of your business profile and logo on the AIGA website, timely bulletins on political developments, and insider news about Arizona Indian Country. Associate Members receive preferential status for AIGA EXPO, the Southwest's foremost gaming and business summit & trade show.

Demonstrate your commitment to your clients and to Tribal Gaming in Arizona by becoming an Associate Member of AIGA.



Scan the QR code to visit the website for more information. 521 South 48th Street | Suite 106 Tempe, Arizona 85281 480.284.4034 | AzIndianGaming.org



AIGA MEMBER TRIBES: Ak-Chin Indian Community, Cocopah Indian Tribe, Fort Yuma-Quechan Tribe, Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians, Pascua Yaqui Tribe, San Carlos Apache Tribe, Tohono O'odham Nation, White Mountain Apache Tribe, Zuni Pueblo

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# Empowering Tribal Nations. Protecting Indigenous Rights.

We recognize the distinctiveness of every tribal entity, including their legal complexities. Our team of Native American Law attorneys possesses a clear understanding of the individuality of tribal populations and culture. Accordingly, we tailor our services to effectively address the specific requirements of each tribe.



KERRY K. PATTERSON Partner/Group Leader P. 619.515.3295



GLENN M. FELDMAN Of Counsel P. 480.682.4312

### **PARTNER WITH US**



THEODORE J. GRISWOLD\* Partner



GABRIELA MAGEE\* Senior Associate



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# ARIZONA AMERICAN INDIAN EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP AWARDS



JOIN US AT THE HEARD MUSEUM ON NOV. 30, 2023 Be there to celebrate and honor exemplary leaders creating positive change within Native American communities.



Sumaya Quitugua (Acoma Pueblo & Chamorro) 2022 High School Student of the Year

# 2023 Award Honorees

- Phyllis J. Bigpond Lifetime Achievement: Joy Hanley
- Kent C. Ware Lifetime Achievement: Ivan Makil
- Woman of the Year: Dr. Michelle Huyser
- Man of the Year: Shawn Martinez
- Business of the Year: Urias Communications
- Volunteer of the Year: Reva Stewart
- Friend of the Community: Katreena Hayes-Wood
- College Female: Jalen Harvey
- College Male: Artie Steele
- High School Female: Elise Lamas
- High School Male: Michael Tupponce Jr.

Tickets Now On Sale. Sponsorships Available. For information contact 602-264-6768 LeadershipAwards@phxindcenter.org EVENT TIME: 6 PM - 8 PM MST LOCATION: Heard Museum, 2301 N. Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ



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Jacob B. Schellinger

Associate



Ronald N. Rosier

Of Counsel



Christy Hubbard

Of Counsel



Wyatt Williams Associate

# COMMITTED TO PROGRESS

Partner

Stephen M. Hart

We regularly provide legal and strategic advice to tribal government and tribal enterprise clients on issues related to policy, economic development, Indian gaming, state and federal legislative and administrative practice, licensing matters, real estate and project development, litigation, general business law matters, and financial land transactions.

Peter A. Larson Partner plarson@lewisroca.com

Peter A. Larson

Partner

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## APRIL 8 - 11, 2024 ANAHEIM CONVENTION CENTER ANAHEIM, CA



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# Ak-Chin Indian Community Welcomes AIGA to the 2023 MASIK TAS CELEBRATION

2023 EVENTS Ak-Chin Circle Arena | 16000 N. Maricopa Rd. LIGHT PARADE Saturday, December 9th

FREE CARNIVAL & RODEO Friday - Sunday, December 15th - 17th

JR. RODEO & BULL BASH Friday, December 15th

MIDLAND (FREE SHOW) Friday, December 15th

OPEN RODEO & OPEN WILD HORSE RACE Saturday & Sunday, December, 16th & 17th

> For more information: EMAIL: AllEventsStaff@ak-chin.nsn.us Follow us on Facebook @Ak-ChinIndianCommunity masiktas.ak-chin.nsn.us



