



COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION

729 NE Oregon, Suite 200, Portland, Oregon 97232

Telephone 503 238 0667

Fax 503 235 4228

November 1, 2006

To the Friends of Painted Sky and Oregon Public Broadcasting:

As the Executive Director of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC), I support and am looking forward to the production of "For the Generations: A Native American Music Special" sponsored by Painted Sky and Oregon Public Broadcasting. This production will include many dedicated and committed Native American and First Nations performers from around the United States and Canada in a unique multi-faceted music and dance show that will entertain as well as educate a national audience.

At a recent gathering of the National Congress of American Indians considerable discussion occurred about the void, nationally, of accurate and positive images of Native Peoples in the media. Lobbying scandals, old stereotypes and new stereotypes fuel seemingly ceaseless misrepresentation of Native Peoples.

This one-of-a-kind showcase will bring Native vocalists, musicians and dancers together on one stage to perform together for the first time in a live concert event that will be broadcast in prime time on OPB television and a live OPB radio simulcast. This proposal will expose national audiences to the best and brightest performers that Indian Country has to offer.

This special event will also reach out to the Native American youth on reservations as well as throughout schools via media access and a special website to educate and encourage viewership with this important demographic group. This program will seek to inspire the students to express who they are and to understand how their culture nurtures and strengthens them as Native people.

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission is proud to support "For the Generations" both for the exposure it will bring to a national audience of the Native culture and artistic performances and for the educational and inspirational opportunities it will offer Native youth.

Sincerely,

Olney Patt, Jr.
Executive Director

