

2014 Keynotes and Featured Speaker

KEYNOTE – Brian Frejo

The Power of Vision and Action

Brian Frejo, Pawnee/Seminole Nations, is based in Oklahoma City OK. Working with youth, he emphasizes the importance of developing one's own personal vision of wellness and success, passion, discipline, risks and rewards of making healthy decisions. Brian uses multimedia, music, entertainment, and writing as self-expression. He helps youth to develop goal-setting strategies, make healthy choices, be drug- and alcohol-free, take responsibility, and realize their own personal vision for success and for physical, emotional, cultural and spiritual well-being. Brian conducts workshops in many communities, including reservations in North and South Dakota. He will also conduct two breakout sessions here on Monday.

KEYNOTE – John Gritts

My Role in Higher Education in South Dakota

John Gritts, a member of the Cherokee Nation, studied art at the Institute of American Indian Arts, Santa Fe, NM. Although art is his ambition he has worked in higher education since 1973. He presented President Jimmy Carter with one of his drawings on behalf of the State of South Dakota in the White House Oval Office. John will relate personal stories and reflections on his path to working at Black Hills State University, where he was the Director of Financial Aid, gaining the trust of students, faculty and staff. He now works in Denver CO, with the US Department of Education in the Federal Student Aid Programs.

FEATURED SPEAKER – Dick Termes

Termesphere Video/Presentation

Dick Termes is a well-known South Dakota artist, specializing in paintings of total environments on spheres. He will explain why and how he has painted the Termespheres, and the interconnections among Mathematics, Science, and Art. Short videos put his spherical paintings into motion, and show how he does this unique artwork. He has conducted workshops with Native American students. Dick will also conduct two hands-on breakout sessions Monday, on "3-D Structures" and on "Spherical Art from Geometry". Dick Termes is sponsored in part for the Indian Education Summit, by a South Dakota Touring Arts Grant.