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February 27, 2023

Greetings friends and relatives,

This year the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA) will celebrate 50 years of service to native attorneys, communities, and the legal profession. To commemorate this important milestone, NNABA cordially invites you to NNABA's 2023 Annual Meeting and 50th-anniversary celebration dinner on **Sunday, April 16, 2023**, at the Sandia Resort & Casino in Albuquerque. This will be the day before the Federal Bar Association's Annual Indian Law Conference, scheduled on the following Monday and Tuesday.

NNABA's theme for the 50th anniversary and bar year is "Justice is Medicine." When NNABA was founded five decades ago, native lawyers were scarce, and Indian law was a nascent practice area. There had never been a Native American federal judge, a native law school dean, or a native officer of the American Bar Association. Despite being the most regulated people in the country, for generations, Native American communities were substantially excluded from leadership in the legal profession and roles within state and federal legal systems. This injustice directly impacted the health and well-being of our communities. Though we have a long journey to achieving inclusion and equity, we know after five decades of determined progress that advancements in inclusion and justice are healing. As we look to NNABA's next half-century, our commitment is to continue the work.

NNABA's celebration will include native legal leaders working in different sectors of the profession to share stories about the healing power of native inclusion in the law and the progress made over the last 50 years. NNABA is honored to also welcome Dr. Paulette Steeves as the keynote speaker at our celebration. Dr. Steeves is an archeologist and the Canada Research Chair in Healing and Reconciliation at Algoma University. She recently published *The Indigenous Paleolithic of the Western Hemisphere*. In her book, Dr. Steeves shares scientific research disrupting colonial narratives regarding native settlement of the Americas that have long been used to justify and perpetuate injustice. NNABA has partnered with Dr. Steeves and the University of Nebraska Press to offer a book signing and free book to the first 50 guests at the event. The Howeya Family Traditional Dance Group of the Acoma Pueblo will open and close our program with ceremonial performances.

Please join us, and if you can, consider a sponsorship to support this special event and NNABA's important work throughout the FY23-24 bar year. More information about registration and sponsorship is attached.

With Gratitude,

Phil Brodeen
President



Justice is Medicine

NNABA 50th Anniversary Annual Meeting, Celebration Dinner, & Bar Year Sponsorship & Individual Dinner Registration Information

Sponsorship

The NNABA Board developed this year's sponsorship framework using words and concepts from our native languages that are meaningful to our communities and relate to NNABA's values and mission. We invite you to select an option that resonates for you or contact us to discuss a custom option that better captures your intention and purpose for investing in NNABA, native justice, and natives in the profession.

All sponsors will have reserved seats at the celebration and be recognized in marketing materials at the event, online, **and throughout the bar year as full year sponsors of NNABA**. NNABA also welcomes opportunities to partner with sponsors on substantive projects and events later in the year to generate more value for our organizations. For questions or to commit to a sponsorship, please contact NNABA at info@nativeamericanbar.org.

- **Nibwaakaawin (Ojibwe): wisdom and intelligence**
Nibwaakaawin sponsors support NNABA's work to develop and share legal and cultural knowledge and experience within the native legal community and the legal profession. These efforts enable the development of wisdom and judgment critically needed to advance justice for native communities and native success in the legal profession. Gift: \$10,000.
- **SSY (Gadugi, Cherokee): to work together**
SSY sponsors value and support NNABA's work creating space and community for native attorneys and allies. Within this special community, we can share, nurture productive relationships, and work together for native justice and native excellence in the legal profession. Gift: \$5,000.
- **Onipa'a ('Olelo Hawai'i): steadfast**
Onipa'a sponsors celebrate NNABA's steadfast commitment to advancing native people in the legal profession and justice for native communities. Onipa'a sponsors are also onipa'a—steadfast in their support for NNABA and our national community of native lawyers. Gift: \$2,500.
- **Kijire Nagu (Winnebago/Ho-Chunk): to help on life's journey**
Kijire Nagu sponsors deeply value the relationships NNABA enables native attorneys to create and nurture across the profession so that we can be helpers to each other and our communities. Gift: \$1,000.
- **Herome (Muscogee/Creek): generous, kind, or giving**
Herome sponsors honor indigenous people's traditional gifting ways as fundamental to our culture and one way that we take care of each other. They inspire generosity in all our efforts. Gift: \$500.

Individual Registration

- Regular Registration - \$100 per person
- Non-profit, Academy, Government, and Retired Attorney Registration - \$50 per person
- Student Registration - \$25 per person
- Discounted rates can also be used to register up to one adult guest and any children in your party.
- You can register online by searching for this event at EventBrite.com [here](#).
- Tickets could sell out to this event. Early registration is recommended to secure your seat.