

For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Lugo – 770-623-8190 lugo@negia.net

NEW TWO-PART SERIES
“INDIAN COUNTRY DIARIES”
TO PREMIERE ON PBS IN NOVEMBER 2006
IN CONJUNCTION WITH NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

A Co-Production of Native American Public Telecommunications and Adanvdo Vision

Series Goes Inside Modern Native American Communities to Reveal a Diverse People Working to Revitalize Their Culture While Improving the Social, Physical, and Spiritual Health of their People

Told with Wonder, Humor and Insight, INDIAN COUNTRY DIARIES is a Must-see “State of the Union” Report from Modern Native America

How has new-found casino wealth changed the fortunes of Native Americans? How are tribes coping with the influx of Indian *wannabes*, eager for a piece of the pie? How can Native American parents teach their children their tribal history when they were not taught it themselves? Can Christianity and traditional Native American spiritual beliefs co-exist? Is there any perfect middle ground between assimilation and isolation?

INDIAN COUNTRY DIARIES is a two-part series airing on PBS that explores how these issues and many more are being played out in Native American communities in both urban and reservation settings. In each program, a Native American writer reveals their personal struggle with many of these issues and invites the audience to join them as they seek answers. **INDIAN COUNTRY DIARIES**, executive produced by Carol Cornsilk and Frank Blythe, will air nationally on PBS in November 2006 (check local listings.)

In Part One, **“A Seat at the Drum,”** journalist Mark Anthony Rolo (Bad River Ojibwe) sets out to learn how Native Americans in Los Angeles preserve a tribal identity, survive economically and cope with the pressures of a federal relocation program and assimilation in a multicultural metropolis. Part Two, **“Spiral of Fire,”** takes author LeAnne Howe (Choctaw) to the North Carolina homeland of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians to discover how their fusion of tourism, cultural preservation, and spirituality is working to insure their tribe’s vitality in the 21st century. Native American culture -- too often invisible both on television and in American society at large -- is at a crossroads and **INDIAN COUNTRY DIARIES** provides a personal, provocative, and surprising look at how communities are changing, adapting and enduring.

For more information about **INDIAN COUNTRY DIARIES**, including educational, press and outreach materials, visit www.indiancountrydiaries.org.