

Heather Airey

Federally Recognized Tribal Representative, Picayune Rancheria of Chuckchansi Indians

Campus Preference: Fresno

Qualified:

Ms. Airey is a tribal member of for the Picayune Rancheria of Chuckchansi Indians. She has served as the Tribe's Cultural Resources Director/THPO for the last eight years. In her role she collaborates with the Yokuts NAGPRA Coalition and has participated in consultation, repatriation, and protection of cultural resources.

Letter of support from Tribal Administrator Caleb Martinez

References Contacted:

Caleb Martinez (Picayune Rancheria of Chuckchansi Indians) and Makayla Cunnings recommend the candidate. Robert Pennell has been contacted and has not yet responded with a recommendation.

**Systemwide NAGPRA Implementation & Oversight Committee
Nominations Cover Sheet**

Committee Type: Both Systemwide Committee Campus Committee

Nominee Name:

Preferred Campus: _____

Alt. Campus: _____

Alt. Campus: _____

Position Sought: Tribal Nominee CSU Nominee

Alt. Campus: _____

Tribal/CSU Institutional Affiliation

Name of Tribe: _____

Name of Campus: _____

- Federally Recognized Tribe CA Indian Tribe
 CSU Administrator CSU Faculty Staff NAGPRA Coordinator

Tribal Members (Check all that apply):

- Tribal Historic Preservation Officer work
 Repatriation of human remains and cultural items pursuant to CalNAGPRA/ NAGPRA
 Cultural resources protection under Tribal, state, and federal law
 Consultation with state and federal entities and agencies
 An Elder, Spiritual Leader
 A minimum of five years' experience

CSU Staff/Faculty Members (Check all that apply):

- Archaeology Anthropology Environmental Studies
 Ethnic Studies History (with a focus in California) Law
 Native American Studies Social Science Sociology
 A minimum of five years' experience working in field of study

Circle One: Complete Application (Includes Attachments)

- Short Bio, A Resume or CV
 Tribal Resolution/Letter (as applicable)
 Three References

Incomplete Applications

- Missing Attachments
 Needs Follow Up Call
 Other Explanation: _____

CSU or NAHC Reviewer _____
CSU or NAHC Reviewer _____

Date: _____
Date: _____

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Nominator Information (if applicable)

Name: TED ATKINS Title: Language / Culture Director

Tribal/CSU Institutional Affiliation: Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians

Email: tatkina@chukchansi-nsn.gov Phone: 559 580-5634

Nominee Information

Name: Heather Airey Title: Cultural Resources

Tribal/CSU Institutional Affiliation: Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians

Email: hairay@chukchansi-nsn.gov Phone: 589-676-5881

Position Sought: Tribal Nominee CSU Nominee

Please attach:

- (i) A short biography and, if desired, a resume or CV;
- (ii) A tribal resolution or letter of support from Tribe (if applicable), and
- (iii) A list of at least three references, with name, telephone number, and email addresses for each.

Submit completed nomination materials to nagpra@calstate.edu by **February 2, 2024**.

Incomplete materials will not be considered.

COMMITTEE(S) SOUGHT

Please indicate the Committee(s) to which the nominee is seeking appointment. If nominating for a campus committee(s), list the campus(es) where the nominee is interested in serving, in order of preference. Check all that apply. If a nominee selects both the CSU Systemwide Committee and Campus Committee, their application will be considered for both Committees and they may be appointed to either, however at this time Committee members will only serve on one Committee at a time, unless the pool of candidates does not allow.

CSU Systemwide Committee (*if only Systemwide please skip to Nominator Information below*)

Campus Committee (*please fill out Section A below*)

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A. If the Nominee would like to serve on a Campus Committee, please fill out the following additional information.

Campus Committee (*Preferred Campus*): California State University Fresno

Alternative campus(es) Nominee will consider (*candidates are encouraged to complete this section, if possible*):

- 1) California State University, Fresno
- 2) California State University, Stanislaus
- 3) California State University, Sacramento

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Name: TED ATKINS Title: Language / Culture Director

Tribal/CSU Institutional Affiliation: Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians

Email: tatkins@chukchansi-nsn.gov Phone: 559 580-5634

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Name: Heather Airey Title: Cultural Resources

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Email: hairy@chukchansi-nsn.gov Phone: 581-676-5881

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**Picayune Rancheria
of the
Chukchansi Indians**

49260 Chapel Hill, PO Box 2226 *Oakhurst, CA 93644* (559) 412-5590

May 09,2024

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to wholeheartedly recommend Heather Airey for consideration to serve on the University of California or California State University NAGPRA Oversight Committee. Heather has been an invaluable member of our community as the Cultural Resources Director/THPO Director in Cultural Resources, and I have every confidence that she will bring the same level of dedication, expertise, and passion to this important role.

Heather has been an integral part of our team for many years, during which she has consistently demonstrated her deep commitment to preserving and protecting the cultural heritage of our tribe. Her extensive knowledge of tribal history, traditions, and cultural resources has been instrumental in guiding our efforts to uphold our cultural identity and honor our ancestors.

In her role as Cultural Resources Director/THPO Director, Heather has proven herself to be a highly capable and effective leader. She has overseen numerous projects aimed at the identification, documentation, and preservation of cultural resources within our tribal lands. Her attention to detail, meticulous research skills, and strong organizational abilities have ensured that these projects are carried out with the utmost care and respect for our cultural heritage.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Heather is also deeply committed to fostering positive relationships with external stakeholders, including academic institutions and government agencies. She has been a tireless advocate for tribal rights and interests, advocating for the proper treatment and repatriation of ancestral remains and cultural artifacts.

HEATHER AIREY

Cultural Resources Director

THPO

EPA

CONTACT

☎ 559-676-5881

✉ hairey@chukchansi-nsn.gov

Native American Heritage Commission
UC /CSU Repatriation Committee Candidate
Outreach

As the Cultural Resources Director/THPO for Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians I have 8 years of experience with NAGPRA consultation and repatriation. Currently I work with the Yokuts NAGPRA coalition along with other agencies and Tribes in our surrounding area for NAGPRA/CAL NAGPRA consultations.

As a Tribal Member and employee of the Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians it is my goal and passion to bring our ancestors and cultural items home in a respectful way. I will ensure that the consultation and repatriation process is done in an honorable way for all the Tribes.

Sincerely,

Heather Airey

References

Caleb Martinez 559-412-5590 cmartinez@chukchansi-nsn.gov

Makayla Cunnings 559-412-5590 mcunnings@chukchansi-nsn.gov

Robert Pennell 559-217-9718 bpennell@tmr.org