

Rancho Los Alamitos Historic Ranch and Gardens

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For Immediate Release

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**Come Home to Povuu'ngna
The Gabrielino-Tongva: The Changing
Constant Identity of an Urban Native People**

**A SYMPOSIUM
Sunday, June 13, 2010
9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Admission is free but
reservations are required for the symposium**

In the afternoon, there will be a free public program

**Public Program
Sunday, June 13, 2010
Noon - 4:30 p.m.
Free Admission
(Reservations are not required for the afternoon program)**

LONG BEACH, CA -- Rancho Los Alamitos Historic Ranch and Gardens will host a symposium featuring the native Gabrielino-Tongva people of the Los Angeles Basin. *Come Home to Povuu'ngna* on June 13, 2010 to join an extraordinary group of pre-eminent anthropologists and historians, the leading publisher of works on California native peoples, as well as leaders within the contemporary Gabrielino-Tongva community, to consider the lasting impact of history on the native people of this area today.

The Gabrielino-Tongva, the native people of the Los Angeles Basin, settled the sacred village of Povuu'ngna, a place better known as Rancho Los Alamitos or California State University Long Beach in our times. Yet few who live in the region today realize that the native people and culture of the region still thrive.

Peter Nabokov, Ph.D., who will make opening comments, is Professor of American Indian Studies and World Arts and Cultures at UCLA. Nationally renowned in his field, Dr. Nabokov is author of several books including, most recently, *Where the Lightning Strikes: The Lives of American Indian Sacred Places*. He will address how conventional popular perceptions of native tribes and sacred places conflict with the contemporary reality of an urban-based native people.

Dr. Nabokov's presentation will be followed by the viewing of a short video by Patrick Kack-Brice entitled *An Impression: Native American Sacred Sites in the Los Angeles Basin*.

What is the ongoing implication of being a landless native people in California? Who should be telling the story of California native people and how? These and other questions will be addressed by Dr. Nabokov and the following panel of experts:

Cindi Alvitre, Gabrielino-Tongva, an advocate of cultural awareness, education, scholarship, and the creative arts, is a faculty member in the American Indian Studies Department at California State University Long Beach and a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of World Arts and Cultures at UCLA.

Lowell John Bean, Ph.D., President, Director of Research and Planning for Cultural Systems Research, Inc, is a pre-eminent anthropologist in the study of California's native people, and well-known for his work with Southern California tribes and the Cahuilla people.

George Harwood Phillips, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of History at the University of Colorado Boulder, George Harwood Phillips is a foremost scholar in the field of California Indian history.

Malcolm Margolin, Publisher, Heyday Books, Berkeley, CA. The much-celebrated founder and publisher of Heyday Books in Berkeley, Malcolm Margolin has fostered an understanding and appreciation of the beauty, conundrums, and conflicts that lay within the cultural and natural phenomenon called California.

Kimberly Morales Johnson, Gabrielino-Tongva, is an active member and Tribal Secretary of the Gabrielino/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians where she maintains her tribal traditions and continuity, and is dedicated to the preservation and continuance of Native American culture and tradition through future generations.

The symposium will be moderated by **Claudia Jurmain**, Director of Special Projects and Publications at Rancho Los Alamitos and **William McCawley**, co-author with Claudia Jurmain, of *O, My Ancestor: Recognition and Renewal for the Gabrielino-Tongva People of the Los Angeles Area* (Heyday Books, 2009)

Although the symposium is offered free-of-charge, advance reservations are required due to limited seating capacity. For more information about the distinguished panel or to make reservations for the symposium, visit the Rancho's website at www.rancholosalamitos.com.

Activities will continue in the afternoon from 12:00 until 4:30 p.m. with a processional honoring the ancestors, featured exhibits on native foods and cultural materials, Tongva ancestral storytelling, dance, music and games.

Afternoon activities are free and open to the public and advance reservations are not required. Free parking for morning and afternoon events is at California State University Long Beach Lot 11 on Palo Verde Avenue, with continuous shuttle service to the Rancho. Shuttle buses are handicapped accessible.

Rancho Los Alamitos is owned by the City of Long Beach and operated by Rancho Los Alamitos Foundation as a public/private cooperative venture under the auspices of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine. The site is open for tours Wednesday through Sunday from 1-5 p.m. School tours and Native American Children's Cultural Workshops are scheduled weekday mornings. Admission is free and parking is normally available on site. Enter through Bixby Hill residential security gate at Anaheim and Palo Verde. For information about the site, tours, or special events and programs, go to www.rancholosalamitos.com.

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