

## **Cultural Programs**

- **First Alaskans Institute – Leadership Development**

- AFN/First Alaskans Institute Elders and Youth Conference**

The AFN/First Alaskans Institute Elders & Youth Conference strengthens the knowledge and self-confidence of Native people to speak out and create change within themselves and in their communities. The conference celebrates Alaska Native intellect and encourages young people and Elders to pursue the great task of maintaining traditional Native values and practices, while thriving in the modern world.

- Summer Internship Program**

Rick Mueller, Leadership Development Manager

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**Project description:** The internship program places Alaska Native graduate and undergraduate students in partnering organizations. Partnering organizations provide challenging work place experiences while First Alaskans provides leadership development discussions, classes, and networking experiences to participating interns. The Summer Intern Program is generously funded by the Denali Commission.

- **Alaska Native Professional Association**

Jorie Zilys, Board Chair

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**Project description:** ANPA is here for emerging leaders to help build the relationships, leadership and the community for a brighter tomorrow. Knowledge building for Leadership includes: education and current issues, professional development board opportunities, Native values.

- **Native Movement—Arctic Institute for Indigenous Leadership**

Cathy Rexford, Alaska Director

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**Project description:** The AIFIL was founded as a tool to bring together some of the state's most innovative and inspired Indigenous minds. "This is a unique opportunity for young Alaska Native leaders to build a peer network wherein they both challenge and support one another in their personal and professional growth: states Evon Peter, Ex. Director for Native Movement. Participants, ages 18-35, gather over the course of a year to focus on creative and innovative approaches to revitalizing Alaska Native cultures, languages, and ways of living, while also addressing social, political, and economic challenges.

