



CENTER FOR NATIVE
AMERICAN YOUTH
AT THE ASPEN INSTITUTE

CENTER FOR NATIVE AMERICAN YOUTH CELEBRATES PRIDE



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We uplift and celebrate the meaningful contributions of LGBTQ+2S relatives and Native American youth on their journey. [The Center for Native American Youth](#) (CNAY) honors the sacred path of our LGBTQ+2S relatives, Happy Pride Month.

This month, the Center for Native American Youth at the [Aspen Institute](#) created opportunities for LGBTQ+2S to share their narratives and lived experiences. CNAY invited Native youth to share [what about their identity makes them proud](#). Youth from across Indian Country shared with us their narrative—to those who courageously and proudly shared their story with us, we thank you.

"As a proud member of the LGBTQ+2S community, I recognize that I have a responsibility to keep fighting for the rights of my LGBTQ+2S family," said [CNAY Youth Advisory Board](#) Chair, [Mikah Carlos](#). "For those youth leaders who are working to support LGBTQ+2S rights, the CNAY & Youth Advisory Board supports you and your work. Our vision is for all Native American youth to lead full and healthy lives and encouraging and supporting Native Youth to be proud of who you are is critical to that vision."

This month, as part of the [Tele-Native Youth Webinar series](#), CNAY provided a platform and discussion with Sherenté Harris (*Narragansett Niantic*), *Two-Spirit & Trans Activist*; Somáh Haaland (*Laguna Pueblo and Jemez Pueblo*) *Queer Theater Artist & Activist*; Tyson Johnston (*Quinault Indian Nation*) Vice President; and Nate Lemuel (*Navajo Nation*) Photographer & Visual Artist. Be sure to watch on our [Facebook](#) page to join the conversations of Tele-Native Youth.



To close this month, we invited 2020 Honorary [Champion for ChangeCongresswoman Sharice Davids](#) (*Ho-Chunk Nation*) to share a special message to Native youth and LGBTQ+2S relatives:



[The Center for Native American Youth](http://www.cnay.org) is a policy program of The Aspen Institute, located in Washington, DC. Created by former US Senator Byron Dorgan, CNAY believes Native American youth should lead full and healthy lives, have equal access to opportunity, and draw strength from their culture and one another. CNAY focuses on the resilience of Native youth and supports them through youth recognition, inspiration, and leadership; research, advocacy, and policy change; serving as a national resource exchange; and by developing strengths-based Native youth media opportunities. Learn more at www.cnay.org.

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