



INTEGRATED MARINE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH EXPEDITIONS



Fact SHEET

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CHUMASH MARITIME CULTURE INSPIRES FIRST EVER MULTI-CULTURAL “INDIGENOUS WATERCRAFT FESTIVAL: VOICES OF THE OCEAN” JUNE 2014 IN SANTA BARBARA

- 2014 Festival:** Free with activities Friday & Saturday, June 20 & 21 from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday, June 23 from noon to 4 p.m. at West Beach, Santa Barbara
- Goal:** To bring together native maritime peoples from western North America and the Pacific Rim for a shared experience of culture, history, presence, and the role of maritime people in the guardianship of land and sea. The hope is that renewed commitment to the lands and waters will emerge, both amongst native communities and the larger communities in which they now reside.
- Organizers:** Organized by InMER (Integrated Marine Education and Research Expeditions) and including Chumash Elders Marcus Lopez and Reggie Pagaling and InMER CEO Ed Cassano
- Participants:** Chumash and 5 to 10 tribes from the North American Pacific region who have a traditional history of native watercraft; special emphasis on youth
- Public Activities:** Opening Ceremony sunset paddle-in parade of vessels, passing Stearns Wharf and landing on West Beach
- In addition to the Chumash tomol, vessels may include Gabrielino tiat, Makaw voyaging canoe, Tlingit cedar dugout canoe, fleet of Aleut baidarkas, and even a hōkūle‘a – a Polynesian voyaging canoe from Hawaii
- Pavilion for daily storytelling, dancing and music

Daily paddles for members of the public, free, on a first-come, first served basis

Series of public lectures and dialogues on the role of community stewardship in global environmental protection

Tribal Gathering: Three day multi-generational gathering with a common setting; during morning hours, tribal youth attend events to develop both their skills and their relationships to reach other and to the sea

Sponsors: InMER has received generous support from the Foundation Council of the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians, as well as both monetary and in-kind contributors from generous supporters

Quotes:

“The ocean not only provides us with house and life, but also the cultures that both tie us to our past and guide us into the future. The tomol, the traditional Chumash plank canoe, is a symbol of both strength and servility—the Chumash people’s maritime knowledge: the abundance of ocean sustenance on one hand, and the utmost reliance on the waters that are so much bigger than us all on the other.” -- *Marcus Lopez, Chumash Elder and Project Director*

“We want to provide a gathering that reinforces the cultural ties between native maritime communities. The Festival will be a forum for dialogue on the importance of culture, natural history, and place in the face of unprecedented environmental changes.” -- *Reggie Pagaling, Chumash Elder and Project Consultant*

“The hope is to inspire both native and non-native people to consider themselves a part of a global community, and that they have a responsibility towards environmental stewardship of their common places, be that a local community, a region, a reservation, or the entire planet.” -- *Ed Cassano, InMER Founder and President*

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InMER Expeditions (Integrated Marine Education and Research Expeditions) combines the excitement and sense of discovery of scientifically oriented expeditions with the power and immediacy of social marketing, public relations, policy dialogues, educational programming, and outreach activities. Visit www.inmer.org.

