



Nibwaakaawin | Wisdom

empowering native youth creativity, courage, pride, cultural identity and healthy physical activity through skateboarding.



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WORLD'S LARGEST NATIVE SKATEBOARDING COMPETITION RETURNS TO ALBUQUERQUE FOR 5TH STRAIGHT YEAR

WHAT - The All Nations Skate Jam (ANSJ) is the largest and most prestigious Native American skate competition in the world, attracting thousands of Native and non-Native skaters and spectators from around North America.

WHEN - ANSJ is a two-day event from Saturday, April 30 until Sunday, May 1 2011 during the same weekend as the Gathering of Nations Powwow, North America's largest powwow. Gathering attracts over 150,000 spectators from around the world many of whom also attend the All Nations Skate Jam.

WHERE - ANSJ is held in Albuquerque, New Mexico at the Los Altos Skate Park, a 20,000 square foot concrete park that has bowls, pyramids, ledges, rails, and stairs to accommodate all types of skaters.

WHO - ANSJ is a program of Nibwaakaawin, a unique, skate-centered Native nonprofit organization dedicated to the education and empowerment of Native youth. Nibwaakaawin's mission is to foster creativity, build courage, enable cultural identity and pride, and promote non-violent and healthy physical activity through skateboarding. ANSJ attracts pro skate legends like Tony Alva and Bill Danforth, as well as up and coming top-ranked amateurs like Bryant Chapo. Access to top pros and amateurs makes the ANSJ a destination skate competition for many skaters. The 2011 ANSJ expects participants from Florida, California, Arizona, Michigan, Maryland, Colorado, South Dakota as well as many New Mexico communities. ANSJ sponsors include Vans, Gatorade, Native Threads, NMX, RISE, and others.

WHY - Native youth are at increased risk of childhood obesity, diabetes, participation in gang-related activities, drug abuse, and suicide. Skateboarding is the fastest growing sport on Native American reservations giving youth an opportunity to exercise and socialize. Nibwaakaawin directs the popularity of skateboarding towards essential life-long skills and positive physical and mental health benefits.

MEDIA – ANSJ was recently featured in Fuel TV's *Concrete Powwow*. This year the Smithsonian Institution will film at ANSJ for a new hour-long documentary on Native skate culture. Juice Magazine, Indian Country Today, and Vans.com have also featured ANSJ as well as local New Mexico TV, radio, and print media. Email bsandefur@allnationsskatejam.com for interviews and high resolution photos.

PRODUCT – The 2011 ANSJ will feature the next launch of the Vans' Pendleton shoe made exclusively for Nibwaakaawin and the ANSJ. Each year ANSJ launches new lines of skate product including decks and apparel from leading Native skate companies such as Native Skates, Full Blood Skates, 4-Wheel Warpony and others. Native Threads will also be on-site with their new clothing line.

Contact volunteers@allnationsskatejam.com if you are interested in volunteering at the event.