

GREENVILLE RANCHERIA

4th Friday of September

California is one of the richest states in the nation because of the culture, heritage, and diversity of its many federally recognized tribes. From the Kumeyaay in San Diego to the Serrano in San Bernardino to the Yurok in the Klamath Basin, including the Northeastern Maidu also known as the "Mountain Maidu," the indigenous people of California each have a diverse and peaceful existence that has lasted for many thousands of years. According to most recent census data, California is home to more people of Native American/ Alaska Native heritage than any other state in the Country. There are currently 110 federally recognized Indian tribes in California and 81 entities petitioning for recognition.

An acknowledgment of the California Indians came in 1968 when Governor Ronald Reagan signed a resolution calling for the fourth Friday of each September to be American Indian Day. It was hoped that this acknowledgment would help to inform the public about Indian heritage and the problems that are confronted by Indians in California.

For years, California tribes celebrated the fourth Friday of September by renewing their ties to the Earth and keeping alive the ways of their ancestors. It was in 1998 when the California Legislature passed Assembly Bill No. 1953 (Baca), establishing the day as an official day of education. Today, people of all ages celebrate California Native American Day by learning more about the culture, heritage, and traditions of the California Indian.

While it is not celebrated in all 50 states, it is recognized in both California and South Dakota. The day is gaining popularity in the rest of the country. There are 10 states, and more than 100 cities that recognize Indigenous Peoples Day as an alternative to the federally recognized Columbus Day, (USA Today).

Maidu elder Marie Potts says that the Maidu are traditionally a monotheistic people: "they greeted the sunrise with a prayer of thankfulness; at noon they stopped for meditation, and at sunset, they communed with Kadyapam and gave thanks for blessings throughout the day."



Potts, Marie (1977). The Northern Maidu. Happy Camp, California: Naturegraph Publishers Inc. pp. 34-35. ISBN 0879610719.

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FAMILY PRACTICE

PEDIATRICS

MEDICAL FACILITIES

DENTAL FACILITIES

MEDICAL TRANSPORT WITHIN PLUMAS AND TEHAMA COUNTIES

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