

Roots & Shoots

keep the tradition alive

Introducing Our CIBA Board of Directors for 2026



Chairperson:
Starla Madrigal
(Cahuilla / Luiseño)



Vice Chairperson:
Cody Walker
(Chukchansi)



Treasurer:
Chrissy Atwell-Valle
(Mono / Tachi / Chukchansi Yokut)



Secretary:
Ericka Lopez
(Luiseño)



Jennifer Malone
(Wukchumni)



Delia "Dee" Dominguez
(Yowlumne Yokuts / Ventureño
Chumash / Kitanemuk)



Diania Caudell
(Luiseño)



Hannah Lent
(S'amala Chumash)



Gavin Avila
(Payómakawish)



Ramona Rodriguez
(Gabrieliño/Payómkawish)



Annalisa Smith
(Payómakawish)



The Chairperson Report



Chairperson:
Starla Madrigal
Cahuilla/ Luiseño

Míiyuyam Miyaxwhe,

I would like to thank all CIBA members and the CIBA board for your support as chairwoman over the past year. I have enjoyed dedicating my time and efforts to CIBA and the basket weaving community. My highlights over the past year are community outreach, the opening of the Oakland Museums exhibit, and hosting an event.

I was eager to attend tribal events to share the mission of CIBA and my knowledge as a basketweaver. I was able to make connections at tribal events all over the state. Some events I attended include: the Big Time at Cal Poly Humboldt, GoNative in Exeter, MMIP Summit at Pala, La Jolla Earth Day, teaching at NALC, and Dragonfly Gala at Morongo.



CIBA was featured in Oakland Museum of California's "Good Fire: Tending Native Lands" exhibit. I attended along with Cody Walker and Chrissy Atwell-Valle. CIBA's section featured two cooking baskets from CIBA's collection, posters of CIBA annual gatherings, and highlighted our partnership with Ron Goode on cultural burns. It was amazing to have CIBA recognized for its work in tribal communities through cultural burns. CIBA was also able to share the importance of the connection between baskets and fire. The exhibit is a must see if you are in the area.

I hosted an event, the Neh'atem Yuchíwiva Cahuilla Fall Basket Weaving Gathering on the Cahuilla Reservation. The event brought CIBA members, as well as the surrounding tribal communities, together to learn about cultural burns and basketweaving.

Thank you all for your support and for attending CIBA events. I look forward to another year and I am excited for all that CIBA will do in 2026.

Starla Madrigal
CIBA Chairwoman



Vice Chairperson: Cody Walker



Vice Chairperson:
Cody Walker
Chukchansi

Hil-le hil-le,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. As we move forward into 2026, I look forward to opening new opportunities for basketweavers to continue returning good fire to the land, working with existing partners for access to land and waterways, and creating new partnerships across the state to facilitate access to basket weaving materials. If anyone has areas of concern that they need support - perhaps communicating with government agencies or resource conservation districts for land access for basket weaving or cultural materials at public land, or maybe the quality of the water or soil is harming access and use of an area - please contact our office and we can review how we can help advocate for your concern.

This year's Annual Gathering will be graciously hosted by the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria and it is always exciting to see our basketweaving community far and wide come together to share, learn and celebrate that we are still here! We are also working to provide opportunities for additional basketweaving events throughout the state. Please keep an eye on our social media or website for details as they are confirmed.

Gooyewishga,
Cody Walker
Vice Chairman

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(Chiricauha Apache)

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Association
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CIBA Vision Statement:

The purpose of the California Indian Basketweavers' Association is to preserve, promote and perpetuate California Indian weaving traditions.

CIBA Board of Directors:

Starla Madrigal (*Cahuilla/ Luiseño*)
Chairperson

Cody Walker (*Chukchansi*)

Vice Chairperson

Ericka Lopez (*Luiseño*)

Secretary

Chrissy Atwell (*Mono/Tachi/ Chukchansi*)

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Ramona Rodriguez (*Gabrieliño/ Payómkawish*)

Delia "Dee" Dominguez (*Yowlumne Yokuts/Ventureno Chumash/ Kitanemuk*)

Production of the California Indian Basketweavers' Newsletter has been made possible by a Statewide Networking grant from the California Arts Council.

As a federally registered 501(c)3 contributions to CIBA are tax deductible.

CIBA membership is open to the general public.

Membership applications available at ciba.org



Newsletter Design by Tiffany Jackson
(*Cocopah, Quechan, Rosebud, Laguna Pueblo, Paiute*)

Big Sandy Rancheria Gathering Event

Written by: Nicholas Luna

The Big Sandy Rancheria Basketweavers event brought together community members, teachers, and vendors from across California Indian tribes to celebrate and continue the practice of traditional basketweaving. The event was hosted by the California Indian Basketweavers' Association in partnership with Big Sandy Rancheria, Cold Springs Rancheria, and Tule River Reservation and was rooted in cultural relevance, resiliency, and multi-generational community connection.

The event focused on knowledge sharing practices by focusing on traditional California Indian basketweaving. All vendors and teachers were of California Indian descent, representing local tribes and bringing intertribal knowledge to the space. Participants created culturally significant items such as miniature cradleboards, seed beaters, burden baskets, baby rattles and coil medallions. A youth-produced documentary created by Big Sandy Rancheria youth highlighted the importance of multi-generational basketweaving, reinforcing cultural continuity

and Indigenous-led storytelling. Participants gained hands-on experience with cultural materials and techniques, including allowing space for new acorn mush makers to feel supported and empowered to continue cooking in a coil basket. Many attendees expressed a strong desire to stay connected to weaving practices beyond the event.

We successfully reached 141 participants, including 20 Native vendors, all from California Indian tribes. The presence and participation of local tribal members, teachers, and families reflected the depth of community investment in cultural continuation of family and tribal practices. The event also created opportunities for tribal youth to engage in leadership, cultural documentation, and intergenerational learning. We also hosted a Crock-Pot Cookoff that provided a shared sense of celebration and involvement in the space while honoring hospitality when welcoming visitors. Due to the success of this event, we are looking forward to the possibility of providing another basketweaving event within the local area.



34th Annual Gathering: Weaving Our Culture One Stitch at a Time

Thank you Soboba!

Written by: Ericka Lopez

The 2025 Annual Gathering, held at the Soboba Sports Complex, was a wonderful event with speakers, bird singers and dancers, along with a showing of the documentary *Saging the World*. Soboba Council Member Geneva Mojado, began the event by welcoming all who attended. The event was well attended by many weavers from across California, who taught, weaved and caught up with old friends. Thirty-one teachers, both adults and youth, attended the event, each one demonstrating how to process, clean, and use native materials from various regions. Guest speaker Chag Lowery talked about his basketry comic book and his new book, *Where the Water Flows Strong*.

Whether they made something at the event or worked on something throughout the year, weavers were able to display their hard work in the Annual Gathering's showcase. Saturday, Sandy Clark and her daughter Stephanie demonstrated cooking acorns in a basket. On Sunday, many weavers had the chance to gather weaving materials in Soboba. Soboba Tribal member, Chef Anita Morrillo prepared all the food served at the gathering. Throughout the weekend many were able to participate in the Annual Gathering's silent auction and raffle. With many different prizes, there was excitement in seeing who would win. The 2025 Annual Gathering was enjoyed by all who came, the main highlight was being able to spend time with friends and family.





Go Native Gathering

Written by: Cody Walker

On a beautiful spring day along the Kaweah River east of Visalia, California, the Go Native event provided guests the opportunity to learn and make coil and twining baskets, create clapper sticks, and weave tule reeds to make decoy ducks among other activities. In addition to CIBA's support, this event has been supported by the Sequoia Riverlands Trust which opens the 344-acre Kaweah Oaks Preserve for the event and also provides general access to the land and water for basketweavers to carryout traditional practices. CIBA Board Member Jennifer Malone has been facilitating the Go Native event for many years now, and her dedication to promote and carry forward basketry, language and other cultural practices is very meaningful. CIBA looks forward to future Go Native events, collaborating with partners for land access similar to Kaweah Oaks Preserve and supporting opportunities for basketweaving traditions to flourish.



UPCOMING EVENTS



California Indian Basketweavers' Association

SAVE THE DATE

35th Annual Gathering 2026

HOST SITE FOR 2026


FEDERATED INDIANS OF GRATON RANCHERIA

June 19-21, 2026

california indian basketweavers' association

CIBA & SRT PRESENT

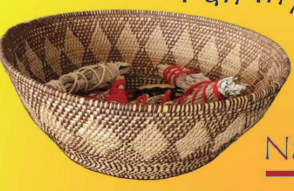
 **Go Native!** 

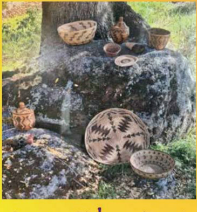
T'an Inyaana

Time: 10am - 3pm

Native Crafts Classes

- Milk weed rope
- Pine Needle Baskets
- Walnut Dice Game
- Kids Corner
- Tule Ducks
- Drumming
- Indian Tacos





Save The Date!

May 23, 2026

Kaweah Oaks Preserve
29979 RD. 182 Exeter CA
Contact: Jennifer Malone
559-280-0712

 **SEQUOIA Riverlands Trust**
SERVING LAND AND PEOPLE

california indian basketweavers' association

Yuchíwiva Neh'atem Cahuilla Fall Basketweaving Gathering

Written by: Starla Madrigal

The Yuchíwiva Neh'atem Cahuilla Fall Basketweaving Gathering was held on November 16th, 2025 on the Cahuilla Reservation. The event started with a visit to Cahuilla tribal member Tangie Bogner's land assignment. It has a large juncus patch that has brought basket weavers from surrounding reservations to gather juncus. A cultural burn was conducted by the Cahuilla Fire Department, lead by Chief Diaz, a few days prior due to the rain. Cahuilla tribal member Rose Ann Hamilton opened with prayer. Tangie Bogner shared about the history of the juncus patch and demonstrated how to gather. Cahuilla Emergency Operations Center Manager, Raphael Rios shared how the burn was conducted, the difference between a clean and dirty burn and how resilient juncus is after a burn. Participants had the opportunity to gather juncus.

At the Cahuilla Tribal Hall there were four basket weaving teachers who taught open weave juncus baskets, coiled baskets, and willow granaries. As everyone weaved we listened to Cahuilla birdsongs led by Bill Madrigal. Over 80 participants enjoyed the day learning, laughing, dancing and weaving. A special thank you to Climate Science Alliance and the Cahuilla Fire Department for collaborating with CIBA to make this event possible.



CIBA would like to gratefully acknowledge these organizations for the support that they have given that makes our programs possible

