

To: Rob

From: Will

Agreed

October 26, 1977

file: NWNAB

To: Stone Thomas

From: Faculty of A Separate Reality

Subject: Opportunity to document a traditional Native American teaching ceremony

We have just been made aware of an opportunity to develop some educational materials of great importance to Evergreen's alternative educational model for Native American people. For generations American educational institutions have negated the traditional authority of Indian elders and Indian traditional teachings. It has been a major objective of Native American studies at Evergreen to restore and reimage the authority of traditional Indian ways.

Evergreen is fortunate to have been invited to make a documentary film of a traditional naming ceremony performed by a respected tribal elder. Formally taking the name of an ancestor is a revered Northwest Coast tradition which has the effect of cementing the continuity of generations and giving the recipient of the name the responsibility for carrying tribal values and traditions forward. The tribal elder has agreed to perform publicly the naming ceremony on November 18 for the purpose of allowing Evergreen to make a documentary film of this process. The recipient of the name will be a member of Evergreen's faculty, Mary Ellen Hillaire, and Lovern King, also a faculty member, and two students have been invited to make the film record of the event. Indian children from Western Washington schools will attend the ceremony and there will be national press coverage.

In order to respond to this invitation and produce this important teaching material, we will need the following:

- . access to two 16 mm cameras and sound equipment on November 17,18,19.
- . \$1100.00 for the preparation of a 4000 foot 16 mm work print (\$25.00/100 feet), which will be edited to about 800 feet (5/1 shooting ratio) for a 20 minute color film of the naming ceremony and an interview with the elder about its traditional meaning.

It is our hope that the Third World Coalition can help us to secure these resources. Thank you for your help.

Lovern King
Mary Ellen Hillaire
David Whitener
Betsy Diffendal
Maxine Mimms

cc Dan Evans
Will Humphrey
Willy Parsons

Will: let's check the capability of the filmers, and encourage it if looks acceptable.
Rob