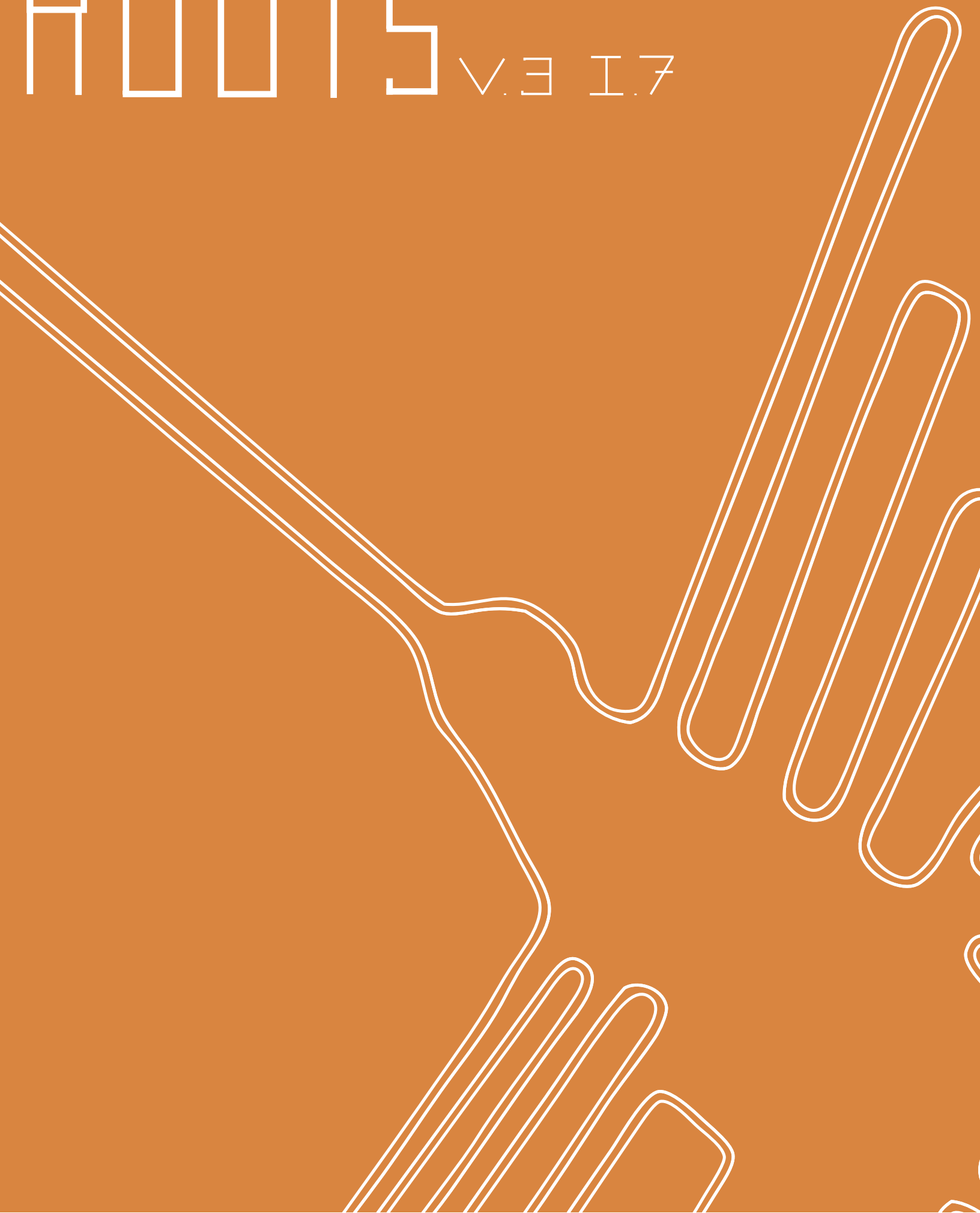


# ROOTS

V.3 I.7



# Native American Heritage Month Events

**Award-Winning Native American Photographer**  
Nov. 8, UU204, 7:30-9:00 pm

In celebration of Native American Heritage Month, the Cal Poly MultiCultural Center will present photographer Peggy Fontenot to display and discuss her works. Her exhibit, entitled "Surviving Assimilation: The Contemporary Native American," will run from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in UU204 (Left Wing Chumash). Fontenot has been exhibiting her work nationally since 1991 and has won numerous awards. Her exhibit displays the prosperity of Native American culture despite governmental attempts at assimilation. Snacks will be provided.

**"Two Spirits" Documentary and Two Spirit Native American speaker, L Frank**  
Nov. 17, UU204, 7:00-9:00 pm

The MultiCultural Center is teaming with the Pride Center in screening the documentary, "Two Spirits." The film discusses the place for the nadleeh, or two spirit, in Native American culture, highlighting the blend of masculine and feminine traits. It follows the case of Fred Martinez who was a highly esteemed nadleeh in the Navajo culture, but was brutally murdered at age sixteen by a man who refused to accept him. Following the film, Two Spirited Native American, L Frank, will discuss her role in the film and the position of the two spirited within society. The film will begin at 7:00 pm in UU204 and the discussion will follow. Snacks will be provided.

Check out the MCC website for more upcoming events!  
<http://studentlife.calpoly.edu/multicultural/>

## Another Type of Groove

**Feature Poet: Ike Torres**  
Nov. 3, Chumash Auditorium, 7:30-10:00pm

Ike Torres is a Chicano/Native spoken word artist, student and activist from Sacramento, CA. He has been performing since 2005, and has been a member of the Sacramento Slam Team (2005 & 2006). Ike blends the disciplines of theatre and spoken word as well as comedy to bring his words to life. He has worked with several youth programs providing writing and spoken word workshops. Ike has also been a guest speaker and performer at many schools ranging from elementary to universities across the nation.



# *Club Spotlight: American Indian Science and Engineering Society and American Indian Student Association*

Although small, the American Indian Student Association (AISA) and the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) are two clubs that have great influence in spreading knowledge and understanding of Native American culture on Cal Poly's campus. As two organizations operating in conjunction with one another, AISA and AISES both strive to provide a support system for Native American students both personally and professionally. AISES stems from a larger national organization that was founded in 1977 to substantially increase representation of American Indian and Alaska Natives in the fields of engineering, science and their related professions. Cal Poly's chapter of AISES hosts professional events not only for their own members but also for all of the Cal Poly campus. Events range from business etiquette and interview technique workshops to joint endeavors with clubs like the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) and the Society for Black Engineers and Scientists (SBES).

AISES is also very involved with their national organization, and several members attend the AISES National Conference held every year. The conference is an opportunity for students and professionals to attend workshops, network with various companies and gain new friendships with members across the country. With its mission to help Cal Poly's Native American students develop professionally, AISES provides many opportunities for students to grow academically. AISA's mission, however, focuses on allowing students to express their cultural heritage on campus.

AISA strives to promote Native American culture by informing students about American Indian heritage and tradition. The club is consistently involved on campus with displays, events and workshops that educate the student body about Native American heritage. They have sponsored and hosted an event with the Lakota Sioux Dance Troupe as well as hosted their own Native Dance workshops to teach the American Indian dancing traditions to Cal Poly students. AISA participated in CultureFest this year by selling frybread, and is also involved with PolyCultural. This year, AISA plans to host a nature walk with a Native American guide who will educate students on the medicinal values of various plants in the Central Coast area. AISA also plans on a hosting "Cooking in the Canyon" in Poly Canyon Village to teach residents how to cook their own Native American cuisine. The club also creates the Native American history display in the library in honor of Native American History Month. With new and creative ideas, AISA members are constantly sharing the rich culture of Native Americans through the events they plan for Cal Poly students to enjoy.

Both AISES and AISA's goals this year are to get students, those who are Native American and those who are not, involved in the club and the events they plan. They also hope to continue to put on more events that will benefit their members' development, in addition to more cultural events that educate the Cal Poly campus. I asked AISES President, Colin Lawson, and AISA President, Stephanie Cowherd, what Cal Poly students don't know about AISES and AISA but should—Stephanie said "That there is a club on campus for Native students and that it is here to support them." Colin said, "You also don't have to be Native American to become a member."

AISA and AISES meet on Tuesdays at 11am-12pm in Building 10 room 225.





# Latino Cultural Fashion Show



Students donned ponchos, embroidered shirts, flowing skirts, and much more to be the stars of the MCC's Latino Cultural Fashion show. Fashion from various countries like Costa Rica, Belize, Guatemala, Nicaragua and several others were modeled to South American music. Danza Aztecas performed dances while wearing traditional tribal clothing and explained the symbolic meaning of the clothes' designs. A Garifuna dance group also performed songs and dances in addition to explaining the rich culture of the Garifuna people. Examples of the influences that native Latino fashion has on modern clothing were also modeled at the event. The fashion show was a wonderful night of celebrating Latino culture through the mediums of dance, music and specifically fashion.





# October Recap:

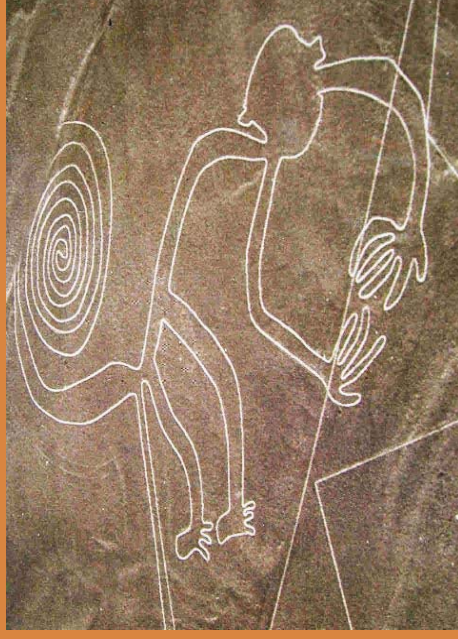


Even though it was cold and rainy, CultureFest still persevered to be a great event. Dance performances from a variety of clubs ranging from Imagen y Espiritu, to PCE, to Hip Hop Congress and a guest performance by America's Best Dance Crew's Victor Kim, made the day vibrant and exciting. Also, who could forget all of the great food! Nu Alpha Kappa's nachos, MEXA's tostadas, Omega Xi Delta's Korean BBQ bowls, and PCE's Lumpia were just some of the huge selection of food being sold by participating clubs. The combination of such great food, dancing and people, made for a very lively rainy Sunday.





## *What are the Nazca Lines?*



The Nazca Lines are a series of ancient geoglyphs located in the Nazca Desert of Peru. Created by the Nazca people, these earth-carvings have been dated back to 400 AD. They vary in shape and size, ranging from simple geometric shapes to intricate abstractions of hummingbirds, monkeys, and fish. Being fully visible only from an airplane, the Nazca lines display the complex ingenuity of the Nazca people. These ancient artworks were also inspiration for this newsletter.