

CONTACT: CINDY PICKARD

830.966.6170

fonehome@indian-creek.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 25, 2008

rites of passage

in association with the Institute of American Indian Arts

Present:

THE 8TH FIRE

in Santa Fe

a vision of hope for the future...for the earth...for the children

Santa Fe, NM — On May 10th at 7pm. at the Institute of American Indian Arts, the non-profit organization Rites of Passage, ACA will present THE 8TH FIRE: a vision of hope for the future...for the earth...for the children.

The public is invited to this free event, and sacred fire ceremony, which will happen along with the annual powwow at IAIA

Included in this event will be the screening of the highly acclaimed documentary, THE 8TH FIRE, a talk by Anishnabe Elder and Spiritual advisor, Dave Courchene Jr. (Leading Earth Man), a short talk by New York Times bestselling author Dr. Larry Dossey of Santa Fe, as well as a performance by Native flutist, Cody Littlehawk Swimmer. The 8th Fire film <http://the8thfire.org> has been drawing packed houses of enthusiastic fans in Texas, Connecticut, British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario.

Santa Fe journalist and healer, Steven McFadden, the author of the epic, nonfiction saga "Odyssey of the 8th Fire," will serve as Master of Ceremonies. Following the screening, Native Elder, Dave Courchene. will gather the people in a circle and light the sacred fire in an outdoor ceremony.

Dave Courchene is descended from a long line of leaders and chiefs of his people. At one time the Superintendent of Education in his community, he "felt compelled by forces beyond his control to quit his job and go on a ceremonial expedition of peace around the world."

In the past several years, he has been an invited speaker and struck a spark for the prophetic, ceremonial 8th Fire in Japan, Korea, Israel and the Middle East, the

1992 Earth Summit in Brazil, the Philippines, the World Peace Summit hosted by the United Nations, and throughout Canada and the United States.

In Manitoba, at his healing center called The Turtle Lodge, [<http://www.theturtlelodge.com>] he conducts traditional First Nations ceremonies to revive, renew and sustain the spirit of all people. His talk and THE 8TH FIRE documentary will be based on the Anishnabe people's ancient prophecy, the prophecy of the 8th Fire:

The 8th Fire prophecy has been handed down over many generations. The belief is that a time would come when the earth would enter into a change and that the 'new people' (people of all colors and faiths) would gather to seek insight and direction.

"They will come to a fork in the road. One road will lead to Materialism and Destruction.....for almost all living creatures....The other road will lead to a Spiritual Way upon which the Native People will be standing...This path will lead to the lighting of the 8th fire, a period of eternal peace, harmony and a "New Earth" where the destruction of the past will be healed."

For an interview with Dave Courchene, contact Cindy Pickard 830.966.6170 or via email at fonehome@indian-creek.net.

The 8th Fire event is presented in Santa Fe by the Texas-based non profit organization, Rites of Passage, ACA in partnership with the Institute of American Indian Arts which is located at 83 Avan Nu Po Road about 20 minutes from the Santa Fe Plaza.

To learn more about the North American tradition of the 8th Fire, and about the acclaimed film, see [http:// the8thfire.org](http://the8thfire.org)

- END -