



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
July 15, 2018

**CONTACT:**  
Alexandra David  
518-333-0373  
adavid@spiritaligned.org

**Spirit Aligned Leadership Program Now Accepting Applicants**  
*Fellowship award honors Indigenous women elders*

AKWESASNE, N.Y. (July 15, 2018) – Spirit Aligned Leadership program is now accepting applicants for its Spirit Aligned Fellowship Award. The fellowship is a self-determined program that invites selected Indigenous women elders into an intimate circle of Legacy Leaders to strengthen their personal and collective power.

The three-year fellowship supports each Legacy Leader with an annual monetary award to sustain them as they develop unique legacy collections. Creating sisterhood across geographic and cultural spaces, accessing specialized resources, and honing their original personal and public narratives are the enduring assets. The aim is to provide Legacy Leaders with space and time to create new resources that will benefit their own communities and impact a much broader audience, now and for generations to come.

“We seek to honor and empower the Indigenous women elders who have stood up for generations gathering knowledge and creating effective practices that sustain the multiple worlds they hold up,” says director Katsi Cook (Mohawk). “They are a precious source of leadership and strategy for our future generations.”

North American Indigenous women elders working to heal, strengthen and restore the balance of Indigenous communities are invited to apply. The Spirit Aligned Fellowship Award application will remain open until 11:59 pm EST on Monday, October 15, 2018. Find the application, guidelines and frequently asked questions at [www.spiritaligned.org/application/](http://www.spiritaligned.org/application/).

The inaugural circle of Legacy Leaders was selected in 2017, and includes Sarah Agnes James, Neetsa’ii Gwich’in; Yvonne Annette Toon Nee Mu Sh Dupuis Peterson, Chehallis; Louise Wakerakats:te Herne, Mohawk; Jan Kahehti:io Longboat, Mohawk; Dr. Henrietta Mann, Southern Cheyenne; Loretta Afraid of Bear Cook, Oglala Lakota; Lenora Naranjo-Morse, Santa Clara Pueblo; and Barbara Poley, Laguna/Hopi.

###

**About Spirit Aligned Leadership Program**

Spirit Aligned Leadership Program elevates the lives, voices and dreams of Indigenous women elders who are working to heal, strengthen and restore the balance of Indigenous communities. For more information, visit [www.spiritaligned.org](http://www.spiritaligned.org).

