



NEW RELEASE - Tribal Education Departments National Assembly  
Friday, September 18, 2015

### **TEDNA ANNOUNCES WINNER OF MERIT AWARD CONTEST**

Tribal Education Departments National Assembly (TEDNA) Executive Director Quinton Roman Nose congratulates Alana Walker for her essay on the importance of culture in education.

Ms. Walker is a member of the Nez Perce Tribe and is currently enrolled at the Institute of American Indian Art, studying Cinematic Arts and Technology and is on the Dean's List. She aspires to own an animation studio that will employ indigenous animators and writers. "We are pleased to award Alana for her hard work and continuing education at IAIA and hope to be able to award many other students in the future," said Mr. Roman Nose.

"I'm proud of Alana for taking advantage of the opportunity to apply for the TEDNA merit award," says Joyce McFarland, TEDNA Board Member and Nez Perce Education Manager. "She showed wisdom beyond her years, in her essay, when she recognized knowledge gained by observation of the natural world and how cultural relevance in education makes students prepared to care for their community."

TEDNA's scholarship was established in 2015 to foster relationships with the youth impacted by TEDNA's work. This year's theme was "The Importance of Culture in Education."

TEDNA is a membership organization for the Education Departments of American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes. The founding of TEDNA has been supported by the Native American Rights Fund and the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Indian Education.



If you are interested in sponsoring the scholarship in the future, or desire more information, Contact: Quinton Roman Nose, 405-295-5691, [gromannose@tedna.org](mailto:gromannose@tedna.org), [www.tedna.org](http://www.tedna.org)