

Box 158
Elgin, Oregon
June 1, 1963

Letter to the Editor
Yakima, Washington

Dear Sir

The fourth Indian Festival of Arts program will be held at La Grande, Oregon on June 21-24- 1963. The I.F.A. is strictly a non-profit organization and all who help to make it a success donate their time and serve with out pay.

The summer program is strictly for Indian talent and they compete for suitable awards. It helps keep up interest in Indian crafts, arts, chants, dances and songs, and to preserve the ancient relics, myths and legends of the past. Indians from nearly all parts of the U.S. and some from Canada come to take part in this event. Many of the musicians, artists, speakers and vocalists who have taken part in these events have been from the Yakima area. We appreciate very much the interest they have shown and hope to see a large representation from you area again this year.

We have obtained a 5 acre tract in La Grande and are starting to raise a building fund to put up a building to be used by I.F.A. to house a museum for Indian work, an office for I.F.A., a kitchen and dining room for our annual Thanksgiving feast. We want to install toilet facilities and showers to take care of the Teepee Village.

The second program of the year is the annual I.F.A. Thanksgiving feast held on a Sunday between Nov. 1st. and Thanksgiving day, it is an event where both races intermingle and get better acquainted. We all sit together and enjoy a dinner of vension, salmon, turkey and dressing and all the things that it takes to make a real Thanksgiving feast. Both Indian and whites contribute the food. A good will offering is take.

Following the dinner there is a very good program by both Indian and White speakers, singers and musicians. Some of the finest talent in the Northwest have taken part in this event. Between 450 and 500 attend; about $\frac{1}{4}$ of these being Indians who come from 50 to 500 miles to attend.

Sincerely,

Earl Van Ellokland
Member-Committee
For Brotherhood