



N.O.A.C. Public Relations Committee

Office Information

Indiana Memorial Union
2nd Floor, Walnut Room
(Tel.) 812- 885-4585
(Fax) 812-856-0777

Committee Staff

Brian Ing, Chairman
Sam Murphey
Loren Meinke, Advisor
Forrest Bolles, Advisor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE BY THE NOAC PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

PRESS RELEASE TOPIC: NOAC BACKGROUND

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CONTACT PERSON: SAM MURPHEY

Every two years, youth and adult members of the Order of the Arrow gather on the campus of a major university for the National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC). This conference is Scouting's second-largest national program event. NOAC draws nearly 7000 youths and adults from all across the United States and as far away as Europe and Asia.

The main activities at NOAC include training, ceremonies performance and evaluation, Native American events, shows and Founders' Day. The conference assembles for four major shows in the evenings: an opening show; a history/recognition show; a Native American dance show; and a theme show. All of the shows are written, directed and performed by youth members of the Order of the Arrow.

The conference is planned and executed by the youth leaders of the Order of the Arrow. These leaders began organizing the 2002 conference at the annual National Planning Meeting last December in Dallas, TX. At the Dallas meeting, they elected Conference Vice Chiefs and broke into operating committees with specific assignments for the conference. They also chose the theme for this year's conference: *Test Yourself and So Discover*.

In March, 2002, the Conference Vice Chiefs participated in an on-site visit at Indiana University. During their visit, they toured the campus, secured facilities and continued to plan the program for the conference.

Key NOAC staff members began to arrive on the Indiana University campus on Monday, and the last staff members are scheduled to arrive this afternoon. Lodge contingents will begin to arrive at 8:00 AM tomorrow.