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Annual Indian youth conference set for April 8-10 at U. of Montana

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MISSOULA, Mont. --

"Awareness" will be the theme of the third annual Kyi-Yo Indian Youth Conference April 8-10 at the University of Montana. The three-day event is sponsored by the UM Kyi-Yo Indian Club.

Approximately 3,500 high school and college students are expected to attend from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, North and South Dakota, and Montana.

The conference is open to all who wish to attend. Conference planners hope it will be "a conference reflecting the true Indian," said Gerald J. Stiffarm, a UM sophomore from the Ft. Belknap Reservation, Harlem. Stiffarm is conference finance committee chairman.

A registration fee of $6 for students and $8 for adults will be charged.

Scheduled events include a Miss Indian Montana Contest in the University Theater, a concert by Floyd Westerman, a banquet, parade, dance, an arts and crafts exhibit, Indian culture dances, panels, speakers and a powwow.

Miss Indian Montana contestants must be between the ages of 16-23 and attired in Indian dress. They will be judged on appearance, personality, talent, originality and Indian knowledge. Contest winner will receive a $150 scholarship to attend UM.