

WILDHORSE RESORT CASINO



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For Immediate Release

Wildhorse Resort & Casino To Welcome Native Pop Singer, Jana Nov. 21

Pendleton, OR - In a special free program for families Wildhorse Resort & Casino will welcome pop Native singer Jana on Monday, November 21 at 6 p.m.

A member of North Carolina's large Lumbee Tribe, Jana's first single, What Am I to You, went Top 40 on the charts and her version of Stairway to Heaven was 6th on Billboard Magazine's single sales chart. She has also won Female Artist of the Year, Best Single of the Year and Best Pop Artist of the Year from the Native American Music Awards.

But the lithe singer, a cover girl for Natural Beauty and Health magazine earlier in 2005, has also taken the lead in providing encouragement to young people, especially Native youth, to make a commitment to healthy, successful lifestyles. Using music and an interactive presentation she addresses issues such as education, alcohol, tobacco and drug awareness and gang association.

Jana's Native Youth Motivational Presentation is said to be the most successful presentation of its kind in the country, organized under "Jana's Kids" a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. As an indication of her involvement with young Americans, she was selected as a headliner for the opening ceremonies of this year's Boy Scout National Jamboree.

Her first album, Flash of a Firefly, includes deeply personal yet universal themes in songs such as I'll Be with You, Friend Above and One Spirit. In her American Indian Christmas album she sang ten traditional Christmas songs in ten different Native American languages.

According to Jana, her music "is not traditional Native but it does have traditional influences as far as the content—not so much about Native issues but about cultural identity and being different. I don't want to say it is pop but it is not traditional." She goes on to quote influences such as Stevie Wonder, Annie Lennox and Barbara Streisand.

When she appeared at the inaugural ball for President Bush in January, 2001, Jana said she had then Secretary of State Colin Powell and his wife up and dancing to her lively tunes. At the time her single More Than Life was in heavy rotation on pop and dance radio stations across the country. According to the New York Times, for her heady appearance before the Nation's leaders she wore "handmade beaded earrings and streams of feathers in the hair", a favorite outfit for Jana, who said she likes "feathers, suedes and beads, mostly in red, blue and yellow, the traditional colors worn by Tribal dancers."