

## Respecting Place Conference Participant Comments

"The best on-point information I have ever received with reference to protecting our places."

"Please bring this conference to Oklahoma!"

"I was shocked how much useful information I learned, even in subjects I thought I already knew about."

"I learned from great examples of community organizing and advocacy. It has given me ideas and inspiration for similar efforts at my own tribe and community."

"Excellent - well worth the experience. Have more gatherings!"

"The conference set up relationships with technical experts and other tribes that will continue to benefit our cultural preservation long after the conference."

"The meeting was thoughtful and sensitive. You could feel and see the passion of the speakers."

"This has been an extremely valuable and inspiring experience that will benefit our tribe greatly."

"Perfect flow of presenters and topics."

"I did not believe this conference was for me, but was encouraged to attend anyway. I am so glad that I did. I learned so much and now I have tools to work with and I'm ready to share what I learned with young ones who can carry on our hard work protecting sites, cultural resources, and language."

"Extremely useful. The information provided and resources are great for reference and what to watch for and consider."

"Respecting Place program would be very beneficial for the removed tribes in Oklahoma."

"Very useful, thought-provoking sessions."

"As a new THPO, the information shared has helped put a lot into perspective. I feel as though a weight has been lifted in many areas that I was struggling with. I am thankful and grateful."

"We are very grateful for the scholarship given to us to allow us to attend."

"The entire conference was filled with great information. I wish more could attend, but for us, it is not financially possible."

"KEEP HAVING THESE CONFERENCES!"

"Please do a mentoring workshop for GIS and mapping options."

"Hold this gathering more often—maybe 2 times per year!"

“This was so useful! This conference will change how we do cultural preservation and will change how we do our Phase 3 grant application.”

“I met many people from all over, hearing about their projects and what they’ve accomplished, or hope to accomplish, was a great experience, and I received contact info for collaboration opportunities.”

“Filling out the questionnaire gives me the opportunity to reflect on my week and I am moved to tears. The one thought that keeps coming to mind is – a single arrow is easily broken, but a bundle of arrows is strong. Alone I am weak, but together we are strong. Thank you so much MICA Group, you are appreciated.”

“Intense! --heart-rending, and justification for honor and respect. Overall guidance and understanding and the tact taken to further explain is to be applauded.”

“I want to keep a close ongoing professional relationship with the MICA Group and seek resources as I grow, develop, and establish a more substantial Cultural Resources Department.”

“All of the information was presented well.”

“The networking was the best. More than I could imagine and the willingness to further assist, and to find, ended not only with an associate/contact, but a friend.”

“Very informative – a great look at GIS and cultural resource management.”

“Some of the GIS info learned here was so useful that I’ve literally already begun to incorporate it.”

“This was a great, informative, and inspirational gathering.”

“All of the info that offered free software, apps, and tutorials is extremely useful. I appreciated hearing what other people are doing and their strategies.”

“The overall experience was very good. Special commendation to the MICA staff for their compassionate service.”

“Awesome!”

“I loved it all! Valuable!”

“The most valuable part was the ideas together in one room and the resources now at our disposal.”

“Wonderful conference!”

“Reading and research is not the same as human interaction, and coming to the gathering has provided opportunities to meet our brethren and sisters. In some instances, it was like meeting family for the first time. I visited with so many who were happy to share their knowledge and experiences. Many nations are strong in their efforts and every time I received a business card, email address or phone number, it was like they shared a priceless tool from their belt.”

"I am very grateful and thankful for this conference because it opened my eyes to a variety of topics presented to us."

"Thank you to the MICA Group for all you do and have done so that we can further the possibilities for our people. Thank you to the Santa Ana Pueblo for allowing us a wonderful opportunity to blend in their blessed environment – unforgettable!"

"Fantastic!"

"The tribal panel presentations were very useful and all tribal presentations with site and data management inspired us to examine our own protocols."

"Excellent – every presentation."

"I loved the fact and presence of "spirit" and "humbleness" affiliated with the conference."

"Invite indigenous people from overseas on other continents."

"Excellent. Provided new info (to me)."

"Very informative. Tools we can use."

"Please place a link on the Cultural Resource Fund site with the presentations!"

"I wish to thank you all for this opportunity and for your organized programs. Most importantly, for sharing your ideas and making this possible for all tribes."

"The information provided this week was 100% useful."

"All around a very good, informative, and pleasant conference. Thank you to all."

"My overall experience exceeded my expectations. I was ecstatic about all the work currently being done throughout the US with various tribes."

"I will take away a little of everything!"

"Excellent!"

"Great conference, great location, great accommodations!"

"Excellent conference. All info useful."

"As a first-time attendee, I really felt this conference was a vast and conducive array of information, and I really am just grateful to have attended."

"We need to help our people self-advocate. This conference helped me with new ideas."

"Thankful to Creator, MICA, our SHPOs, and THPOs, for the work you all do."

“Overall this conference was jam-packed with great info and great presenters and I learned a lot.”

“The discussions and presentations were useful and impactful.”

“Many presentations inspired us to do more protection and fight harder.”

“Very useful and insightful information.”

“I would like to see more of this type of education implemented.”

“I flew the Drone!! How exciting☺”

“Thank you!! I was happy to be able to attend this significant event.”

“Provided much more information on known technologies and more ways to use to aid in preservation and make it easier.”

“Overall, the conference was wonderful!”

“There was a lot of helpful information that will help advance our site identification and preservation efforts.”

“I found the presentations very helpful and informational. The hands-on workshops were great. Definitely another conference like this one would be great if funding were available.”

“Networking opportunities were excellent.”

“Very useful. Appreciated the individual consultations!!”

“I made excellent contacts that I will follow up with. Folks got my info too.”

“Thank you so much for this gathering!”