



# Wings of America

American Indian Youth Development Programs

October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011

## **PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION**

For more information, contact: Dustin Martin, Program Dir. @ 505-977-5057 or [wingsprgrmdir@aol.com](mailto:wingsprgrmdir@aol.com)

### **Wings of America Announces the 2012 USATF National Junior Cross Country Championship Team Selection Process!**

The next USATF Cross Country Championships will be held on **February 11, 2012** at Forest Park in **Saint Louis, Missouri**. As in years past, Wings of America will sponsor a men and women's team to represent Native America in the **Junior** race. The organization will cover travel expenses and room and board for the twelve young men and women selected to race in Wings uniforms. Aside from competing, the group will get the opportunity to absorb the culture of St. Louis and the surrounding area through a number of site visits and activities planned and paid for by Wings.

Wings created this opportunity in order to showcase the talents and positive achievements of American Indian youth and provide them with a cross-cultural learning experience. The program brings Native youth together from across the nation to compete as a team in an elite field of both high school and college runners. Many program alumni have earned the attention of college coaches with their performance in this race. Wings runners have captured twenty-two national junior team titles since 1988.

\*\*\*Junior Eligibility Requirements: Athletes must be 14 years or older on the day of competition (February 11, 2012) and cannot become 20 years of age during 2012.

### **Selections for the 2012 Wings Team will be based on performances at the Nike Cross Nationals REGIONAL RACES.**

ALL athletes looking to earn a spot on the team MUST compete in one of the following races to be eligible for selection:

Northwest: **November 11, 2011**- Eagle Island XC Course, Boise, Idaho

States Included: WY, WA, ID, OR, MT, AK, HI

Registration Deadlines: Early- 11/1, Late- 11/8

Heartland: **November 13, 2011**- Yankton Trails Park, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

States Included: IA, KS, MN, NE, ND, SD, WI

Registration Deadlines: Early- 11/2, Late- 11/9

**Midwest: November 13, 2011-** LaVern Gibson XC Course, Terre Haute, Indiana  
States Included: IN, IL, OH, MI, MO  
Registration Deadlines: Early- 11/2, Late- 11/9

**Southwest: November 19, 2011-** Toka Sticks Golf Course, Mesa, Arizona  
States Included: CO, UT, NM, AZ, NV  
Registration Deadlines: Early- 11/8, Late- 11/15

**South: November 19, 2011-** Bear Branch Park, The Woodlands, Texas  
States Included: AR, LA, OK, TX, MS  
Registration Deadlines: Early- 11/8, Late- 11/15

**Southeast: November 26, 2011-** WakeMed Soccer Park, Cary, North Carolina  
States Included: DE, MD, VA, NC, SC, GA, FL, AL, TN, KY, WV, DC  
Registration Deadlines: Early- 11/15, Late- 11/22

**Northeast & New York: November 26, 2011-** Bowdoin Park, Wappingers Falls, NY  
States Included: NJ, NY, PA, CT, MA, ME, VT, RI, NH  
Registration Deadlines: Early- 11/15, Late- 11/22

**West: December 3, 2011-** Mt. SAC, Walnut, California  
\*\*\*Footlocker (FL) regional race. Only the performance of athletes from California will be considered for Wings selection. Athletes from other states in the footlocker West region must run their NXN regional qualifying race.  
States Included: CA  
Registration Deadlines: Early- 11/19, Late- 11/27

**Athletes who are not in high school and meet USATF “Junior” eligibility requirements can compete in the NXN Regional CITIZENS RACES for the same consideration.**

## Registration Information

### **NXN/ FLWest Race Registration:**

**NXN:** \$25.00 individual, \$125.00 team (7members)  
\$30.00 individual, \$150.00 team (LATE REGISTRATION)  
Visit <http://www.runnerspace.com/nxn> for more information and to register online.

**FL West:** \$15 until November 19, 2011; \$35 thereafter (Registration Closes Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>)  
Online Registration: <http://www.active.com/running/walnut-ca/foot-locker-cross-country-championships-west-regional-2011>

## **Wings Selection Process Registration:**

REGISTRATION IS FREE – NO FEE!

Please register online via email or facebook:

**Email** [wingsprgrmdir@aol.com](mailto:wingsprgrmdir@aol.com) **OR Comment** on our Facebook wall  
(<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Wings-of-America/110491715675806>) with the following information:

- 1) Your FULL NAME, HIGH SCHOOL and TRIBAL AFFILIATION  
(Must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe)
- 2) The NXN REGION you are in.
- 3) THE RACE you will be participating in. **Open or Championship?**
- 4) PHONE # and/or EMAIL

**THAT IS ALL!!!! RUN FAST!!!!**

Once all the NXN Regional races have been run, Wings will choose the top six women and men from around the country.

**Shaun Martin, Wings former Program Director and current Chinle High School Cross Country Coach (AZ), will be the 2012 USATF National Junior Cross Country Championship COACH for both the men and women.**