

Day One: Celebrating Interfaith Indigenous Wisdom

Our goals for the first day were to highlight indigenous wisdom as part of increasing religious understanding. We rolled out the red carpet and invited members of the Navaho Nation to lead an opening prayer. Then we screened the movie *SHIFT OF THE AGES*, a story that reveals the story of the Mayan culture and its sophisticated prophecies of time, as told for the first time by the Grand Elder of the Mayan people, Alejandro Cirilo Perez Oxlaj. The film, shot over the course of seven years, shares indigenous wisdom passed down to Wandering Wolf in a way that expresses the role human consciousness plays in connecting to the universe. Following the film screening, Chief Phil Lane Jr. and Sundance Chief Reuben George led a beautiful indigenous ceremony with the filmmakers onstage.

The 2nd interfaith film screened that evening was *SAMSARA*. Filmed over nearly five years in twenty-five countries on five continents, *Samsara* is a visually breathtaking cinematic adventure shot entirely on 70-millimeter film. A triumph of the moving image, *Samsara* transports us to the varied worlds of sacred grounds, disaster zones, industrial complexes, and natural wonders in one unforgettable journey. A Q&A session with Chief Phil Lane Jr., Director Stephen Copeland and Host Aerin O'Connell focused on how interfaith pertains to our mother earth, our human family and our community.

