



## Richard M. Milanovich

Mr. Milanovich's lengthy service on the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians Tribal Council started in 1978. He served as Secretary from 1982 until 1984 when he was elected as Tribal Council Chairman. He served as chairman for 29 years. Many important tribal and community projects and lease-hold interests were undertaken during his tenure, including

the purchase of the Spa Hotel in 1992, the addition of the Spa Resort Casino in 1995, development and construction of the Agua Caliente Casino in 2001, and the opening of the new \$90 million Spa Resort Casino in 2003 and the Spa Hotel's Well Spirit Center Fitness Center in 2004. These projects and enterprises brought a much-needed boost to the Palm Springs and Coachella Valley economy, but more important to the Tribe itself, the revenue generated by tribal developments has allowed the Tribe to develop self-sufficiency through education, cultural preservation, housing and health care programs. He also oversaw the construction and opening of the Agua Caliente Casino Resort Spa's new hotel and expansion in 2008, followed by the completion of the Tribe's entertainment venue, The Show, in February of 2009.

In addition to his duties as Tribal Chairman, Mr. Milanovich dedicated his time and energy to other worthy causes. He served as the Chairman of the Advisory Committee to the Office of Special Trustee for the U.S. Department of Interior, which oversees the federal government's fiduciary responsibilities to manage tribal trust funds. In 2004, he was appointed to the Native American Stewardship Committee for the prestigious Autry National Center. In addition, Mr. Milanovich served as a member of the Bureau of Land Management's California Desert Advisory Council, and the Native American Heritage Commission.

Mr. Milanovich served in the United States Army from 1960 to 1963. In 1994, Mr. Milanovich returned to school to fulfill a life-long ambition to earn his college degree. He received a Bachelor of Science in Business and Management from the University of Redlands in 1996.

His son, Reid D. Milanovich serves on the Agua Caliente Tribal Council.



Andreas Canyon, Agua Caliente Indian Reservation

The **Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians** is a federally recognized Tribe located in Palm Springs, California, with 31,500 acres of reservation lands that spread across Palm Springs, Cathedral City, Rancho Mirage, and into the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto mountains.

For more information about the Tribe, visit [www.aguacaliente-nsn.gov](http://www.aguacaliente-nsn.gov).

### The Native American Political Leadership Program

805 21st Street NW | Suite 301 | Washington, DC 20052  
202-994-2526 | [naplp.gwu.edu](http://naplp.gwu.edu)

### THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Washington, DC



Native American  
Political Leadership Program



# Richard M. Milanovich Fellowship

# 2020

THE GEORGE  
WASHINGTON  
UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC



## The Richard M. Milanovich

Fellowship began in 2015 as a partnership between The George Washington University and the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians with two goals in mind: to prepare the next generation of leaders in Indian Country and to honor and preserve the legacy of service and leadership of the late Tribal Chairman Richard M. Milanovich. The George Washington University and the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians invite qualified Native American students to apply for this prestigious opportunity at one of our nation's premier universities.



Erla Sagg (Navajo Nation)  
& Brook Thompson (Yurok and Karuk)  
2018 Richard M. Milanovich Fellows



### How are Milanovich Fellows Selected?

Students applying to the Native American Political Leadership Program (NAPLP) are automatically considered for the Milanovich Fellowship. Selected Fellows demonstrate outstanding leadership potential and receive additional opportunities, stipend support, and acknowledgment.

### What does the Fellowship Cover?

- Tuition and fees for two core classes
- An additional week-long seminar
- Housing in a GW dormitory
- A stipend for books and living expenses, paid in two installments
- Airfare to and from Washington, DC (one round-trip ticket)

### PROGRAM DATES

June 1 - July 31, 2020

### APPLICATION DEADLINE

March 1, 2020

### Core Courses

#### ELECTORAL & LEGISLATIVE PROCESSES

This course explores how political decisions are made in the electoral and legislative arenas and how advocates can successfully influence those decisions as they seek to elect people to public office, move public opinion, or implement a legislative agenda.

#### TUTORIAL IN AMERICAN POLITICS & ELECTIONS

This core course provides an overview of the historic and current intergovernmental relationships between Indigenous people and the United States government and explores how federal Indian policy is formed. Students work in small groups to develop strategic plans for organizing around key issues that affect Native American communities.

### Special Seminar

A special week-long seminar series that consists of briefings with key policy-makers, issue advocates and community leaders in Washington, D.C.



Tahquitz Falls, Agua Caliente Indian Reservation



Apply Online

Through the NAPLP application at [cipp.cps.gwu.edu/admissions](http://cipp.cps.gwu.edu/admissions)