



Native American Public  
Telecommunications

*Empower, educate, and entertain through Native media*

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### ***Walela: Live In Concert* to be seen on PBS stations**

PBS is offering a new Native American music performance program. Winner of the Seventh Annual Native American Music Award (NAMMY) for Best Short or Long-Form Video, *Walela: Live in Concert* is a musical journey of the spirit. The 60-minute concert program will be available to PBS stations in August.

Comprised of pop-singer Rita Coolidge, her sister Priscilla Coolidge, and Priscilla's daughter Laura Satterfield, *Walela* blends gospel, folk, and pop influences into the traditional songs of their Cherokee heritage for a contemporary take on Native American music. This program captures the trio live in concert in Dallas, Texas, performing songs such as "The Gathering of Eagles," "Wash Your Spirit Clean," and many more.

Recorded at the Dallas Theater Center, Kalita Humphreys Theater, *Walela*'s live performance is a shining example of contemporary Native American vocal music. The vocals are breathtaking, with an ethereal quality as *Walela* weaves its stories of historical and contemporary Native American life. While not strictly traditional Native American in musical style, the Coolidge sisters reflect their modern Cherokee heritage and this music belongs in any collection of American ethnic music.

The program will be available in both Standard and High Definition formats, to accommodate the growing number of stations that carry HD programs. Interested viewers should check local listings for air dates and times, or contact local PBS stations to request carriage of the program.

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*Walela: Live In Concert* is produced by Richheape Films of Dallas, Texas. Producer Steven Heape has received a commendation by the United States Congress for his extraordinary efforts to document and preserve Native American culture. The program is distributed by Native American Public Telecommunications (NAPT), one of five National Minority Consortia in the public broadcasting system. NAPT's mission is to support the creation, promotion, and distribution of Native public media. NAPT has brought authentic Native American programming to PBS for nearly 30 years, presenting such quality programs as: *The Great American Foot Race*; *Warrior in Two Worlds*; *The Return of Navajo Boy*; and many others. NAPT receives funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. For more information about *Walela: Live In Concert*, or about NAPT, visit their website at [www.nativetelecom.org](http://www.nativetelecom.org).

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