

News Release

Internationally Acclaimed Motivational Speaker D.J. Eagle Bear Vanas at U of M Crookston on Thursday, Nov. 6, 2008, at 11 a.m. in the Kiehle Auditorium

By Thomas Williams, Elizabeth Tollefson on Monday, October 27, 2008

Crookston, Minn. (October 28, 2008) – Internationally acclaimed motivational storyteller, author and success coach, will present on Thursday, November 6, 2008, at the University of Minnesota Crookston. Vanas brings his unique approach by building bridges between timeless Native American wisdom with modern performance techniques to inspire his audience. The presentation will be held in Kiehle Auditorium from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. The event, sponsored by Diversity and Multicultural Services under the direction of Thomas Williams, is free and open to the public.



D.J. Vanas was born in Muskegon, Mich., and is the son of an Odawa Indian father and a mother of Dutch descent. He starting flying airplanes at 13 and attained a pilot's license at 17. As a captain in the United States Air Force, Vanas served his country and gained extensive leadership training and experience. Selected as the Chief of Minority Enrollment at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado, he was the youngest officer ever to achieve this position.

Native Discovery Inc., was founded by Vanas in May 1999 and uses traditional warrior concepts and the wisdom found in Native American culture to inspire others to achieve their best in life, school, and career. For over thirteen years, Fortune 500 companies, government agencies and over 400 tribal communities have turned to D.J. to get better results and increase the impact with those they serve. For more information on Vanas and his program, visit www.nativediscovery.com.

Diversity and Multicultural Services at the U of M Crookston provides support services to a variety of student populations in the areas of cultural adaptation, personal development, and academic success. Programs are dedicated to creating a strong and supportive campus environment for students of color; international students; gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender students; women; students with disabilities; single parents; and other traditionally underrepresented students in developing intercultural competence.

Today the University of Minnesota Crookston delivers more than 25 applied-science undergraduate degree programs and 50 concentrations, including several online degrees, in agriculture; arts, humanities and social sciences; business; math, science and technology; and natural resources. To learn more, visit www.UMCrookston.edu.

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