

## 2016 Sisters of Earth Conference Presenters – Presentation Center, Los Gatos, CA



**Melina Laboucan-Massimo**  
Lubicon Cree  
Little Buffalo, Alberta

Facing firsthand the impacts of the Alberta tar sands to her traditional territory, Melina has been a vocal advocate for Indigenous rights for several years. She has written numerous articles on the tar sands and produced short documentaries on water issues and Indigenous cultural revitalization. Joining Greenpeace in 2009, she helped to raise the alarm bells on the tar sands, including a related incident with one of the largest oil spills in Alberta near her home community of Little Buffalo.



**Jihan Gearon**  
Diné (Navajo) and Black American  
Flagstaff, Arizona

Jihan is the Executive Director of the Black Mesa Water Coalition and a passionate advocate for Indigenous Peoples' rights and environmental justice as well as an active organizer, speaker, and writer on these issues. Her experience includes work on climate justice, the impacts of energy development and climate change on Indigenous Peoples and people of color, particularly in North America, but also around the world.



**Beata Tsosie-Peña**  
Santa Clara Pueblo  
Española, New Mexico

Beata knows firsthand about the contamination of Los Alamos and the devastation her pueblo suffered from the production of nuclear weapons. She works for TEWA Women United's Environmental Health and Justice Program, and she is active with the Communities for Clean Water (CCW).

She is a poet, musician, wife and mother of two, and is passionate about community gardens. She instructs poetry and writing workshops for teen groups.



**Birgit Weiler**  
represents Awajún and Wampis  
Amazon region of Peru

Birgit, a Medical Mission Sister, is a theologian who has lived over 20 years in Peru. She teaches at Jesuit University Antonio Ruiz de Montoya in Lima, and coordinates a common project between the university and the local Church in the region of the Awajún and Wampis. She spends part of her time sharing in their life. Along with environmental, church and human rights organizations, Birgit works closely with these indigenous groups in their legal struggle to defend the land from exploitation of oil, gold, lumber and the construction of huge plants for generating energy with the use of river water on indigenous lands.