

ARTIST STATEMENT AND DESCRIPTION



NICWA is proud to announce Melissa Melero as the winner of the Call for Artists '09. Melissa's original artwork impressed the selection committee and fits wonderfully with the 27th Annual "Protecting Our Children" National American Indian Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect in Reno, Nevada.

Ms. Melero is a Northern Paiute enrolled with the Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe of Fallon, Nevada. She graduated from the American Indian Arts Institute in 1992 and then attended Portland State University. Melissa currently lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where she works professionally as an artist. Her influences are images found on petroglyphs, beadwork, and basketry from the Northern Paiute Tribe of Nevada.