

HEALING ACROSS CULTURES

Interactive Colloquium

*“Itzama: Maya Traditional Healing and a Model in Learning
from Traditional Practices of the Past and Present”*

*Tuesday, March 4, 2008
10:00am-12:00pm
Cleveland State University
CB135*



Join Honored Guest Victor Cal

Director, Belize Indigenous Training Institute, Belize, Central America

Itzama (home to the Maya god of wisdom, Itzamna, and place of healing spiritually and with herbs) is a name chosen by the Belize Indigenous Training Institute (BITI) and its associated Q’eqchi’ Healers Association to represent their innovative traditional healing center, botanical gardens, and community-based conservation efforts. Their program, which provides a traditional healing community center and viable methods for the preservation of the regional rainforests and deep cultural traditions therein, serves as a model internationally.

BITI, a Belizean NGO incorporated in 1998 by indigenous groups with the assistance of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of representatives from indigenous peoples cultural councils including Q’eqchi’ Council of Belize, the Toledo Maya Cultural Council, the National Garifuna Council, and the Xunantunich Organization. The organization provides practical training in areas that will lead to income generation and employment at the community level as well as provision of capacity building training and work in the area of traditional knowledge and cultural heritage.

Sponsors

Center for Healing Across Cultures; Department of Health Sciences
Department of Anthropology; School of Social Work



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