

# Spirit Days are back in Anchorage

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Anchorage-area Natives get a chance to celebrate their spirituality in Spirit Days '96.

The celebrants share Native culture and spiritual values with members of the general public.

The event is only one day this year, abbreviated due to organizational difficulties, according to Greg Nothstine, coordinator of Spirit Days.

About 10 vendors have rented booths for the event, according to Nothstine.

Spirit Days takes place on Aug. 4 at the

west end of the Delany Park Strip between N and P streets on west 9th Ave. from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Spirit Days is usually held during the second week in June, but was delayed this year, allowing time for planning instead of just cancelling the celebration.

The gathering kicks off with the Native National Anthem and an opening invocation by Walter Austin. There are several speakers, dance groups, friendly competitions of Native games and a blanket toss.

The theme of this year's celebration is "Today's Youth: Tomorrow's Leaders."

There is plenty of free parking for the event.