FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Cultural Conservancy receives ANA Grant for a Native learning farm at Heron Shadow

(San Francisco, CA, June 26, 2024) The Cultural Conservancy has received a $1,200,000 Social and Economic Development Strategies (SEDS) grant over three years from the Administration for Native Americans (ANA). This grant will be used to support the Heron Shadow farm and land project, a project that aims to renew and restore the health of traditional knowledge, foodways, landscapes and practices of Indigenous cultures that have been substantially damaged by colonialism.

The Cultural Conservancy uplifts traditional land practices and Native Foodways through the revitalization of cultural knowledge and ancestral lands by working with Native community members, from Native farmers and Traditional Ecological Knowledge holders to families with gathering traditions and youth leaders tending their first land projects. By creating opportunities and increasing access to healthy lands and waters, the organization facilitates community-led transformation for Native communities struggling with food access, land displacement, and a lack of access to practice land-based traditions as an avenue to physical, spiritual, and cultural health.

“We are honored and excited to partner with ANA on this important SEDS grant to expand our growing of heirloom Indigenous foods and medicines and continue to cultivate healthy Native communities.”—Melissa K. Nelson (Turtle Mountain Chippewa), Chair, The Cultural Conservancy Board of Directors.

The grant was provided through the (SEDS) program which provides funding that promotes social and economic independence for Native communities. SEDS projects are community-driven and grow local economies; strengthen Native American families, including the preservation of Native American cultures; and decrease the high rate of challenges caused by the lack of local businesses and social and economic infrastructure in Native American communities.

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About The Cultural Conservancy: The Cultural Conservancy is a Native-led, nonprofit organization founded in 1985 and based in the San Francisco Bay Area, with headquarters on unceded Ohlone land and a recently-acquired land base in the sovereign territories of the Coast Miwok and Southern Pomo Peoples. The mission of The Cultural Conservancy is to protect and restore Indigenous cultures, empowering
them in the direct application of traditional knowledge and practices on their ancestral lands. [www.nativeland.org/](http://www.nativeland.org/)

**About ANA:**
The Administration for Native Americans (ANA) promotes self-sufficiency for Native Americans by providing discretionary grant funding for community-based projects and training and technical assistance to eligible tribes and Native organizations. The ANA at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Administration for Children and Families has awarded $9 million to 32 Native American Tribes and Native organizations to help improve the social and economic well-being in their communities. Every year, ANA supports Native-led, community-based projects across the United States, Guam, American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands.