Artwork by Michael Jackson

Wooshteen Kanaxhtulaneegí Haa At Wuskóowu

SHARING OUR KNOWLEDGE

A CONFERENCE OF TLINGIT-HAIDA-TSIMSHIAN TRIBES AND CLANS

SITKA • SEPTEMBER 11-15 • 2024

Wooshteen Kanax̲tulaneegí Haa At Wuskóowu

SOK logo by Mike Jackson

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Wilg̲oosgit das Łukda'ayntgm (Sm'algya̲x)
Haa Dachx̲ánx'i Yán at Wuskóowu Yís (Lingít)
Íitl' t'ak'ánlang k'adáang an (X̲aad Kíl)
For Our Grandchildren's Wisdom (English)

2024 Sharing Our Knowledge Conference

Sitka, Alaska • September 11-15
Sitka Fine Arts Camp / Former Sheldon Jackson School Campus

Sponsored by Tlingit Readers, Inc.

With generous support from:
Shee Atiká, Inc. • Douglas Indian Association (Grant #S299C210042) • Goldbelt, Inc.
Haa Tóo Yéi Yatee • Sealaska Corporation • National Science Foundation (Award #2422266)
Sealaska Heritage Institute • Allen Marine • Sitka Tribe of Alaska
Outer Coast • SEARHC • Herring Protectors • Alaska Airlines • KTOO
Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
Sheldon Jackson Museum • Sitka Chamber of Commerce
Individual Donors • Volunteer Workers

And food from Edith Johnson of Our Town Catering

A Message from the SOK Organizing Committee

Gunalchéesh, ldakát yeewháan, haat yeey.aadí. Tsú gunalchéesh haat kheeyateení, aadóo sá naaléidáxh khuwateení aa hás. Aaa. Ch'u ch'áagudáxh a yáa wtudinei aadóo sá duwahein wé aan káx' too.aadí. Ách áyá gunalchéesh yéi daayatukhá, Sheet'ká Kwáan. Haa tóoghaa nateech wooch kaanáxh too.aadí yee aaní káx'. Aaa. Ldakát naaxh satí áyá wooch een yoo s xh'aguxhla.aat, Lingít, kha tsú Deikeenaa kha tsú Ts'ootsxán. Ch'u tlákwdáxh wooch wuduwasháa, tsú wooch daséix', á áyá yeisú wooch jín toolshát, ldakát uháan. Ch'a yee yawtulgheiní áyá haa toowú k'é nuch. Yéi áyá. Gunalchéesh.

Thank you, all of you, for coming here. Also, thank you for traveling here, those who traveled from far away. Yes. From long ago we respected who owned the land we were on. That is why we say thank you to the Sitka People. We feel well when we gather together on your land. Yes. All the tribes will speak with each other, Tlingit and Haida and Tsimshian. From long ago they intermarried and traded, and we are still holding hands, all of us. Just seeing your faces, always lifts our spirits. That is it. Thank you. Gunalchéesh to all.

[*Greeting and translation by Ishmael Hope*]

1993 Elders Panel at the first conference: Elizabeth Nyman, Anna Katzeek, Dr. Walter Soboleff, and Matthew Fred. Photo courtesy Peter Metcalfe.

ALL PRESENTATIONS WILL BE RECORDED BY VIDEO AND POSTED TO THE SOK WEBSITE

The videos, documents, and photographs of this conference will be freely available on www.SharingOurKnowledge.org for nonprofit educational purposes. For other use, permission is required. We request that all due respect be accorded the content available on the website.

Copyright of all SOK content is held by Tlingit Readers, Inc.
Creation of videos as Cultural Education Materials is funded in part by
Douglas Indian Association Office of Indian Education Strengthening Youth Educational Journeys Grant #S299C210042.

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Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

A Welcome from Sitka Tribe of Alaska

We, the Shee'tká Khwáan/Sitka Tribe of Alaska, welcome the presenters and participants to the 2024 Sharing Our Knowledge Conference.

As the site of the Sitka Training School/Sheldon Jackson School, it is appropriate that presentations surrounding the impacts and history of that institution take place on those lands, our lands, at this conference.

As the birthplace of the first Indigenous civil rights organization in 1912, whose founders fought for citizenship, voting rights, and desegregation of Alaska, it is always appropriate to have dialogue surrounding the current topics of Indigenous rights returned to this place.

As the community in which one of the first cultural education programs in the region and state was founded with the goal of cultural revitalization, it is appropriate that the topics surrounding the continuing goals of cultural and linguistic revitalization find their way back here as well. This year marks the 50th anniversary of that program, the Sitka Native Education Program, and as one of the two entities that continues to house that program, we appreciate the role that the Sharing Our Knowledge Conference is playing in "kicking off" the year in which we are celebrating that anniversary.

As the hosts of several past conferences in the different names and forms it has taken, and as part of the larger Tlingit cultural community, we welcome the discussions that take place at the Sharing Our Knowledge Conference surrounding the nuances of Haa Khuusteeyí, as those discussions must happen in order to preserve our cultural traditions and way of life.

As a Tlingit community steeped in so much history - traditional, colonial, and decolonial - we welcome the discussions and discourses facilitated by the Sharing Our Knowledge Conference. It is in this spirit that we welcome you all.

Shee Atiká

The Shee Atika Corporation Sends the Following Message to All Conference Goers: *Yak'éi haat yigoodí*, it is good that you have come!

The SOK Organizing Committee wishes to thank the Sitka Tribe of Alaska and the Shee Atiká Corporation for all their work on the land of the Sheet'ká Kwáan.

THE SOK ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Executive Director Satóok' Linda Belarde, Juneau; Se'iga Liimii Marcella Asicksik, Anchorage; Yeidikook'áa Dionne Brady-Howard, Sitka; Yeilt'ooch' Tláa Collyne Bunn, Teslin/Whitehorse; Anchorage; Cayi Tláa Cindy DeWitt, Wrangell; U.tw Joaqlin Estus, Anchorage; Gunáak'w Sergei Kan, Lebanon, NH; Kaasdahéen Éesh Peter Metcalfe, Juneau; Yakdushí Lisa Milne-DeWitt, Ketchikan; Xwaanlein Virginia Oliver, Wrangell; Shaagunasstaa Bob Sam, Sitka; T'eishtul.aan Barbara Searls, Juneau; Skeiwdusá Matthew Spellberg, Sitka; Ljáakk' Alice Taff, Juneau.

DISCLAIMER

The Sharing Our Knowledge Organizing Committee provides venues, support, and encouragement for the presentation of topics relevant to the people indigenous to Southeast Alaska and their Canadian neighbors, and for the expression of their cultures through performances, exhibitions, and ceremonies. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed are those of the presenters and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Sharing Our Knowledge Organizing Committee.

SHARING OUR KNOWLEDGE

A CONFERENCE OF TLINGIT-HAIDA-TSIMSHIAN

TRIBES AND CLANS

SOK logo by Mike Jackson

Warming of the Hands

A Ceremony of Welcome
Wednesday • 6:00 p.m.
Odess Theater

Light Refreshments Afterward Provided by Outer Coast

SPECIAL EVENTS

Drummaking and Cedar Bark Weaving • Thursday and Friday, 1:30–4:45 PM, Yaw Building Room 105.

Native Youth Olympics Demonstration • Thursday, 7–8 PM, Odess Dance Studio.

Weaving Demonstration • Friday, 2–5:30 PM, Odess Upstairs Lobby (Del Shirley Room).

Sitka-Style Dance Demonstration • Friday, 7–8 PM, Odess Theater.

SNEP Memorial • Saturday, 3:30 PM, Odess Auditorium.

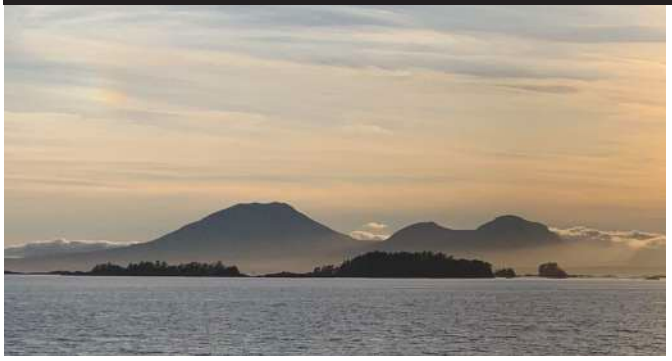
NATIVE ARTS & CRAFTS

Thursday through Saturday of the Sharing Our Knowledge conference, vendors of Native arts & crafts will present in the upstairs lobby (Del Shirley Room) of Odess.

Free Admission to the Sheldon Jackson Museum

In addition to the SJ Museum Open House on Thursday at lunch, the museum wishes to extend an open invitation to all conference attendees to visit the museum during the SOK Conference with admission waived. **Please bring a conference badge at the time of your visit.**

How Do We Open the Box of Wisdom for Our Grandchildren?



SUNDAY, Sept 15 •11:00am-2:00pm

BOAT TRIP

Join us for a boat trip sponsored by Allen Marine to visit traditional sites of the Sheet'ká Kwáan with commentary provided by Yeidikook'áa (Kiks.ádi, Sheet'ká Kwáan), and songs by members of the Sheet'ká Kwáan Dancers.

Tickets $100 (at registration desk)

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

Thursday, September 12: MORNING

Time	Odess Theater		Odess 203		Yaw 111		Other Locations	
	Presenter(s)	*Presentation Title*	*Presenter(s)*	*Presentation Title*	*Presenter(s)*	*Presentation Title*	*Presenter(s)*	*Presentation Title*
7:30-8:30	Breakfast (provided by Haa Tóo Yéi Yatee)							
8:30-9	Conference Welcome							
9-10	**Keynote Panel Discussion: What is Compacting? Education and Indigenous Sovereignty in Alaska** Mischa Jackson (Tlingit & Haida), Sonya Skan (Ketchikan Indian Council), Paul Berg (Douglas Indian Association). Moderated by Lisa Milne Dewitt and Matthew Spellberg							
10-10:15	Break							
10:15-10:45	Ishmael Hope, Khaagwáask'	Tlingit Intellectual History: The Legacies of Nora Dauenhauer, Ḵeixwnéi; Louis Shotridge, Stuwuḵaa; and Andy Hope, X̲aastánch	Linda Frame, Scott Burton, Kashóok' kaawadaayi aa, Angie Wright	Film Screening and Discussion about the Making of "Koowutyas.ein X̲'ayáx̲ Á: The Teachings of Daniel Brown"	Katie Bunn-Marcuse	"Lost in Translation: How Language Can Hide or Seek Knowledge in Indigenous Arts"	===	===
10:45-11:15					Ḵus.een Rebecca Poulson	Presbyterians in Lingít Aaní: The Origins of the Sitka Mission		
11:15-11:45	Peter Metcalfe, Bushgaa	The Andrew Hope III Legacy Project *1993-2022 Video Catalog*	Emily Kudaneek Moore	From Táakw.àani to Dáasaxawk: Following the Path of the Taant'a Kwáan	Ellen Carrlee	Results from the Chilkat Dye Project		
11:45 - 1:30 pm	Lunch (on your own) **12 - 1 pm: Sheldon Jackson Museum Open House**							

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

Thursday, September 12: AFTERNOON/EVENING

Time	Odess Theater		Odess 203		Yaw 111		Other Locations	
1:30 - 2:30	Anne Fuller	X̲'atulitseen: Recording Memories and Stories	Ljáaḵk' Alice Taff, Paul Shannon, David Beck	Bringing Tlingit and Deg Xinag Recordings to Life on the Web	Ben Paul Ku-nuX-nusti	"Then Fight for It" Fred Paul, Attorney at Law, His Life and Wisdom	Ed Peele & Shk̲'awulyéil Ralph Brady	Drum Making & Cedar Bark Weaving **(Yaw 105)** *Sponsored by the Herring Protectors*
2:30 - 2:45	Break							
2:45 - 3:15	Mischa Jackson, Chookangee Tláa & Jasmine James, Aa Geich'	Echoes of Wisdom: Shaping the Next 20 Years of Education	===	===	Lisa X'unyéil Worl	The Hoonah School Ḵu.eex': Film and Discussion	Ed Peele & Shk̲'awulyéil Ralph Brady	Drum Making & Cedar Bark Weaving **(Yaw 105)** *Sponsored by the Herring Protectors*
3:15 - 3:45			Kayaaní Sisters: Kaasei Naomi Michalsen, Kayaaní Shaawat Trixie Bennett, K'asheech Tláa Louise Brady, Shaagunasstaa Bob Sam	Traditional Plants & Wellness: Alaska Plant Teachings & Respectful Harvesting	Kaakasgoox̲ú Peter Stanton	Decolonizing the Timeline of Alaska History		
3:45 - 4:45	Megan A. Smetzer	Beyond Painful Beauty: Untold Stories and Unanswered Questions			Zachary R. Jones	"Góon dáanaa een áwé kawduwat'íÿ ax̲ jeeyís yá kées, This bracelet was pounded out of a gold coin for me," A History of Sitka Tlingit Silversmiths		
4:45 - 5:30	Break							
5:30 - 6	SOK Admin Meeting (Odess 203)							
6 - 7	Dinner (on your own)							
7 - 8	Yeilt'ooch' Tláa for Carol Geddes (Shaan Tlein)	Picturing a People: George Johnston; Tlingit Photographer (Film	Ḵashḡé Daphne Wright	Tlingit Jeopardy and Card Games	===	===	Rachel Moreno	Native Youth Olympics **(Odess Dance Studio)**

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

Friday, September 13: MORNING

Time	Odess Theater		Odess 203		Yaw 111		Other Locations	
	Presenter(s)	*Presentation Title*	*Presenter(s)*	*Presentation Title*	*Presenter(s)*	*Presentation Title*	*Presenter(s)*	*Presentation Title*
8:00 - 8:30 am	Breakfast (provided by SEARHC, Outer Coast, and Rachel Moreno)							
9 - 10	**Keynote: From Dog Teams to the Space Race, and Winning the Fight for Land Claims—How Education Shaped a Movement** Emil Notti							
10 - 10:15	Break (Tea Bar set up for the day next to the coffee station, courtesy of Kaasei and Kayaaní Shaawat)							
10:15 - 11:15	Maxine Richert, Barbara T'eishtul.aan Searls, and Rev. Dr. Charles Ensminger	The Process of Acknowledgment, Apology and Reparations for the Racist Closure of the Native Church as a Model	Michael Kraemer	Sheet'ká Tlingit Labor during the Russian Colonial Period	Shkooyéil Tim Hall	Spaced Repetition Audio Training in Language Learning	Zachary Jones	Supporting Chilkat Weavers - Historic Weavings Review **(Sitka National Historical Park)**
11:15 - 11:45	Lduteen Jerrick Hope-Lang and Keinasxíx Shannon Crossley	Point House Revitalization/ Sitka Indian Village Restoration/ Saving Sitka's Clan Houses	Tsiskw Tláa Elizabeth Kunibe (translation: Mother of Little Birds, translated by Fred White)	Oral Tradition in the 90th US Congress	===	===		
12 - 1 pm	**Luncheon (in Odess Theater with purchased ticket)** Jermaine Ross-Allam The Great Re-Encounter							

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

Friday, September 13: AFTERNOON/EVENING

Time	Odess Theater		Odess 203		Yaw 111		Other Locations			
1:30 - 2:00			Lily Hope	Chilkat Weaving: Endangered No More	Jennifer Bowen	Copper Economy of the Northern Territories	===	===		
2:00 - 2:30	===	===	Kus.een Rebecca Poulson	Deaths in Sitka in the 1930s	Koodéik' Joseph Marks	Assembling Ideologies: Roles in the Production of Tlingit Language Reclamation Materials	Lily Hope	Weavers Gathering (**Upper Odess Lobby/Del Shirley Room**)	Ed Peele & Shk̲'awulyéil Ralph Brady	Drum Making and Cedar Bark Weaving (**Yaw 105**) *Sponsored by the Herring Protectors*
2:30 - 2:45	Break									
2:45 - 3:45	Yakdushí, Kiyéis Tláa	Tools to Teach & Learn Tlingit / 6th Annual International Tlingit Spelling Bee!	Xéetl'ee Katelyn Stiles	Yee eedé Tooshí áa [We sing to you]: Remapping Yaaw Teiyí [Herring Rock] with song and dance	Laurence Goldin	"The Land is Ours": Screening and Q&A				
3:45 - 4:15			Benjamin Kucher	Archaeology as a Tool for Indigenous Sovereignty						
4:15 - 4:45	===	===			===	===				
4:45 - 5:30	Break									
5:30 - 6	SOK Admin Meeting (Odess 203)									
6 - 7	Dinner (on your own)									
7-8	Yeidikook'áa & Kich.naalx̲	Tlingit Song & Dance	Dakáa Xoo Xéi Mary Beth Moss, Kudeiyatóon Darlene See	"Healing Across the Waters" Film Screening	===	===	===		===	

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

Saturday, September 14

Time	Odess Theater		Odess 203		Yaw 111		Other Locations	
	Presenter(s)	*Presentation Title*	*Presenter(s)*	*Presentation Title*	*Presenter(s)*	*Presentation Title*	*Presenter(s)*	*Presentation Title*
9 - 10 am	Gudrun Bucher, Ivonne Kaiser	"Russian America" in Oldenburg, Germany	Vivian Mork and Josh Smith	How to Propagate our Local Berries!	===	===	===	===
10:00 - 10:15	Break							
10:15 - 11:45	Yakdushí & Kiyéis Tláa	Culture & Place Based Knowledge in Language Learning Spaces	Sh<u>x</u>éi, Kaanagoot & former SNEP Students	Haa Léelk'u Hás Haa Éet Aawlitoo.át - Our Grandparents' Teachings	Daax Ku Dein, Tleikw xoo (Among the berries) Tommy Jimmie Jr.	Nature's Point of View from Tlingit Stories and Parables to Ceremony	Vivian Mork	Traditional Foods and Medicines Outdoor Walk **(Sitka National Historic Park)**
11:45 - 1:30	Lunch (on your own)							
1:30 - 2:00	Dukwu Eric Hollinger	Recent 3D Projects with Wrangell Cooperative Association and Tei<u>k</u>weidi Clan Leader Dan Brown	Seenaakw' Gail Dabaluz	Indigenous Language Revitalization Efforts from a Northern Tlingit Perspective	<u>G</u>unáak'w Sergei Kan	Portraying the Tlingit People: Elbridge W. Merrill vs. William H. Case and Horace H. Draper	===	===
2:00 - 2:30					Lucy Kudaneek Daax Keil Atch Fowler Williams	Footsteps Across the Sky: Louis Shotridge and Tlingit Traditional Knowledge		
2:30 - 3:30	Break							
3:30 - 4:30	**Sitka Native Education Program Memorial**							
4:30 - 5:30	Break							
5:30 - 6:00	SOK Admin Meeting (Room 203)							
6:30 - 8:30	**Banquet Honoring the Sitka Native Education Program (in Odess with purchased ticket)**							

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Complimentary breakfast provided by Haa Tóo Yéi Yatee beginning at 7:30 am in the Odess Lobby

Conference welcome at 8:30 am in the Odess Theater by the Sharing Our Knowledge Organizing Committee

9:00-10:00 AM

Keynote Panel Discussion: What is Compacting? Education and Indigenous Sovereignty in Alaska

9:00-10:00 am

Odess Theater Mischa Jackson (Tlingit & Haida), Sonya Skan (Ketchikan Indian Council), Paul Berg (Douglas Indian Association). Moderated by Lisa Milne Dewitt and Matthew Spellberg

A panel to discuss plans, concerns and approaches to compacting, the process by which Native Nations are assuming responsibility for the education of their citizens within the state of Alaska.

10:15-11:15 AM

Tlingit Intellectual History: The Legacies of Nora Dauenhauer, Ḵeixwnéi; Louis Shotridge, Stuwuḵaa; and Andy Hope, Xaastánch

10:15-10:45 am

Odess Theater Ishmael Hope, Khaagwáask'

Louis Shotridge, Stuwukhaa, was an innovative and astute writer of Tlingit intellectual history. Contemporary Tlingit writers Nora Dauenhauer, Kheixwnéi, and Andy Hope, Xhaastánch were both deeply inspired by Shotridge's example. This paper will explore the interconnections and achievements of these three fine writers.

Film Screening and Discussion about the Making of "Koowutyas.ein X̲'ayáx̲ Á: The Teachings of Daniel Brown"

10:15-11:15 am

Odess 203 Linda Frame, Scott Burton, Kashóok' kaawadaayi aa, Angie Wright

It is hard to define the importance and value of cultural connections in public education and in our communities. Koowutyas.ein, Daniel Brown, understood this on a deep and personal level. Over several years he inspired love and appreciation for the Teiḵweidí clan, Tlingit people and Tlingit aaní (land) through frequent visits to the Auke Bay classroom of teacher Angie Wright.

This student-directed project honors his teaching. It is produced through SHI's program Sharing our Stories: Voices on the Land, which provides literacy-based, artist residencies in 4th and 5th grade classrooms. Through the program, students integrate visual, performing, and digital arts with traditional knowledge and learn to create videos such as this one.

"Lost in Translation: How Language Can Hide or Seek Knowledge in Indigenous Arts"

10:15-10:45 am

Yaw 111 Katie Bunn-Marcuse

This paper is intended as the first step in a larger collaborative journey to shed light on the power of words—the illuminating perspectives that can occur when Indigenous language terms for art are centered, and the harm that can ensue when English translations eclipse original contexts and relations.

Presbyterians in Lingít Aaní: The Origins of the Sitka Mission

10:45-11:15 am

Yaw 111 Ḵus.een Rebecca Poulson

Sitka's Presbyterian mission began in 1878, a decade after the transfer, in a period of profound transition that culminated in the Alaska we know today. Most people, even now, accept the missionary account of this period, and of Native people, at face value. This paper will use period documents and the economic, social, geographic and historical context of southeastern Alaska in the late 1870s to show how missionaries created a myth, that is still current today.

11:15-11:45 AM

The Andrew Hope III Legacy Project 1993-2022 Video Catalog

11:15-11:45 am

Odess Theater Peter Metcalfe, Bushgaa

Since 1993, in all, over 500 individual presentations at Sharing Our Knowledge conferences have been recorded, inventoried, and archived. Most of these videos are available on the SOK YouTube Channel, accessible on the SOK website. Peter Metcalfe, SOK executive producer of videos since 1993, will explain the project.

From Táakw.àani to Dáasaxawk: Following the Path of the Taant'a Kwáan

11:15-11:45 am
Odess 203 Emily Kudaneek Moore

Continuing from my presentation at the 2022 SOK conference, this paper follows the Taant'a kwáan Tlingit from their village at Tàakw.àani ("Winter Village," present-day Metlakatla, Alaska) to Dàasaxawk ("Sand-all-Around," Village Island, northwest of Duke Island). On this tiny island surrounded by sand, the Taant'a kwáan erected a stunning number of houses and kootéeyaa, some of which are still available for study. This paper draws together early research and oral histories compiled on Dàasaxawk as part of a larger project I am pursuing on the southern Tlingit and their interchanges with the Tsimshian and Haida around Dixon Entrance.

Results from the Chilkat Dye Project

11:15-11:45 am
Yaw 111 Ellen Carrlee

From 2018 to 2024, the Chilkat Dye Project was a collaboration among weavers, chemists, and museum professionals. This presentation will describe dyes found on historic weavings in the Alaska State Museum and the Sheldon Jackson Museum collections and discuss project results, collaborative process, and how the findings should be shared.

11:45-1:30 Lunch (on your own)

Sheldon Jackson Museum Open House 12 - 1 pm

The Sheldon Jackson Museum invites Sharing Our Knowledge Conference attendees to visit the museum on Sept. 12th from noon-1pm for an open house. During the open house, guests will have a chance to talk with Yup'ik artist-in-residence and beader Tina Cupellaq Harness, hear about her background and artwork, and see samples of her beading. The curator, Jacqueline Fernandez-Hamberg, will also be at the open house to share some highlights of the museum and answer any questions. Finally, the museum wishes to extend an open invitation to all conference attendees to visit the museum during the SOK Conference with admission waived. Please bring a conference badge at the time of your visit.

1:30 - 2:30 PM

X̲'atulitseen: Recording Memories and Stories

1:30-2:30 pm
Odess Theater Anne Fuller

Memories and Stories: Let's work together to record what people want to tell. Learn how to make audio files that are easy to hear. Hear suggestions for gear to use, questions to ask, and respectful sharing.

Bringing Tlingit and Deg Xinag Recordings to Life on the Web

1:30-2:30 pm
Odess 203 Ljáak̲k' Alice Taff, Paul Shannon, David Beck

45+ video hours of conversations among 60 Tlingit speakers and learners, is available on-line with dynamic transcription and translation enabled by Selxil software. This session will demonstrate how to find and use these recordings. Participants are encouraged to bring their own devices to follow along.

"Then Fight for It" Fred Paul, Attorney at Law, His Life and Wisdom

1:30-2:30 pm
Yaw 111 Ben Paul Ku-nuX-nusti

A brief history of the life of Fred Paul, the attorney of record for the North Slope Natives during ANSCA, and the author of "Then Fight For It" an insider's story of the land rights battle in Alaska.

Drum Making and Cedar Bark Weaving

1:30-4:45 pm
Yaw 105 Ed Peele & Sh̲k'awulyéil Ralph Brady

All afternoon on Thursday and Friday, Ed Peele and Ralph Brady will be offering drop-in workshops on drummaking and cedar bark weaving. *Sponsored by the Herring Protectors*

Break 2:30 - 2:45 pm

2:45-4:45PM

Echoes of Wisdom: Shaping the Next 20 Years of Education

2:45 - 3:45 pm
Odess Theater Mischa Jackson, Chookangee Tláa & Jasmine James, Aa Geich'

Join an interactive session exploring the transformative legacy of the 1983 Southeast Conference on Alaska Native Education. We'll discuss tribal and community engagement needs and share success stories that support the emergence of tribal compact schools. Help create a collaborative, innovative vision for Alaska's next 20 years of education.

The Hoonah School Khu.éex': Film and Discussion

2:45-3:15 pm
Yaw 111 Lisa X'unyéil Worl

A documentary film about the annual Khu.éex' put on by students and teachers in the Hoonah City Schools.

Traditional Plants & Wellness: Alaska Plant Teachings & Respectful Harvesting

3:15-4:45 pm
Odess 203 Kayaaní Sisters: Kaasei, Naomi Michalsen; Kayaaní Shaawat, Trixie Bennett; K'asheech Tláa, Louise Brady; Shaagunasstaa, Bob Sam

This hands-on session will focus on strengthening our connection with traditional plants and foods, ourselves, the land and our communities. Traditional knowledge and cultural teachings have the capacity to aid in the restoration of the overall wellness of individuals and families. Will also host a Wild Tea Bar one day during the conference.

Decolonizing the Timeline of Alaska History

3:15-3:45 pm
Yaw 111 Kaakasgooxú Peter Stanton

What ideas and events shape our understanding of the past? The ways we describe and categorize history have typically reflected colonial narratives and perspectives. This presentation explains how the usual timeline of Alaska history can and should be decolonized and re-periodized to represent the thinking and experiences of Indigenous nations.

Beyond Painful Beauty: Untold Stories and Unanswered Questions

3:45-4:45 pm
Odess Theater Megan A. Smetzer

With any book project, not every story persists through the editing process and many questions remain unanswered. This talk introduces Painful Beauty: Tlingit Women, Beadwork, and the Art of Resilience, shares unpublished research and unanswered questions, and considers, with the audience, the possibilities for future conversations around untold beading histories.

"Góon dáanaa een áwé kawduwat'íý' ax jeeyís yá kées, This bracelet was pounded out of a gold coin for me," A History of Sitka Tlingit Silversmiths

3:45-4:45 pm
Yaw 111 Zachary R. Jones

This presentation overviews the history of Tlingit metalsmiths that have practiced at Sitka. Detailing the origins of metalsmithing jewelry at Sitka and major artists of the 19th and 20th centuries, this presentation provides details on lives and works of Tlingit jewelers.

Break for Dinner (on your own) 4:45 - 7:00 pm

7:00-8:00PM

Picturing a People: George Johnston; Tlingit Photographer (Film Screening)

7:00-8:00 pm
Odess Theater Yeilt'ooch' Tláa for Carol Geddes (Shaan Tlein)

A documentary showing the vibrant history of the inland Tlingit in the early 1900s through the life of George Johnston, one of Canada's first Indigenous photographers.

Wild Teas will be served during the screening, courtesy of Kaasei Naomi Michalsen and Kayaaní Shaawat, Trixie Bennett.

Tlingit Jeopardy and Card Games

7:00-8:00 pm
Odess 203 K'ashgé Daphne Wright

An hour of fun games and activities for all ages that will help us learn and practice the Tlingit language.

Native Youth Olympics

7:00-8:00 pm
Odess Dance Studio Rachel Moreno

A demonstration of different NYO events by the former Mt. Edgecumbe High School NYO coach. All ages and skills welcome, beginners especially!

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Complimentary continental breakfast provided by SEARHC, Outer Coast, and Rachel Moreno, beginning at 8:00 am in the Odess Lobby

9:00-10:00 AM

KEYNOTE: From Dog Teams to the Space Race, and Winning the Fight for Land Claims—How Education Shaped a Movement

9:00-10:00 am
Odess Theater Emil Notti

"From Dog Teams to the Space Race, and Winning the Fight for Land Claims—how Education Shaped a Movement. Raised on a trapline in Interior Alaska, Emil Notti attended Alaskan boarding schools and college in California. He was president of the Alaska Federation of Natives during lobbying for the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. He'll talk about how education shaped the leaders of the land claims movement.

10:15-11:15 AM

The Process of Acknowledgment, Apology and Reparations for the Racist Closure of the Native Churh as a Model

10:15-11:15 am
Odess Theater Maxine Richert, Barbara T'eishtul.aan Searls, and Rev. Dr. Charles Ensminger

Presentation of the Acknowledgment, Apology and Reparations for the racist closure of Memorial Presbyterian Church as a model for Alaska Native groups to consider in seeking healing, closure and reparations if appropriate for past racial harms.

Sheet'ká Tlingit Labor during the Russian Colonial Period

10:15-11:15 am
Odess 203 Michael Kraemer

This presentation will examine the laboring practices of Sheet'ká Tlingit workers and the consequences of their decisions on the Russian American Company in the mid-nineteenth century. Sheet'ká Tlingits greatly affected the RAC's economic fortunes by prioritizing labor for certain projects while rejecting labor on others.

Spaced Repetition Audio Training in Language Learning

10:15-11:15 am
Yaw 111 Shkooyéil Tim Hall

This presentation will be an introduction to spaced repetition audio training. This is a versatile strategy that can help language learners, especially beginners and intermediates, improve their pronunciation, vocabulary acquisition and retention, transcription skills, and implicit understanding of target language grammar.

Supporting Chilkat Weavers - Historic Weavings Review at Sitka National Historical Park

10:15-11:45 am
Sitka National Historical Park
Zachary R. Jones

Supporting Chilkat Weavers is a workshop organized to support practicing Chilkat weavers by providing the opportunity to study historic Chilkat weavings housed at Sitka National Historical Park. Location: Sitka National Historical Park. Invited: Practicing Chilkat Weavers.

11:15-11:45 AM

Point House Revitalization/ Sitka Indian Village Restoration/Saving Sitka's Clan Houses

11:15-11:45 am
Odess Theater Jerrick Hope-Lang/ Lduteen and Shannon Crossley/ Keinasxíx

Discussing restoration of clan houses. Our nomination with National Trust's "11 Most Endangered Places." Rebuilding sovereignty through place and space. Historic preservation as a model. 21st-century ideas to rebuild/restore.

Oral Tradition in the 90th US Congress

11:15-11:45 am
Odess 203 Elizabeth Kunibe Tsiskw Tláa

The proceedings of the 90th US Congress have recorded what the Alaska Native people and others present were saying and doing to preserve their land, including their Alaska Native way of life. It was the oral tradition of the Alaska Native people that changed history. We will learn and read from their testimony.

1:30-2:00 PM

LUNCHEON ODESS THEATER 12 - 1 PM

Jermaine Ross-Allam
The Great Re-Encounter
(Purchased ticket required for lunch.)

Recently, a colleague asked, "What if Protestants and Indigenous peoples encountered one another on the basis of equality rather than according to colonial theft based on racism and religious supremacy?" The Great Re-Encounter explores this question as an opportunity to do now what could and should have been done before.

Chilkat Weaving: Endangered No More

1:30-2:30 pm
Odess 203 Lily Hope

Travel through time with renowned artist Lily Hope (Tlingit). One hundred years ago, only a handful of artists created ceremonial Chilkat Dancing Blankets on the Northwest Coast of Alaska and Canada. Hope's talk explores current material adaptations, pattern design integrity, and teaching continuity from one of the last known living Chilkat weavers to today. Join us to celebrate the artists weaving this art form into a thriving future!

Copper Economy of the Northern Territories

1:30-2:30 pm
Yaw 111 Jennifer Bowen

Exploring the Copper Economy of the Northern Athapaskan People: This presentation delves into the significance of copper trade and craftsmanship among the Northern Athapaskan people, focusing on a unique copper dagger. It highlights the cultural, economic, and technological impacts of copper utilization in pre-contact Indigenous societies.

Drum Making and Cedar Bark Weaving

1:30-4:45 pm
Yaw Classroom 105 Ed Peele & Shk̲'awulyéil Ralph Brady

All afternoon on Thursday and Friday Ed Peele and Ralph Brady will be offering drop-in workshops on drummaking and cedar bark weaving. *Sponsored by the Herring Protectors*

2:00-2:30 PM

Deaths in Sitka in the 1930s

2:00-2:30 pm
Odess 203 K̲us.een Rebecca Poulson

In Sitka, Alaska in the decade of the 1930s, records show numbers of premature deaths in Native families is far disproportionate to numbers of premature deaths in non-Native families. Most deaths were related to tuberculosis. Communities elsewhere, also targeted by racial bias, also suffered high rates of death from tuberculosis.

Assembling Ideologies: Roles in the Production of Tlingit Language Reclamation Materials

2:00-2:30 pm
Yaw 111 Koodéik' (Joseph Marks)

This presentation looks at how language ideologies in Indigenous language learning can create conflict, creating obstacles for community-based revitalization goals, and also language ideologies can help inform Indigenous immersion lessons.

Weavers Gathering

2:00-5:30 pm
Upstairs Odess Lobby Lily Hope

Gather with renowned weaver Lily Hope, & friends who will be demonstrating & sharing knowledge about woolen & cedar bark weaving. Each artist will be working on their own pieces and there will be finished pieces for sale.

Break 2:30-2:45 pm

2:45-3:45 PM

Tools to Teach & Learn Tlingit / 6th Annual International Tlingit Spelling Bee!

2:45-4:15 pm
Odess Theater Yakdushí, Kiyéis Tláa

This session will present ways to study and teach Indigenous languages. There will be a short lesson with presentation and interactive practice using game-based tools. We will have the 6th International Tlingit Spelling Bee as part of our session.

Yee eedé Tooshí áa [We sing to you]: Remapping Yaaw Teiyí [Herring Rock] with song and dance

2:45-3:45 pm
Odess 203 Xéetl'ee Katelyn Stiles

This film screening and presentation will share a story of Indigenous resurgence: connecting the Kiks. ádi oral history of the Herring Rock Woman to the recent creation of the Herring Lady Robes and how through song, dance, harvest, protest, and ceremony, we are remapping the tidelands in Sheet'ká.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 (CONTINUED)

"The Land is Ours" Screening and Q&A

2:45-4:15 pm
Yaw 111 Laurence Goldin

"The Land is Ours" is an award-winning documentary film about the Tlingit and Haida civil rights/land claims movement. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with the filmmaker.

3:45-4:45

Archaeology as a Tool for Indigenous Sovereignty

3:45-4:45 pm
Odess 203 Benjamin Kucher

The intersection of archaeology and Indigenous sovereignty emphasizes collaborative research, involving Indigenous communities in decision-making, and respecting their rights. It includes integrating traditional knowledge, repatriating artifacts, and decolonizing archaeological practices to ensure ethical and respectful study and preservation of Indigenous heritage.

Break for Dinner (on your own) 4:45 - 7:00 pm

7:00 - 8:00 PM

Tlingit Song and Dance

7:00-8:00 pm
Odess Theater Yeidikook'áa & Kichnaalx̲

An evening of Sitka-style dancing from alumni of the SNEP program.

All are welcome!

"Healing Across the Waters" Film Screening

7:00-8:00 pm
Odess 203 Mary Beth Moss, Dakáa Xoo Xéi, Darlene See, Kudeiyatóon

The film "Healing Across the Waters" will serve as a springboard for small group discussions and activities focused on building healthy relationships.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Coffee Available at 8 am in the Odess Lobby

9:00-10:00 AM

"Russian America" in Oldenburg, Germany

9:00-10:00am
Odess Theater Gudrun Bucher, Ivonne Kaiser

The State Museum of Nature and Humanity in Oldenburg (Germany) holds an old collection of items from Tlingit, Sugpiaq, Unangax, Yupi'k and Dena'ina origin. It was transferred via St. Petersburg (Russia) to Oldenburg around 1841. To create transparency regarding this collection we will present first research results and discuss open questions.

How to Propagate Our Local Berries!

9:00-10:00 am
Odess 203 Vivian Mork, Josh Smith

Break 10:00-10:15 am

10:15-11:45 AM

Culture & Place Based Knowledge in Language Learning Spaces

10:15-11:45 am
Odess Theater Yakdushí & Kiyéis Tláa

This presentation will explore the efforts of Ketchikan Indian Community's Tlingit Language Team in facilitating language learning opportunities in their community. Sharing their personal experiences and positive impact of teaching language, culture, and place-base knowledge simultaneously.

10:15-11:45 AM

Haa Léelk'u Hás Haa Éet Aawlitoo.át - Our Grandparents' Teachings

10:15-11:45 am
Odess 203 Shxéi, Kaanagoot & former SNEP Students

The Sitka Native Education Program (SNEP) celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. Students involved in SNEP have cherished the words of Elder Kaal.atk', Charlie Joseph: "Even from Long Ago We Cherish Our Grandchildren; No Matter What We Value We Offer It Up To Them." He and the other Elders shared their knowledge with all of us, their grandchildren, regardless of clan, inspiring us to be proud of our Native heritage. This panel features graduates from each decade of SNEP, who will share their experiences, the wisdom they've gained, and the significance of the program in their lives. They will also discuss their cultural involvement and the profound impact SNEP has had on them.

Nature's Point of View from Tlingit Stories and Parables to Ceremony

10:15-11:45 am
YAW 111 Daax Ku Dein and Tleikw xoo (Among the berries)

Tlingit Stories share and encourages balance and alignment through our stories that restore our relationship to one another through the practice of ceremony.

Traditional Foods and Medicines Outdoor Walk

10:15-11:45 am
Meet at Park Visitor Center Vivian Mork

"Take a walk through Totem Park trail at Sitka National Historic Park along the beach, and along the river to learn about the traditional foods we have been sustainably harvesting for thousands of years. We will talk about respectful harvesting and what that diverse concept means. You will learn about foods such as goose tongue, beach asparagus, beach lovage, saltbush, beach greens, the berry bushes that are edible in the spring, trees, medicines and more. You will learn about what seasons are best for which foods, nutrition content, as well as tips and tricks for harvesting. You will also learn about microclimate harvesting and how to extend your harvest season for numerous foods."

11:45-1:30 Lunch (on your own)

Recent 3D Projects with Wrangell Cooperative Association and Teikweidi Clan Leader Dan Brown

1:30-2:30 pm
Odess Theater Eric Hollinger/Dukwu

3D specialists from the Smithsonian and the University of South Florida helped Teikweidi Clan Leader Dan Brown make a replica of the clan's Mother Bear Hat and worked with the Wrangell Cooperative Association to begin 3D digitizing Chief Shakes' 45 foot long Brown Bear Canoe for educational and cultural perpetuation purposes

Indigenous Language Revitalization Efforts from a Northern Tlingit Perspective

1:30-2:30 pm
Odess 203 Seenaakw' Gail Dabaluz

My presentation focuses upon a personal belief and conviction that Indigenous language models provide the framework to be engaged and successful students. It provides the necessary tools to be lifelong learners, and competitive in western and non-western frameworks. Through the educational journey, participating families are enriched, too in profound ways.

Portraying the Tlingit People: Elbridge W. Merrill vs. William H. Case and Horace H. Draper

1:30-2:00 pm
Yaw 111 Gunáak'w Sergei Kan

The paper compares the photographic portrayal of the Tlingit people by Elbridge W. Merrill (operating in Sitka between 1899 and 1929) and by William H. Case and Horace H. Draper (operating in Skagway and Juneau between 1898 and 1920).

Footsteps Across the Sky: Louis Shotridge and Tlingit Traditional Knowledge

2:00-2:30 pm

Yaw 111 Lucy Kudaneek Daax Keil Atch Fowler Williams

This presentation introduces the vision, work, and legacy of Tlingit historian Situwukaa/Louis Shotridge (1883-1937) who recorded Tlingit traditional knowledge for future generations. Highlights include his ideas on traditional art that illuminates the true psychology of his people, and details about Penn Museum resources, recent repatriations, and ongoing projects.

SITKA NATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM MEMORIAL

3:30-4:30 PM • ODESS THEATER

Honoring the founding SNEP teachers and elders who have walked into the forest

Banquet

Recognizing the Sitka Native Education Program

6:30-8:30 PM • ODESS THEATER

(Purchased Ticket Required)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

The World of the Sheet'ká Kwáan

Boat Trip around the Sitka Sound

Departs 11:00 am • Returns 2:00 pm • Ticket required

Board at Crescent Harbor

Join us for a boat trip sponsored by Allen Marine to visit traditional sites of the Sheet'ká Kwáan, with commentary provided by Yeidikook'áa (Kiks.ádi, Sheet'ka Kwáan), and songs by members of the Sheet'ká Kwáan Dancers.

OPTIONS FOR MEALS IN SITKA ON YOUR OWN

Grab & Go:

- **Wildflour Cafe & Bakery** - A wide selection of coffee, smoothies, pastries, wraps, and salads
- **Backdoor Cafe** - A cozy place for coffee, cookies, and homemade sandwiches, soups, or burritos
- **Sitka Pel'Meni** - An open-late dumpling establishment keeping choices simple: beef or potato dumplings with the fixin's
- **Ludwig's Chowder Cart** - Spicy chorizo chowder served by the bowl at the Sitka Sound Science Center Gift Shop
- **Sea Daddy** - A sporadically open and highly eclectic local fish stop on Katlian
- **Subway** - Subs just like down south (& the only chain in town)

Food Trucks:

Lincoln Street:

- **Ashmo's** - Salmon mac n cheese, cod tips, fish and chips, or fish tacos
- **Red Herring** - Crab rolls, venison, and salmon chowder

AC Lakeside Parking Lot

- **Juan's Cuban Cuisine** - cubanos, yucca fries

Behind Mean Queen:

- **Rising Tide Bagels** - bagel sandwiches
- **Ye Taco Loco** - tacos, burritos

Lake Street Roundabout:

- **Enoki Eatery** - Smoked fish musubi, mochi waffles
- **Bubble Tea by the Sea** - Boba
- **Hawaiian Donut** - Hot malasadas
- & sometimes a few other food trucks

Near Harbor Mountain Brewing/Cascade Convenience Store

- **La Catrina** - Birria tacos + nachos

Sit-down:

- **Beak Restaurant** - Top notch local Alaskan fare by Chef Rene, try the Salmon Chowder or the Black Cod tips
- **Mean Queen** - A crowd favorite, pizzas, salads, wings
- **Campfire Pizza** - Creative woodfired pizzas and housemade gelato, located inside Harbor Mountain Brewing
- **Yuyo's** - Sonoran Mexican food + pizzas, located in the basement of the Tongass Threads building
- **Kenny's Wok & Teriyaki** - Chinese & Japanese cuisine

For more great local options, see https://visitsitka.org/things-to-do/taste/restaurants

The Andy Hope Legacy Project

A video catalog for an online college

by Peter Metcalfe

Do you want to learn how to speak, teach, or benefit from learning an indigenous language? On the topic of language arts, the SharingOurKnowledge.com website currently has 46 individual video presentations — from the first conference in 1993 to the most recent in 2022. Most are about Tlingit, but all are generally applicable to other threatened languages.

How about weaving or basketry? Respectively, nine and seven presentations beginning with the 2007 Sharing Our Knowledge Conference. Indigenous art in general, 39 presentations; indigenous history, 51; clans, 23; regalia, six. And on, and on…

In all, nearly 500 individual presentations ranging from 15 minutes to one hour with a few exceeding 2 hours. The longest video exceeds 7 hours — the Smithsonian's 2019 ceremonial repatriation of an ancient clan hat. All are accessible on the website and all relevant to the indigenous peoples of Southeast Alaska and their First Nations neighbors.

Finding these videos once required a deep dive into SOK program books, or by lucky Google searches. Each video presentation is now easily found by using the website's comprehensive and searchable catalog of videos and documents. This is the result of a U.S. Department of Education grant administered by the Douglas Indian Association.

In addition to presentations, there are over 125 b-roll videos on the website but not publicly available. These are often very short, typically used to cover narration with location shots, audience reactions, and scenic views of the conferences' host communities. Included in the b-roll videos are 56 interviews of presenters, organizers, and attendees. B-roll videos are available upon request.

Anyone familiar with the planning and organization of the conferences can attest that the presentations hosted by each conference were not dependent on a rigid selection process but on the proposals received. Most were of a quality that made acceptance easy. Those rejected over the years could be counted on one hand.

The reason for the project name is self-evident to those long involved in Sharing Our Knowledge symposiums. At the time of his untimely death in 2008 (age 58), Andrew "Andy" John Hope III was a founder and the executive director of Sharing Our Knowledge. This legacy project is a partial realization of Andy's longtime vision of creating a tribal college. At the very least, the SOK website presents online, college-level content.

In 1993, Andy organized the first "Clan Conference" as it was then known with his frequent collaborators Richard and Nora Dauenhauer. From the start, the conferences staked out a unique position in the study of Indigenous cultures, being the first such symposium that brought together Indigenous tradition bearers and academics on the basis of mutual respect and equal participation to share and absorb knowledge of Native cultures — the antithesis to an "ivory tower approach."

Andy single-handily organized two more Clan Conferences in the mid-1990s, but ten years were to elapse before the March 2007 "Sharing Our Knowledge Conference" — when Andy changed the name — a well-funded event that attracted over 500 people to Sitka's convention center. Academics from institutions in Europe, Russia, and North America joined Native presenters to share research, findings, and life experiences with those who study, promote, and live Southeast Alaska Native languages, traditions, and cultures.

For those interested in Andy's goals, just search the catalog for "Andy Hope" — he comes up six times as a presenter, and 33 times in "subject" notes.

About video quality: The image and audio quality vary from as good as modern technology provides to several videos of limited utility. The catalog includes commentary that assesses the quality of each video.

The Early History of the Sitka Native Education Program

by Yeidikook'áa

The Sitka Native Education Program began in 1974 when Isabella Brady left her job at Mt. Edgecumbe High School to write the grants for this program. In its beginnings, it was known as the ANB Cultural Education Program. The early instructors came from the Cross Mountain Dancers - with Ray Nielsen instructing and Christine Howard drumming. However, fairly soon after its beginning, Charlie Joseph, Sr., Kaal.atk', became the lead dance instructor/elder consultant. He was held up by a cadre of other elders who came and spent their time at the ANB Hall in Sitka, consulting on song and dance. Those most frequently assisting were his wife, Annie Joseph, Annie Dick, Elizabeth Basco, Mary Marks, Mary Perkins, and Esther Littlefield.

In its early years, SNEP boasted a wide variety of programs available to provide not only cultural education but also other educational services to the Native youth of Sitka, including preschool tuition assistance, van transportation, tutoring, and even counseling.

Bolstered by required parental/family involvement, students often had their own full complement of regalia (button robes, vests, and dance shirts "tunics," as well as other small pieces such as hand paddles and headbands). Additionally, family and staff would help with regular fundraisers, enabling the early groups to travel to many locations from Hawaii to Washington, D.C., and many locations within Southeast Alaska and across the state.

With a rigid, regular practice schedule, the dancers delivered strong performances, gaining them a reputation which resulted in invitations to dance at events where the dance group would be heavily supported by the inviting organization, sometimes even with their entire way being paid.

Before long, the structure of SNEP changed, whereupon the teaching did not only come from elder-consultants, but a team of cultural instructors were hired. These instructors were remarkable in that they were native speakers of Tlingit, who also learned the Naish-Story orthography for Tlingit, and though they were not able to teach the SNEP students to speak fluent Tlingit, they were able to teach the students to read and write (pronounce and transcribe) Tlingit. They provided strong building blocks for those wishing to pursue more study of language later in life. The instructors from that generation were: the late Ethel Makinen (Daasdiyaa), the late Vida Davis (Kawduk'eit Tláa), Dr. Anne Johnson (Gooch Tláa), and "the Beading Lady," Alice Williams (Kus.een). Several graduates of SNEP also served as cultural instructors over the years, as well, doing their part to pass along what they had learned from the elders and first generation of cultural instructors.

Perhaps most notable among the contributions of SNEP were the plethora of recordings of songs and stories, with the intent of ensuring they would be preserved for future generations.

After the first six years of operations and education, a time came to discuss that which was being done. Teaching multiple clans' songs to multi-clan groups of children had never been done before, and it required the careful deliberation of elders who came from across the region in 1980 to determine if they gave their blessing for this format for the transmission and continuation of our culture. At this conference, the Gájaa Héen Dancers performed, and elders discussed what they had seen. As they formulated their thoughts regarding the future of Haa Kusteeyí, of our culture/way of life, their words about our culture articulated our creed regarding the preservation and revitalization of our way of life. These words, these speeches they shared, became the core of the Dauenhauers' book, *Haa Tuwunáagu Yís*, the book of Tlingit Oratory. It was also at this gathering at Allen Auditorium on Sheldon Jackson campus, that Celebration was born.

Since 1980, SNEP has continued to grow under the care of many dedicated teachers, tradition bearers, and elders. We hope it will continue to do so long into the future.

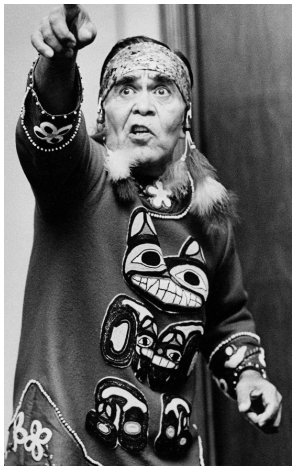
SNEP Elders and Teachers

Front row: Niecy James, Annie Joseph, Mary Marks, Mary Perkins, Esther Littlefield
Back row: Ethel Makinin, Alice Williams, Vida Davis

Elizabeth Basco, Annie Dick, Emma Duncan-Davis

Elizabeth Basco, Annie Dick

Alice Williams



Walter Williams

Annie and Charlie Joseph

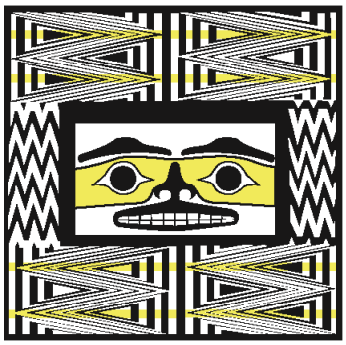
Conference Founders: Keixwnéi (Nora Marks Dauenhauer), Xaastánch (Andrew Hope III); Xwaayeenák (Richard Dauenhauer)
Photo courtesy Peter Metcalfe

OUTER COAST

A Thank You From Outer Coast

Outer Coast is honored to provide volunteer service for the 2024 Sharing Our Knowledge Conference. Outer Coast is a new institution of higher education in Sitka, Alaska, located at the Sitka Fine Arts Camp campus, formerly Sheldon Jackson College. We offer a two-year undergraduate course of study accredited in partnership with the University of Alaska Southeast. Students follow an academic curriculum grounded in the place of Sitka—its ecology, its economy, its history, and above all its Indigenous culture and language. At the same time they perform service throughout Sitka and Southeast Alaska, and they share responsibility with faculty and staff for governing and maintaining the school. Above all, Outer Coast strives to be an institution truly open to, and in the service of, the communities that surround it.

The SOK Conference holds a special place in our hearts. We traveled as a whole school to Wrangell to serve as volunteers for the last Sharing Our Knowledge Conference in 2022. It was a life-changing experience for many members of our community—faculty, staff and students alike. This year we are so grateful to have the chance to work again alongside beloved elders and leaders, and to introduce a new generation of students to the intellectual and cultural bounty that is the legacy of SOK and its founders. We feel especially honored to have the conference take place on the campus we call our home, a campus with such an important Indigenous history, sometimes proud, sometimes painful. We hope to learn and listen at many SOK conferences to come. Wáa sá gunalchéesh, Háaw'aa, Nt'oyaxsn.



Artwork by Michael Jackson

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Front cover photo: Yeidikook'áa Isabella Brady and Kaal.átk' Charlie Joseph dancing at SNEP.
Back cover photo: Kích Gaaw Boyd Didrickson's house at 428 Kaagwaantaan Street in the Sitka Village.