



Seattle Clear Sky

Newsletter

Thriving Through Education. Culture and Tradition

COMMUNITY MURAL ART PROJECT

By Ben Y.

I recently had the opportunity to join a group of students who are creating a land acknowledgment community art mural. The Land Acknowledgment mural will be gifted, and installed at Ingraham High School in the Haller Lake neighborhood of Seattle. As a recent transplant from Minnesota, their stories growing up in a predominantly white represented and supported K-12 education system reminded me of my own education. The exciting thing to witness is that these students are making change within their own schools and that work deserves to be honored and uplifted.

In making change, the process of making this mural has revealed a lot about the passion that these students bring not only to their academic achievement, but to community activism and representation. I had a chance to talk to some of these students and their own words are a testament to this passion.

Ava was eager to talk about inclusion, she said, “we are making a mural for our school to include different symbols to represent Two Spirit, LGBTQ, and it’s nice to represent everyone. For our schools to represent Native Americans and the first inhabitants of the land and represent everyone is important.”

Elijah echoed those sentiments when he said, “I wanted to help because I hope people see our culture and how we like all those who are different.”

Aidan added, “I wanted to join so we could express ourselves and our culture. This mural is all about expression and it’s great to show our culture.”

The two Co-Presidents of Ingraham High School Native Club echoed the need for representation. Kayla said, “I realized there was no Indigenous representation, and our school is big on the message of ‘it’s a matter of pride’ so we started working on artistic imagery beyond the verbal recognition like the land acknowledgement. The Community mural will be for the entire Ingraham high school community and Indigenous students to connect with. The diversity of Indigeneity will be represented in our

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mural, including; Two-Spirit, Afro-Indigenous, and we plan to raise awareness to issues like Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women.” Giselle said, “Rarely do we see Native anything, so this’ll be that acknowledgement and realization. I want people to understand the depths of colonization, how they are a part of that system, and how they can decolonize.”

I have seen how representation is vital to student success and as I watched these youth join in their artistic expression, these change makers are socially woke in so many ways, their creative energy brings hope, inspiration and ensures a bright future for us all.





YOUTH AMBASSADORS MEET AND GREET

By Gia Tran

On July 12th 2022, Clear Sky had a special meet and greet with 15 high school youth ambassadors from Brazil. The Youth Ambassadors Program has youth leaders chosen by the U.S embassy to travel to various parts of the world to meet other grass roots organizations. Each student has an endearing social justice based project. The purpose of coming together was to engage in civic education, community service, leadership development and multiculturalism. We began Clear Sky with an opening circle and an honorable blessing from Elder John Romero (Shoshone). Following with Land Acknowledgement and welcoming song. We then shared a meal getting to know one another and divided the group into visiting Licton Springs and the other working on the Clear Sky Art Mural. The day was concluded with another song and gratitude expressed from the students. The Youth Ambassadors were gifted a special coast salish themed print from Roger Fernandez and UNEA items for remembrance of our gathering.



NWA SUMMER BASKETBALL

By Sarah Sense-Wilson

We are thrilled to have NSC Wellness Center gymnasium as our place for NWA basketball every Thursday and Sunday. We recently expanded our program to younger age group as a strategy for building up the program starting with little tikes. The lil ballers ages 4-6 are practicing every Sunday 4:00-5:30pm with coach Sarah and Stacy. We are excited and challenged at the same time with learning the developmental stages of physical and mental focus in coaching approach. My personal experience is primarily high school and middle school age youth. The specific learning and attention span of littles is new for me, so any tips, or support is greatly appreciated. Our littles have a natural love for play, so we definitely want to foster fun in basketball while also build up to actual competition play. Our goal is to start a league in the Fall and to play in a few Rez tournaments before the season ends. This is a co-ed open practice to all Indigenous kids ages 4-6. Please join us in cheering on our littles and take full advantage of the joy and laughter we all experience with each and every playful basketball practice.



NATIVE WARRIOR ATHLETICS

NATIVE YOUTH AGES 7-13



BASKETBALL PROGRAM INCLUDES:
CONDITIONING, INDIVIDUAL AND
TEAM SKILL BUILDING, AND
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT



Register here!



THURSDAYS
6:00 PM - 8:00

SUNDAYS
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM



WEBSITE
urbannativeeducation.org

North Seattle College Wellness Center
9600 College Way N, 2nd Floor Gym

More Information Contact
Sarah Sense - Wilson at uneachair@gmail.com
or text (206) 941-0338



VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH STACY WILLIAMS

By Melanie C.

UNEA depends greatly not only on our hard working staff who work daily, but on the help of our volunteers as well! During the month of July, we were able to take the time to scoop out ice cream and savor richly-flavored cupcakes in honor of the ever-kind and ever-humble volunteer, Stacy Williams!

When I sat down to do an interview with Stacy, I admired how appreciative she is of UNEA. It is clear from talking to her that she genuinely loves the UNEA community and all of the opportunities it has offered. Not only has UNEA offered a space for her children to bond with others and build their confidence –academically and socially –but it has done so for herself, as well. Stacy reflects on how UNEA had encouraged her to look more into her heritage, while the resources are available, and finds that the opportunities to teach current youth are very rewarding.

Stacy went from finding UNEA online, to her and her family becoming a weekly Thursday tutoring and NWA attendee, to becoming a constant and friendly face at NWA and Clear Sky! The extra dedication Stacy has made to have her family appear twice weekly at UNEA's meetings this month has not gone unnoticed or under-appreciated.

When asked a final question, "What advice would you give to new volunteers unfamiliar with UNEA?" Stacy didn't think twice before answering "Just do it." UNEA would not be able to do nearly the same amount of work that we do without the help of our volunteers, so from the bottom of our hearts, thank you Stacy!



Dear Community and Allies,

July 25, 2022

The Urban Native Education Alliance is excited to announce one high school course for Clear Sky Academy 2022 – 2023 school year: *American Indian Art and Culture*, this course is in partnership with Yellow Wood Academy. *AI Art and Culture* meets the OSPI and Common Core State Standards for Fine Arts credit, respectively.

Students will have the opportunity to earn 0.5 high school credit for this course, fulfilling Fine Arts elective graduation requirements. Students have the option to enroll for either the first or second semester or for the entirety of the academic year.

Course Description

American Indian Art and Culture

Students will participate in AI creative, cultural, and artistic expression through several mediums, and within the context of contemporary lifeways. This project-based, experiential learning course will draw on an array of traditional teachings to support students' tribal and cultural experiences.

Approach

Clear Sky Academy acknowledges and builds on students' individual gifts, strengths, and abilities. Students will explore their cultural identity through experiential, collaborative, and community-based learning. This course will be held every Tuesday with in-person instruction at North Seattle College. Space is limited. Seattle-area, Native youth will be prioritized.

American Indian Art and Culture: 6:00pm-8:00pm

Orientation: Thursday, September 1st, 2022, at 7:00pm. Virtual and in person at NSC room CC1161

Start Date: Tuesday, September 13th, 2022 at 6:00-8:00pm. In-Person at NSC room CC1161

North Seattle College

9600 College Way N, Seattle, WA 98103

Room: CC1161

Contact us to enroll today! Registration packet and course syllabi will be provided.

Sarah Sense-Wilson - UNEACHAIR@GMAIL.COM

UNEA Program Coordinator - uneaprogramcord@gmail.com

Thank you,

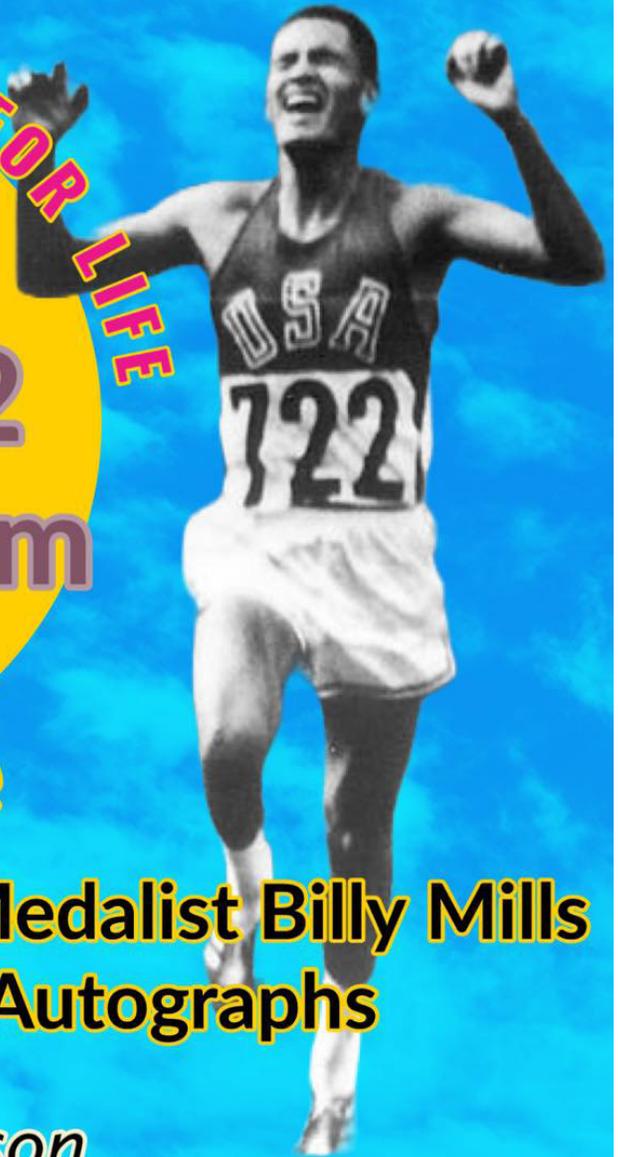
Sarah Sense-Wilson (Oglala)

Clear Sky Academy Mission Statement

We are a collective of vibrant, culturally diverse scholars engaged in AI knowledge systems AND grounded in cultural values. We seek academic excellence in preparation for life while exploring cultural identity and personal growth within a holistic interconnected worldview.

BILLY MILLS RUN/WALK FOR LIFE

**August
28th 2022
2:00-4:00pm**



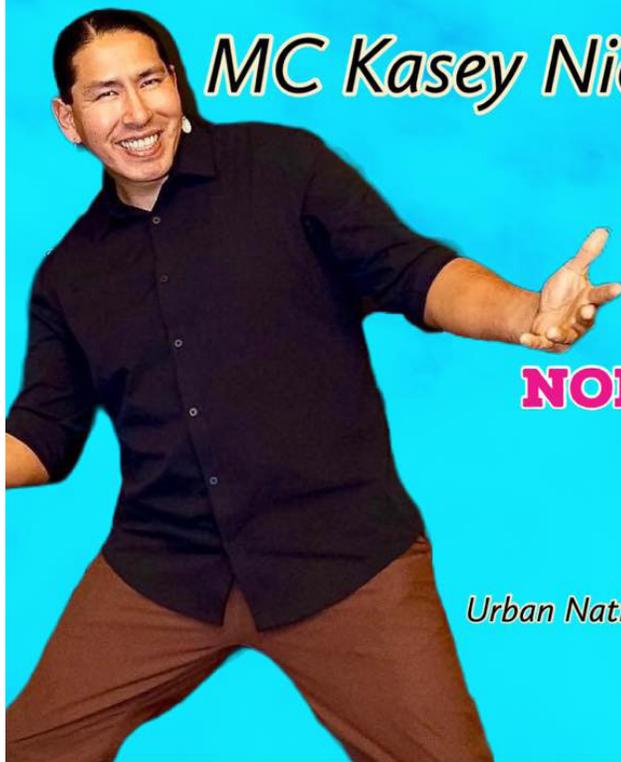
Free

**Meet Olympic Gold Medalist Billy Mills
Photos/Prizes/Autographs**

MC Kasey Nicholson

(206)941-0338

NORTH SEATTLE COLLEGE



Urban Native Education Alliance/Seattle Indian Health Board

About Us!

Seattle Clear Sky Native Youth Council (SCSNYC) provides:

- **Academic Support:**
Instructional tutoring and mentoring.
- **Cultural Learning Activities:**
Song and drum instruction, beading, talking circle, mural painting, storytelling, and art projects.
- **Individual Recognition:** Student of the month, monthly birthdays, and Native graduation acknowledgments.
- **Community Involvement:**
Spirit Walk, social justice rallies, and field trips.
- **Leadership Opportunities:**
Circle discussions, fund-raisers, community organizing, and leadership building projects.
- **Basketball Program.**
- **Student Service Learning.**



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