



Seattle Clear Sky Newsletter

"Rising to justice. Learning with joy. Creating our future"

April | 2017



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, fundraisers, community organizing, and leadership building projects.
- **Basketball Program.**
- **Student Service Learning.**

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BMGF 'Teen Action Fair'



The Mni Wičoni ("Water is Life") teaching mural, created by the children and youth of Clear Sky Native Youth Council and Urban Native Education Alliance (UNEA).

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A.J. (Colville) Clear Sky Native Leadership Student wrote; I had a very enjoyable experience at the Teen Action Fair. The environment at the TAF was very warm and welcoming atmosphere.

It was a place quite comfortable and open to kids, teens, young adults, adults, and parents. The hosts and organizers were extremely hospitable and helpful to all groups.

They were very supportive in helping our UNEA Group set up our mural about water and the water protectors that all of the kids here at Clear Sky contributed to.

Many people had come to our table, even more had complimented our mural. There were tons of non-native people interested in our group. We had often been asked about what groups or tribes of people come to Clear Sky.

Many strangers came to be fascinated and appreciated our group. I really enjoyed sharing information about UNEA and would definitely participate again for the next one, hopefully more people from our group will be able to go. A.J. (Colville) Senior Northgate Middle College.

Our Mission

To collectively engage in cultural activities and promote educational achievement. We strive to enhance tribal identities, personal and community growth, and wellness. We advocate for justice, equality, and visibility in the Seattle community.

Elders Corner



JoAnne, Asia, A.J., and Logan (not pictured) represented Clear Sky Native Youth Council at the 2017 Gates Foundation's "Take Action" Teen Fair.

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On March 18th, Asia, JoAnne, A.J., and Logan staffed our information table and represented Clear Sky Native Youth Council and Urban Native Education Alliance at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's 2017 "Take Action" Teen Fair at the foundation's visitors center across from the Seattle Center in Chief Seattle City.

Clear Sky was chosen to participate in this exhibition showcasing youth dedicated to public advocacy and action in support of Social Justice, Humanitarian Relief, and Environmental Protection. It was an excellent opportunity

for middle school and high school youth to share information about their group's activities and projects in a peer-to-peer setting.

All of our youth fielded questions from children, youth, and adults very well. It was fun watching the interactions as people came by our information table and viewed our teaching mural.

The 2017 "Take Action" Teen Fair was the first public appearance of our young learners' Mni Wičoni ("Water is Life") teaching mural. The Mni Wičoni ("Water is Life") mural is the result of weeks of learning,

planning, designing, and painting by Clear Sky Native Youth.

Inspired by the heroism of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, the Water Protectors, and other allies opposing the Dakota Access Pipe Line (DAPL), Clear Sky young learners designed and painted the colorful canvas mural, filling it with powerful messages and images.

It was interesting to see that most - if not all - visitors were already aware of the resistance by the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Water Protectors, and other allies to the illegal and dangerous DAPL. The youth and adults visiting

the Teen Fair seemed to be well informed, and very supportive.

Clear Sky Native Youth Council was fortunate to be mentored throughout the teaching mural project by John Romero Sr. and Roger Fernandes. Artists George, and Ixtli White Hawk, and Duwamish Thomas also provided assistance and encouragement during the mural project.

At the "Take Action" Teen Fair, John Romero Sr. arrived early to help A.J. and Duwamish Thomas display the mural. The director of the Gates Foundation's Teen Fair Mr. Luis Ortega was very helpful and supportive.

UNEA Board Secretary Vicki Pinkham, Board Member Balasz Dibuz, parent Laura Guillen, and Elders Circle Member Duwamish Thomas were present during the Teen Fair.

After the fair, Mr. Ortega asked me about our experience at the Teen Fair, and if we would like to participate next year. I thanked him for his help and hospitality, and said that we definitely would like to take part next year.

Duwamish Thomas

Member, Elders Advisory Council

Clear Sky Native Youth Council, Urban Native Education Alliance.



Youth Voice- Native Sign Language



Eric

I have learned some of the letters and words of sign language.

It is important because if people learn other languages, they can communicate with others.

I could talk in sign language with other kids who have learned sign language.

Reina

I learned the words, swim, water, and fish in sign language.

I can use sign language when someone cannot hear.

Elena

I learned the words swim, now, and water.

Leon

I learned the words river, swim, and sing.

Making sign language with people you can understand people.

Practice every week and use sign language when you can.

Leandra

I learned the words, go, river, and water in sign language.

Luka

I know the word "go" in sign language and the word, "river," and finally the word "water."

C.J.

I learned how to spell my name in sign language. I also learned how to sign the sentence, "Drink out of the river" and the word "must."

Sometimes you don't know how to talk

Practice daily by using sign language.

Leah

Three examples of signs that I learned during the Native American sign language sessions include the following: my name, water, and fish.

Sign language provides a means of communication for those that are deaf or hard of hearing. It was also used by native peoples to communicate with one another.

In my life I can use Native sign language to communicate with others. More importantly I can use it to teach others about my culture.



Student of the Month

Clear Sky and Native Warrior Athletics would like to celebrate the academic achievements of our own Native Warrior, Jonathan Hill. Jonathan has shined both on and off the court this past year with achievements including:

- School winner and 3rd place nationally in the Continental Mathematics League (2015-2016);
- 2nd place in the division as a member of The Meridian School's math team (2016-2017); and finally

- The School Spelling Bee Champion who represented The Meridian School in the regional Spelling Bee Championships live on The Seattle Channel on Sunday, March 19, 2017.

Congratulations to Jonathan on working hard to achieve so much. We wish you luck in the upcoming Washington State Math Championships on April 29th and hope you continue to enjoy success both on the court and in the classroom!



Ways – Native Proud, Native Strong

*Ways of seeing
Ideas for doing
Ways of knowing
That only You can do*

*Expressing Life
Ways of Living
Moving into the Future
Bringing it into Being
Choosing Your Way of
Connecting and Protecting
The stuff of the Existence
of Our World*

*I am So Proud to know You
Growing into strong leaders
Way show-ers on the new paths
Care givers for the ways to come
I give Thanks*

Our Water will be Safe with You

Frieda Kirk, Klamath, Sioux





Licton Springs School

Four years ago, Pinehurst K-8 School came together with the Urban Native Education Alliance (UNEA) to create a new Native-focused school called Licton Springs K-8.

Our school combines a Native-centered curriculum with experience-based, multicultural, social justice education for students of all backgrounds. We are looking forward to the move to our new building in Licton Springs at the Robert Eagle Staff building this fall.

It has been a long and eventful journey for our school over the past 4 years. We know that we would not have made it this far without the help and partnership of UNEA and the Seattle Native community.

As our school moves into its new location on sacred ground in Licton Springs, we are seeking to renew and strengthen our collaboration with UNEA and Native community partners. The Licton Springs K-8 Site Council - a group made up of dedicated parents, students and supporters of Licton Springs K-8 - are exploring possibilities for funding more Native elements in the classroom and after school.

If you want to consider Licton-Springs K-8 for your child, please contact Roy Merca, Principal, at 206-252-6000 or rmerca@seattleschools.org to set up a tour.

The next meeting of the Licton Springs K-8 Site Council will be Monday April 3rd at 6:30pm at our temporary school location, 4400 Interlake Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98103, where we will discuss some of these plans for the future of our school. All are welcome to attend.

From Monica Greenberg, on behalf of the Licton Springs K-8 Site Council, monicamgreenberg@gmail.com or 206-650-6204

Juliana Cottrell Clear Sky Coordinator



Juliana grew up on the Yakama Reservation and feels a deep connection to the reservation and the tribe that shaped her early experiences.

She holds a Masters in Social Work (MSW) degree and spent over ten years in the San Francisco Bay Area as a juvenile probation officer.

Working with underserved communities while celebrating diversity became her passion. She believes that the best way to empower community is to celebrate its culture.

She also believes in the responsibility to give back to the cultures that shaped who we are. Her commitment to serving community and empowering youth led her to the Clear Sky program. Juliana looks forward to serving UNEA youth in a way that honors tradition and expands understanding.

Juliana is also an experienced photographer and uses her art to express herself and help others see themselves in new and unexpected ways. Her website is www.julianacottrell.com.





NWA Basketball Program

NWA - Bball Program recently held scrimmage games at Tulalip Boys and Girls Club. Our NWA youth participated in 2 age divisions during the 2 hour round robin style scrimmage games. The Tulalip Tribes B&G Club sponsored and hosted the day long basketball festivities, which included a pizza feast and Introductions of our youth and coaching staff. Youth practiced their skills, and gained valuable real game experience while enjoying each other and competing against and with their Tulalip peers. Parents cheered on their kids as youth played their hearts out, run and gun style up and down the court. It was an opportune time for youth to experiment with new ball handling techniques, and gain confidence in their own abilities without the



pressure of win-lose outcome. Many players are new to basketball so any chance we have to scrimmage and play hoops is helpful for elevating our kid's abilities, and skills. NWA focuses on player development and team play as a vital

aspect of cultural values reinforcement. It was a fabulous day to enjoy the positive atmosphere facilitated by caring and supportive Tulalip community. Thank-you to Tulalip B&G Club and J.P. and parents for bringing your youth.

We look forward to more games and training sessions in the upcoming Months of April and May. Any Native youth ages 7-14 is welcome to join our NWA program, free program of UNEA.

Fearless Fitness Challenge

We are excited to restart our 2017 Fearless Fitness Challenge with Professional Trainer Nick and Lindsey Mabbutt.

Fearless Fitness Challenge is a bi-monthly hour long strength , agility, balance and quickness training for all ages and all fitness levels. Our entire community is invited to join us for these special trainings, most of the techniques shared by our instructors are moves you can practice on your

own. We are so thankful to have such positive role models, dedicated to strengthening our youth and community volunteering their time, expertise and knowledge.

These events consist of a warm -up, light cardio, and group, team and individual challenges.

Prizes, and good times are part of the experience, so please join us at Greenlake C.C. 11:00am , dates TBA. Free program of UNEA, Rain or Shine we will be there!





April 2017 UNEA/Clear Sky/N.W.A. Calendar

April 1st Saturday	2:00 - 5:00 p.m.	UNEA Work session (Training)	
April 1st Saturday	11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	NWA Fearless Fitness Challenge (outdoor courts)	Greenlake C.C.
April 2nd Sunday	4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	NWA Bball Practice all ages	
April 4th Tuesday	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Clear Sky -Food Handlers Permit Class (Clear Sky Leadership)	NHHS
April 5th Wednesday	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.	NWA Bball Practice ages 10 under	Bitterlake C.C.
April 6th Thursday	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Clear Sky Native Sign Language	
April 8th Saturday	3:00 - 6:00 p.m.	Cooking Class with Hillel Echo-Hawk	Bitterlake C.C.
April 9th Sunday	4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	NWA Bball Practice all ages	Bitterlake C.C.

SPRING BREAK No Clear Sky April 10- 15th, 2017

April 11th Tuesday		UNEA Open BOD Meeting	TBD
April 12th Wednesday	10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	University of Washington Natives on the Rise Mentorship Day	
April 12th Wednesday	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	NWA Bball Practice ages 10 under	Bitterlake C.C.
April 16th Sunday	4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	NWA Bball Practice all ages	Bitterlake C.C.
April 18th Tuesday	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Career Readiness/Job Training Clear Sky	NHHS
April 19th Wednesday	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.	NWA Bball Practice ages 10 under	Bitterlake C.C.
April 20th Thursday	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Career Readiness/Job Training Clear Sky	NHHS
April 23rd Sunday	4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	NWA Bball Practice all ages	Bitterlake C.C.
April 25th Tuesday	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Resume Writing/Job Search and Mock Interviewing Clear Sky and Birthday Celebration/ Student of the Month Recognition.	
April 26th Wednesday	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.	NWA Bball Practice ages 10 under	Bitterlake C.C.
April 27th Thursday	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Resume Writing/Job Search and Mock Interviewing Clear Sky	NHHS
April 30th Sunday	4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	NWA Bball Practice all ages	Bitterlake C.C.



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UNEA Board of Directors

Sarah Sense-Wilson (Oglala) Chair
 Gwen Lee (Chinese) Treasurer
 Vicki Pinkham (Tlingit) Secretary
 Herb Le Beau (Cheyenne River Sioux) Member At Large
 Belazs Dibuz (Hungarian) Member At Large





Creative Cooking Creations

Classes



Native Youth (ages 12-19) invited to Learn Healthy Cooking for improving health, energy and vitality. Guest Instructor Native Chef Hillel Echo-Hawk will lead Students in preparing a delicious, tasty, nutritious, bountiful dinner.

“Lettuce gather together” - Chef Hillel

Saturday April 8th/April 29th 3:00pm-6:00pm

Bitterlake c.c. 13035 Linden Ave N Seattle, 98133

Please pre-register at markseattl3@aol.com or

206-941-0338

Free Program of UNEA, funded by Get Moving City of Seattle Grant





Tour UW

**Experience
Student 'HUSKY'
life**

**Explore
Resources for
Native students**

**Meet Native
Students and
Staff**

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 12TH (10:00AM-5:00PM)
NATIVE SCHOLARS ON THE RISE
MENTORSHIP DAY AT UW**

Native middle school and High School scholars are invited to register in a full day in the life of a UW student, group tours of campus, class lectures, labs, and resource support for Native scholars. Native scholars will be paired up with UW graduate and undergraduate students for deepening their experience and gaining tacit knowledge of campus life. Must pre-register ASAP space is limited.

Sponsored by SACNAS UW chapter, UNEA and San Manual Band of Indians

UNEA

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