



Seattle Clear Sky Newsletter

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

May | 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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Natives on the Rise UW Mentorship Day



DANIEL

My experience at the University of Washington was fun because I got to tour and go all over the University of Washington campus. There were places that I've never seen before. I got to learn about the new lasers that a worker made.

I had a blast at the bowling and video gaming at the HUB. There are many classes to choose from like sports training and other lessons. When you are trying to find buildings throughout campus, you get a free workout. There are Science buildings in different locations and Robots, Fish, and places

where people do Coding and build Drones! I had a lot of fun while at the University because we explored and learned so many new things

ASIA

The University of Washington held a Mentorship Program for Native Youth to introduce us to different studies that you can go into and different opportunities that are available.

We all did a tour around the campus and engaged together in many activities like watching a class. We also went to a biology lab and learned how they experimented with microscopes. Finally, we visited a physics lab and

learned about gravity and lasers. It was fun to go and learn with others about the cool things that are available to Native Youth.

JOANNE

One of the most interesting things to me was when we started talking about college careers. It was interesting to me because I didn't know what I wanted to do until we started talking about it. I would like to study Human Anatomy or be a Fitness Educator.

I was unaware that we were going to visit a class and that we were going to see John's work place or Lab.

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Natives on the Rise UW Mentorship Day

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In conclusion, I had fun. Especially, when I got to go play video games. I would do this again!

AJ

At the University of Washington Mentorship Event, I learned that people could chill and play video games in public with friends as well as enjoy bowling there too. I always assumed that college life was boring and full of loads of ridiculously hard work. I genuinely thought that was how things worked. I see now that it is true that you can take time to do fun things at UW.

I was unaware that I even had a chance of going to UW. For the longest time, I had in my mind the ideas that I never had a chance in going to UW. I thought it was completely pointless for me to be involved in any plans or talks of me going to UW. It was told by a few great students there that they aren't as harsh about past grades as I believe them to me.

Apparently, they do receive some students who have hit the lowest points in their lives and high school. I guess it's because they get their money from them anyway.

The Mentorship Program was an enjoyable experience for others who had attended and I myself as well. I am thankful and grateful for the students who both guided our group and had knowledge had amazing areas to show us. I would definitely recommend this to my younger siblings.

Student of the Month



Sadie is a superstar in school and at home! Sadie is kind and goes out of her way to help others. She can be commonly found on the playground, giggling and joking around.

If she's inside, she's creating art as bright as her smile. She goes to yoga once a week and when she's not there, she loves to stretch and practice poses.

In school, she works hard to complete her school work on time and put in her best effort. She loves her teachers and looks forward to going to school every day.

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.

Youth Voices

REINA

I like that I get to meet new friends and learn new things such as the meaning of Native symbols that we painted onto a mural project. I learned Native American sign language and how to spell my name. I get to learn new things at basketball. I learned that water is life. I learn and get help from my mentor.

ELENA

I have learned basketball skills and how to play basketball. I learned Native American sign language.

RENAE

I learned that basketball is a good sport. I learned Native American sign language. I learned how important water is.

NIKO

I have learned things about Native Culture that I didn't know before. I learned that you need to have statistics for a good resolution. I learned that resolutions use facts and statistics to solve problems. I learned that they also use policies to solve problems.

LEON

We participated in Native American murals to demonstrate how important water is. I like that we write in our journals. This month I said a blessing in our circle. Lalo taught us Native American sign language. I enjoyed making a paper airplane with my mentor.





12th Frybread Cooking Class

It was a real treat to have the Nason Family '12th Frybread' crew offer cooking instruction to our youth this past Saturday April 29th. Youth ages 7-12 learned how to prepare a traditional meal and also most importantly learned traditional teachings as they participated in the cooking class.

Elder Pam Nason and Berta shared importance of having a "good heart", and good intentions as you begin the process of preparing and handling food.

Youth had fun washing fruit, veggies, cutting dear meat and blending together the healthy foods to create

a scrumptious, nutritious meal. Youth enthusiastically offered up the prayer before serving elders and guests.

This event was well attended and we hope to continue to offer traditional cooking classes to support our holistic approach to Native wellness and health.

The end of dinner t-shirt/sweatshirt prizes donated by 12th Frybread was a nice touch to end the fun event. Thank-you to all the volunteers assisting with the Cooking class, we all thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Recruitment. Recruitment. Recruitment. CALLING ALL ELDERS. CALLING ALL ELDERS!

What can an Elder do in this setting? Lots! Is one ready answer. But to focus that, exactly how does one go about doing that? Sharing culture can be a bit tricky. One way is to come share a meal with the group as a whole, maybe get to know someone. Here in the city young people may not have an elder in their family circle. They may not have had experience with a grandmother, grandfather generation.

From the other side, as an Elder a person may not have a younger generation to talk to, a fresh, lively look at the world. Things are so different now but caring is still the same.

Sharing knowledge, stories, experiences which support our youth, is important to help bridge the generational divide.

For those who are able, going along and helping with projects is a good way to build interactions, connections. And for All - contributing to the newsletter. I invite you to see "Gratitude" by Yvette Pinkham in the February newsletter.

A way of thinking, a way of feeling, these come directly from our cultural heritage: "My Grandpa always used to tell me...My Mom always used to say... "Come Play With The Kids!

Clear Sky Parent Impressions and Expressions

Going into The Clear Sky Program I really didn't know what to expect. My understanding was that it was a program where the parents could volunteer and Native students would get homework help. I have absolutely received more than I expected from Clear Sky.

I admit as a wife, mother of two, and being a student attending the University of Washington, I wasn't so sure I could commit to once a week but before I knew it here we are going on four months now and we've even added

the Native Warriors Athletics to our calendar which is twice a week. NWA and Clear Sky are becoming my family that I didn't know I needed. They've all made me feel so welcomed and have provided beyond more than homework help to us. I mean not only do our daughters get study help, they're are in activities, learning about healthy nutrition.

My daughters are learning meaningful and significant cultural aspects about various Native tribes and they are carrying a confidence that makes me happy and

proud. They have already made new friends with other Native kids that they can relate to. They are more aware than ever about Native issues in the community and around the nation because of Clear Sky.

They are engaged by participating, listening, and learning from many tribal elders and amazing hardworking tribal leaders. Clear Sky kindly and offers these things from their heart. As a family, we are learning cultural protocols, honoring elders, learning traditions and responsibilities. I

appreciate contributing our time from helping with administrative skills to serving food to the wonderful youth.

I feel that a reciprocal relationship has developed naturally over that last 4 months. It is not what Clear Sky does for me and my family all the time, it's also what we can do for Clear Sky that makes us have such a positive outcome. We all look forward to Tuesday nights, it has just become part of our lives now.

- By Christina Laigo (Parent of 2 SPS Native/Filipino children)



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

Tuesday May 2nd	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Clear Sky -Mountain Bike and gift card Raffle, Idle No More Presentation and Tutoring/Mentorship, and Dinner	NHHS
Wednesday May 3rd	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.	NWA Bball - All ages	Bitterlake C.C.
Thursday May 4th	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Clear Sky, Tutoring/Mentorship	
Saturday May 6TH		Nisqually Bball Tournament 14 under co-ed Native youth	
Sunday May 7th			
Tuesday May 9th	7:00 - 8:30 p.m.	UNEA BOD Meeting	NHHS
	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Clear Sky -raffle/Idle No More Presentation and Dinner	
Wednesday May 10th	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.	NWA Bball - All ages	Bitterlake C.C.
Thursday May 11th	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Clear Sky, Tutoring/Mentorship and Potluck Dinner	
Saturday May 13th		Puyallup Tournament ages 10 under and 15 under Girls Bball	
Sunday May 14th			
Tuesday May 16th	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Decolonizing Training, Dinner, Tutoring/Mentorship	
Wednesday May 17th	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.	NWA Bball - All ages	Bitterlake C.C.
Thursday May 18th	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Clear Sky, Tutoring/Mentorship and Potluck Dinner	
Saturday May 20th	11:00 am - 1:00 p.m.	Fearless Fitness Challenge	Greenlake C.C. Bball Courts
Sunday May 21st	12 - 2:00 p.m. 2:30 - 6:00 p.m.	Mini Bball Camp ages 11 under and 14 under Coaches: Kalina, Nick and Julia W-P	Bitterlake C.C.
Tuesday May 23rd	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Clear Sky, Tutoring/Mentorship	
Wed May 24th	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.	NWA Bball -All ages	Bitterlake C.C.
Thursday May 25th	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Clear Sky, Tutoring/Mentorship and Potluck Dinner	
Saturday May 27th	3:00-6:00pm	Cooking Class all ages	Bitterlake C.C.
Tuesday May 30th	6:00-8:30pm	Bday Celebration, Student of the Month and Tutoring/Mentorship	



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