

GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS

Grays Harbor College Native Pathways Program Newsletter

November 2023

November is National

Native American Heritage Month

What started at the turn of the century as an effort to gain a day of recognition for the significant contributions the first Americans made to the establishment and growth of the U.S., has resulted in a whole month being designated for that purpose. In 1990 President George H. W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 "National American Indian Heritage Month." Similar proclamations, under variants on the name (including "Native American Heritage Month" and "National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month") have been issued each year since 1994. <https://nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov/>



National Congress of American Indians Announces Launch of New Foundation on National Philanthropy Day

Washington, D.C. In a historic move coinciding with National Philanthropy Day, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) is proud to announce the launch of its philanthropic arm, the [NCAI Foundation \(NCAIF\)](#). The day marks a profound and unprecedented commitment to supporting Tribal Nations on their transformative journey toward shared prosperity and resilience.

"Today marks a pivotal moment in our ongoing journey towards equity and empowerment for Tribal Nations," said Greg Masten (Yurok), President of the newly formed NCAI Foundation. "The NCAIF is not just a foundation; it's a beacon of hope and a testament to our unwavering commitment to uphold tribal sovereignty, empower our leaders, and build a resilient future for our youth and our Nations. Through the NCAIF, we are forging true partnerships between Tribal Nations and Philanthropy, dedicated to creating a future where Tribal Nations thrive, supported by the resources and recognition they rightfully deserve."

ncaipress@ncai.org (November 15, 2023)

About the National Congress of American Indians:

Founded in 1944, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) is the oldest, largest, and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization in the United States. NCAI advocates on behalf of tribal governments and communities, promoting strong tribal-federal government-to-government policies. NCAI promotes an understanding among the general public regarding American Indian and Alaska Native governments, people, and rights. For more information, visit www.ncai.org.

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GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS DEGREE PROGRAM

A two year online degree program with cultural relevance, this degree is transferrable to most all four year institutions of higher learning, but also articulates with the Evergreen State College Native Pathways Bachelor's Degree and is therefore referred to as a Bridge Program.

WINTER ENROLLMENT NOW UNDER WAY FOR NPP

Grays Harbor College Native Pathways students are currently signing up for winter quarter classes. Winter quarter courses include, but are not limited to the following options:

Anthropology, Library, Political Science, Psychology, Astronomy, Health and Wellness, and Humanities.

Winter quarter begins on January 3. The following links connect first time or former students to enrollment procedures

<https://www.ghc.edu/admissions/enrollment-services>

<https://www.ghc.edu/search/site/financial%20aid>

Once enrollment and financial aid procedures are complete, contact program coordinator, Gary Arthur, for advising and registration. Returning students from last quarter can also make this contact at the following:

gary.arthur@ghc.edu (360) 538-4209

GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS DEGREE IS A BRIDGE PROGRAM

GHC Native Pathways AA Degree students bridge with the upper division Native Pathways Students at The Evergreen State College. Two weekends during each quarter GHC students meet with Evergreen students at the Evergreen Longhouse (pictured below) for lecture, seminar, film and guest speakers. In this manner, there is a bridge between both programs. Although GHC students connect in this manner with Evergreen, their AA transfer degree is a direct transfer and connects with most four year institutions.



GRAYS HARBOR COLLEGE NATIVE PATHWAYS DEGREE

The Grays Harbor College Native Pathways Degree is a direct transfer Associate of Arts (AA) degree. This degree can be transferred to any four-year college or university, in most cases satisfying the general education degree requirements.

The Degree Connects With GHC Mission, Vision, Core Themes, and Values.

Vision—GHC is a catalyst for positive change.

Setting goals while reaching academic objectives in the Native Pathways Program enhances areas of accomplishment.

Mission—GHC provides meaningful education and cultural enrichment through academic transfer, workforce preparation, basic skills and service to community. **Many Native Pathways Students go on to earn upper division degrees as well as employment upgrades. Many use acquired skills to improve and enrich tribal communities.*

Core Themes—Academic Transfer, Workforce Preparation, Basic Skills, & Service to Community. **These are concentrated areas of focus in the Native Pathways Program which articulates with Evergreen Native Pathways upper division degree.*

Values—Access to educational opportunities; Success for students, faculty, and staff; Respect for diversity of people, ideas, culture and environment; Efficient use of Resources.



Grays Harbor College (above) is the home of the GHC Native Pathways Degree Program

NATIVE CASE STUDIES SUPPORT CULTURAL RELEVANCE

Over one hundred case studies that engage Native cultural topics are located on an open website sponsored by The Evergreen State College. Professional development in the classroom use of these case studies is held on a yearly basis, and many GHC faculty have attended these sessions and use these case studies with their classes. Not only do these case studies support Native inclusion supporting diversity and equity, but they also are an avenue for non-native students to accept and understand Native culture.

This open website is located at <https://nativecases.evergreen.edu/>

CHEHALIS TRIBE HOSTS CENTENNIAL ACCORD OCT. 30 & 31

The Centennial Accord is an agreement between tribes and the executive branch of the Washington State government serving the interest of tribes and the residents of our state. Rodney Youckton, CEO for Chehalis Tribal Enterprises, shared the following message in connection with this event.

“We are honored and blessed to host the Centennial Accord with Governor Inslee and the Federally Recognized Tribes of Washington State. Each sovereign tribe has an independent relationship with each other and the State. Each Party to this Accord respects the sovereignty of the other.

We are so thankful for our ancestors, since time immemorial, that the Tribes leaders from near and far can gather to rekindle our friendships. Together we stand strong for our relationship between the state of Washington, through its Governor and the signatory tribes.

Enjoy your stay at the hotel. We pray and give thanks for a new day. Protect us all from harm, illness and danger so we all return home safely to our homes and families.

PENINSULA COLLEGE WELCOMES ALASKA ARTIST

Sadie Crowe, Peninsula College Longhouse Steward announced an artist reception with Susan Hamilton on Tuesday, November 14 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm in ʔaʔkʷustəŋáwtxʷ House of Learning, PC Longhouse. Artworks by Susan Hamilton, Haida Master Bead Artist, are scheduled for display in the Longhouse from October 3 to December 14, 2023. This reception was a continuation of events honoring Native American Heritage Month.



IMPORTANT DATES

**December 4, Last day of instruction; December 5,6,7 Final Exams
January 3 First day of Winter Quarter classes**

President Biden Reveals Native American Heritage Month Proclamation

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2023 as National Native American Heritage Month. I urge all Americans, as well as their elected representatives at the Federal, State, and local levels, to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities. Also, I urge all Americans to celebrate November 24, 2023, as Native American Heritage Day.

NW Indian Fisheries Commission Chairman Shares Truth

NWIFC Chairman, Ed Johnstone, shared the following quote: “My mentor Billy Frank Jr. always said that its going to take all of us working together to recover salmon. Frank also said, ‘Tell the Truth.’ “ Johnstone said that the truth involves changing our thinking when new information comes to light. He said that, “We know that fishing is not to blame for our declining salmon runs or starving orcas, and the best thing we can do is protect, restore, and create new habitat. With thousands of years of experience managing salmon, tribes have been doing everything we can to rebuild salmon stocks.” (Fall edition of *Northwest Treaty Tribes* publication)

GREEN RIVER COLLEGE INDIGENOUS STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

Dr. Leander Yazzie, Tribal Relations Manager for Green River College had the following to say about Green River College’s Indigenous Student Success Center:

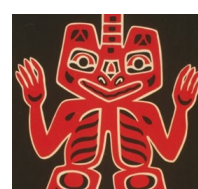
“Our Mission is to create a welcoming and inclusive learning environment for American Indian, Alaskan Native, First Nations & Indigenous students at Green River College. Our center is committed to helping our students by being their voice, helping them achieve their educational goals and beyond.”

The Indigenous Student Success Center is now open and ready to serve not only the Indigenous Community, but all students at Green River College. The Center opened September 14 for Green River College students and faculty. The Center offers a study space, Financial Aid/Tribal scholarship assistance, use of technology, and offers free coffee and snacks!

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE DIRECTOR SAYS “WATER IS LIFE”

Chuck Sams, the first Native American to serve as Director of the National Park Service shared the following quote connected to challenges faced with climate change.

“We need young people who have an inherent understanding that water is life. We need that next generation of folks who have the scientific background and Indigenous knowledge married to Western law so we can secure water rights to protect those areas we love.” (*WINDS OF CHANGE* fall '23 edition)



HAIDA BLANKET DESIGN