Fairbanks Native Association Highlights

A Voice for the People of Fairbanks

Summer Issue 2017



Introducing the new Indigenous Language Project



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Fairbanks Native Association is excited to announce it has been awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Education to establish an Indigenous Language Classroom within our Head Start Program. In this dual language part day classroom, children ages 3 to 5 will learn to speak the Koyukon Athabascan language. Children will also learn about the culture and values.

Project Director Lorraine Beetus David was born in Hughes, Alaska to Joe and Celia Beetus. Her Denaakk'e name is Hukk'aaghneestaatlno, which was given to her by her Grandmother Ida. She is a Central Koyukon Athabascan woman who did not speak English until the age of six. She is very excited about creating this new language program in the community of Fairbanks.

The Primary Educator for the classroom is Freeda Felix from Minto. Her Denaakk'e name is Yaats'ek'etl'o, given by her paternal great grandparents Henry & Mable Moses. Her maternal grandparents are Neal & Geraldine Charlie. Yaats'ek'etl'o has six years experience working in Early Childhood Education. She believes this language classroom is very important and will have a lasting effect on the families and children.

Associate Educator Jennifer Mayo-Shannon was born in Fairbanks. Her mother is Bonnie Mayo. Her maternal grandparents are the late Charles "Tucky" Mayo, Jr., of Rampart, and Marjorie Mayo, of Stevens Village. Jennifer is very excited to provide children with the opportunity to learn the Koyukon Athabascan language and is motivated to assist in the language revitalization efforts. Jennifer spends her free time with her husband Sean Shannon and children Anthony, Angelina, Isabelle, and Marcus.

To enroll your child in the Indigenous Language Classroom, fill out an application on the FNA website or please contact Rebecca Ginn, Enrollment Specialist at 451-8814.

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Executive Director



Message from Executive Director, Steve Ginnis

This year I was able to attend the Denakkanaaga Elders and Youth Conference in Holy Cross. We had beautiful weather, good company and lots of delicious Native food. Holy Cross did a wonderful job hosting the conference. Next year's Denakkanaaga Elders and Youth Conference will be held in Tanacross. I recently traveled back home to Ft. Yukon to pay my respect to a great leader and mentor Simon Francis Sr.

It has been a busy summer so far for us at Fairbanks Native Association (FNA). We are currently in the process of purchasing a new Head Start and Administration building. We hope to close on the purchase any day and begin renovation.

We are deeply saddened to hear about the passing of Louise Lynch who managed our billing department. I would like to send my condolences to her family on behalf of FNA.

This year marks a huge milestone for FNA; it will be our 50 year anniversary since being incorporated back in 1967. This is a proud accomplishment for us and we are planning a 50 year celebration potlatch for August 11th. FNA started out as civil rights group to advocate for fair treatment of Alaska Natives in the Fairbanks area. In the past 50 years, Fairbanks Native Association has made a positive impact for residents, from birth to the elders, of the Fairbanks and Doyon region area. FNA programs are helping countless people to find new jobs, maintain sobriety, celebrate their culture, and receive an education. Currently FNA employs over 200 people and operates 29 grants with annual revenue of \$18,118,324.

I wish everyone a blessed summer and good luck fishing and berry picking as you fill your freezers in preparation for winter.



Congratulations Katrina Nunemann!

Katrina Nunemann, Head Start Family & Community
Coordinator, received the Gray S. Tilly Memorial Award for
Outstanding Nontraditional Student from UAF and
graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Child Development and
Family Studies.



Tribal Home Visiting

FNA's Tribal Home Visiting program is an early childhood development and family support program designed to honor traditional values in supporting parents as they raise healthy happy children.







Tribal Home Visiting Staff Alisha Gilbert & Hilda Johnson

Here is an activity you can make and enjoy with your family

Arctic Village Homemade Fishing Can

Fishing for Grayling or Pike

Materials:

Fishing line

Hooks (if the hook is small, place small sinker weights on the line)

Little Steel Can (Fruit can or coffee can)

Piece of wood

Nails

Directions:

Carve a wood piece to fit inside of the can. Nail the wood piece to the top inside of the can to make a handle.

Make a hole in the middle of the handle area/top of the can. This hole will be used to tie the fishing line to the can.

Insert the fishing line in the hole and tie multiple knots.

Take the fishing line and wind it around the can until you feel you have a good amount of fishing line to cast with.

Cut the line and tie the hook to this end. Online videos are a great tool for learning different ways to tie a hook on your fishing line.

Casting:

To cast your hook, you will swing the hook in circles above you, like a cowboy. Make sure to point the can in the direction of your cast, so the line will release from the can. Then, slowly wind the line around the can to reel in your catch. Good Luck & Be Safe!





~Alisha Gilbert Fishing Can made by: Danny Lee



FNA Youth & Young Adult Services

Natural Helpers CAMP

Are you between 14-18 years old? Do you want to learn how to help your peers? Be a positive role model? Become involved in your community? Apply Now!

Attend an overnight trip at Twin Bears Camp, July 24th-26th.

Natural Helpers is a program that gives youth and young adults the skills they need to provide effective help to their peers by contributing to a safe and supportive environment. Students are taught how to recognize when people have serious problems - like depression, substance abuse, and inter-personal violence - and where to refer them to get the best help available. All of this training takes place throughout the year at day camps, overnight retreats, and workshops that are infused with Alaska Native culture.

For more information please contact,

Call (907)452-6265.

Johnson O'Malley Event Spotlight

Camp Read-A-Lot

On May 16, 2017, JOM coordinated a summer reading and enrichment family event for pre-school-12th grade students, who are JOM eligible. This Dr. Seuss themed event was held at the Chief David Salmon Tribal Hall. JOM distributed 1,750 books to students! Students also won door prizes, were able to sign up for summer reading programs, and received summer learning kits. This event was well attended by the members of our community. Thank you to all guests, volunteers and those who donated to this enriching JOM event.









Students enjoying the photo props and backdrop made by JOM & Tribal Home Visiting staff





Community Services Spring Fling

The Spring Fling was an FNA Community Services event. The theme of the event was "Promoting healthy, clean, and sober Alaska Native Communities."

There was a great turn out by the Fairbanks community with over 300 participants. Activities included live music, dance, and art activities for families to participate in. The most popular activity was the bird feeder, as pictured on the left.

We'd like to thank Doyon Ltd, Daaga' Funds for sponsoring this event. We'd also like to thank all of our guests who came, our staff and volunteers.

You all make these fun events possible!

Community Services Riverboat Discovery Trip

Every year the Riverboat Discovery and FNA Community Services and Elders Program team up to take our elders on for their famous Chena River tour. This years trip took place May 25th with 16 elders taking the tour with staff and a volunteer. We'd like to say thank you to the Riverboat Discovery and our volunteer for creating a fun day for all!



Anchors Away!

FNA Community
Services and Elder's
Program staff with
elders ready to board
the Riverboat
Discovery.

Sare the Date

Friday, August 11th

2017 marks the 50th year of the Fairbanks Native Association!

Come celebrate with us
Friday, August 11th at the
Chief David Salmon Tribal Hall!

'Like' our Facebook page and watch for more details coming soon!

Annual Membership Meeting

FNA's Annual Membership meeting took place March 10th, where two new FNA Board Members were elected and one member was re-elected. We'd like to congratulate

- Sharon Hildebrand, Board Treasurer
- ◆ Beverly Kokrine, Board Member
- Travis Cole, Board Member

Fairbanks Native Association says farewell to two previous Board Members.

Thank you, Roxanne Frank

Thank you, Roy Roehl I

We extend our most sincere thanks to the both of you for your guidance and service on the Fairbanks Native Association Board of Directors.





FNA Potlatch & Pageant

FNA would like to say thank to everyone who made this years FNA Potlatch and Pageant a fun family event.

We wouldn't be able to have such a successful event without the help of our volunteers, donors and staff. We appreciate your generosity!

The potlatch was held March 18th at the Chief David Salmon Tribal Hall and it was a great turn out.

We'd like to say Congratulations to our new FNA Royalty,

Miss FNA Jazmine Jones,
FNA Princess Trenity Washington &
FNA Baby, Lorelai Tindall.

We look forward to seeing you all at next years FNA Potlatch and Pageant!









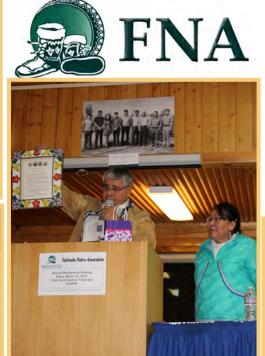
FNA in our Community

















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Like us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/Fairbanks.Native



FNA Employee of the Month

December 2016	January 2017	February 2017
Ashley Williams Behavioral Health Services	Aliya Maiden Early Childhood Development	Vernon Malcolm Community Services
March 2017	April 2017	May 2017
Preechar Wongkit Behavioral Health Services	Sasha Housley Early Childhood Development	Eric Fitzgerald Administration