

Linking Generations: Our Ancestors, Us, and Our Future



Haa Shagóon

# SHEET'KÁ INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY 2024

OCT 14TH • 4 - 8PM  
HARRIGAN CENTENNIAL HALL

Panel with Herman Leiwtu Éesh Davis, Keet Tláa Anne Johnson,  
Tommy Naal xak'w Joseph, and Yaandu.ein Paul Marks

Performances by Sheet'ká Kwáan, Kaagwaantaan & Noow Tlein Dancers

Violin Arrangement by Middle School Tlingit Language & Violin Class

Potluck Dinner begins at 4pm

## ABOUT INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

### March 31 - May 27, 2017

Six resolutions forwarded through system governance to President of UA system requesting that Indigenous Peoples' Day is recognized and celebrated in a 'meaningful' way at each campus.

### June 24, 2017

State of Alaska became the second state to sign a law recognizing the second Monday of October as a day honoring Native Americans, Indigenous Peoples' Day.

### September 26, 2017

City and Borough of Sitka approved a resolution declaring the second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples' Day.

### February 20, 1990

State of South Dakota passed a law changing Columbus Day to Native Americans' Day.

### May 8, 2017

University of Alaska President Johnsen issued a response to governance resolutions in support of the annual recognition of Indigenous Peoples' Day in the UA system.

### September 20, 2017

Sitka Tribe of Alaska approved a resolution declaring the second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples' Day. The Tribe began officially recognizing that holiday in 2015.

### Emcee: Alex Xaanatlseix Johnson-Rice

#### 4:00pm Potluck Dinner

Fish was donated by Seafood Producers Cooperative and Alaska Longline Fisherman's Association and prepared by Ramona Perkins, Outer Coast college students and volunteers. Fry bread prepared by Rachel Moreno. Cash donations for food from Sea Mart and Sitka Tribe of Alaska.

#### 4:30pm Welcome dance by Sheet'ká Kwáan, Kaagwaantaan, & Noow Tlein Dancers

#### 5:15pm Violin arrangement by Middle school Tlingit Language & Violin Class

#### 5:30pm Special Presentation

#### 6:00pm Panel

(Panelists: Herman L'eiwtu Éesh Davis, Keet Tláa Anne Johnson, Tommy Naal xak'w Joseph, and Paul Yaandu.ein Marks)

#### 7:00pm Breakout Sessions

#### See pages 5 - 7 for information & session locations

- Lingít Crash Course
- Language of the Léin Héeni (Tidepools)
- Deer Calls
- The Tradition of Story Knives and Telling a Story
- The Journey to Ending Homelessness
- Akutaq Making with MEHS Students

*\* Disclaimer: The food at this event was prepared & donated from community members and/or outside vendors. Sponsors & partners are not responsible for any illnesses or adverse reactions that result. Consume at your own risk.*

*Please note that we will be capturing and using footage for media purposes. Please do not enter this area if you do not wish to appear and/or do not grant permission for your family to appear. Thank you for your cooperation.*

# OUR PANELISTS



## HERMAN L'EIWTU ÉESH DAVIS

Herman was born on August 10th 1933 in Todd Cannery. His names are L'eiwtu Eesh and Gukhl'. He is the leader of the L'uknaxh.adi and the child of Chookaneidi, Grandchild of Kaagwaantaan. He along with his wife, Vida Davis, have helped provide cultural leadership and instruction in Sitka for many years. He is currently the Khaa tlein for L'uknaxh.adi he comes from Kayaashka Hit. He's a member of the saint Michale's cathedral, Noow Tlien dancers, ANB Camp 1, United States Marine Corps veteran, and the tribal host in 2003 and 2015. He's a fluent speaker of Tlingit and Haida and the only person to be awarded an honorary diploma from Sitka High School in 2015.

## KEET TLÁA ANNE JOHNSON

Keet Tláa/Anne Johnson is a cultural educator and culture bearer who has contributed to the education of the Sheet'ka (Sitka) community for over 40 years. In 1974, She was instrumental in bringing Lingít language and cultural education to local tribal youth and the Sitka Native Education Program (SNEP). Nearly 50 years later, Gooch Tláa/Anne Johnson is still serving on the Sitka Native Education Program staff. She has made extraordinary contributions as an educator and even now, in her 80s, she continues to assist with SNEP classes and summer family camps. Current and future generations of Lingít speakers and culture bearers do and will continue to benefit from Keet Tláa/Anne Johnson's commitment to sharing her invaluable knowledge. Keet Tláa/Anne Johnson was honored in person during the UAS Sitka Campus Commencement Ceremony on Friday May 3, 2023 where she received her Honorary Doctorate of Education. Reference: <https://uas.alaska.edu/about/press-releases/2024/240430-honorary-doctorate.html>



# OUR PANELISTS



## TOMMY NAAL XAK'W JOSEPH

Photo by [Dan Evans](#)

Tommy of the Eagle Moiety of the Kaagwaantaan Clan, is best known for his remarkable wood carving skills. His work has ranged from totem poles (kootéeya), house posts, masks, armor, bentwood boxes, and design. His work has made him a recipient of a Smithsonian Visual Artist Grant and a USA Artist Fellows award. In addition, he's received an individual artist grant from the Rasmuson Foundation for his research on historic Tlingit battle gear. You can find his work in a variety of museums. You may also have the opportunity to take a class from him through the Northwest Coasts Arts Program at the University of Alaska Southeast Sitka campus.

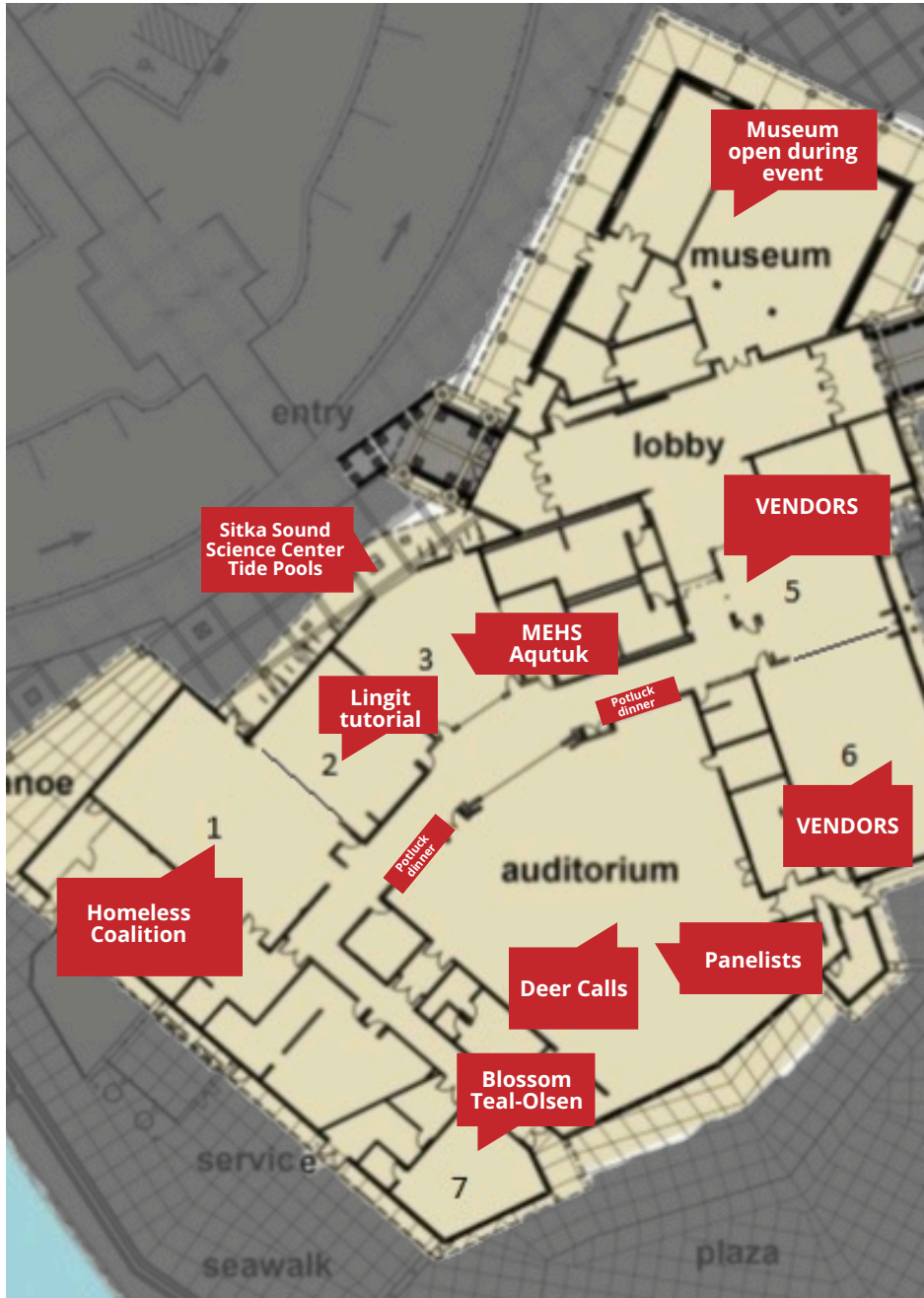
## PAUL YAANDU.EIN MARKS

His Lingít names are Keet yaanaayi, Daakwtank, and Yaandu.ein. He comes from the Drum House in klukwan. He is the child of Lukaax.adi and grandchild of Chookaneidi. He grew up speaking Tlingit at home.



# HARRIGAN CENTENNIAL HALL MAP

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS



# BREAKOUT SESSIONS

## The Tradition of Story Knives and Telling a Story

*Blossom Teal-Olsen*

**Ch'áak' Wooch.een Yóo X'adudll.atgi Yé 7, Eagle Room 7**

Decorate and learn about how story knives were used to pass down traditional stories. Story knives were used in both Yup'ik and Inupiaq cultures. Breakout session is limited to 20.

**Presenter: Blossom Teal-Olsen**

## The Journey to Ending Homelessness

**Yéil Wooch.een Yóo X'adudli.atgi Yé 1, Raven Room 1**

The Sitka Homeless Coalition's (SHC) mission is to ensure that every Sitkan has a home. Across the United States, homelessness disproportionately affects indigenous peoples, & the same can be said for our community here in Sitka. In this breakout session, SHC staff will share more about what SHC is doing to address homelessness now & ways it is striving to change our culture to end homelessness for good.

**Presenter: Denise Shaffer and Andrew Hinton**



## Akutaq Making with MEHS Students

**Aashát Wooch.een Yóo X'adudll.atgi Yé 3, Steelhead Room 3**

Participants will learn how to make akutaq from MEHS students.

**Presenter: Brody Smith and Nadia Dushkin**

# BREAKOUT SESSIONS



OUTER COAST

## Lingít Crash Course

**Gaat Wooch.een Yóo X'adudll.atgi Yé 2, Sockeye Room 2**

Join Yeidikook'áa Dionne Brady-Howard and Skeiwduśá Matthew Spellberg of Outer Coast for a fun and judgment-free introduction to Lingít Yoo X'atángi (Tlingit language). Both beginning and experienced speakers are welcome!

**Presenter:** Yeidikook'áa Dionne Brady-Howard and Skeiwduśá Matthew Spellberg Outer Coast

## Language of the Léin Héeni (Tidepools)

**Exterior of the building through Aashát Wooch.een Yóo X'adudll.atgi Yé 3 Steelhead Room 3**

This workshop will connect people of all ages to our intertidal zone. Join us to explore Tutu's Tidepool, our mobile touch tank, and learn the Lingít names of our salty near-shore neighbors.



**Presenter:** Sarah Tobey



## Deer Calls

**King Auditorium T'á Woosh Kaañax Kéi Du.atji yé**

An assembly of how to make deer calls. Materials will already be prepared by presenter.

**Presenter:** Alex Xaanatlseix Johnson-Rice



**Fish Skin Pouch Making October 15th & 16th from 6 PM - 8 PM**

**University of Alaska, Southeast, Sitka Campus, Room 106**

**Registration Fee: \$125 Maximum of 12 guests**

For questions or to register, please contact Jasmine Shaw at [jdshaw2@alaska.edu](mailto:jdshaw2@alaska.edu) or 907-747-9940.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER



**Presenter: Karen McIntyre**

**@CreativeNativeAK**

## LINKING GENERATIONS: OUR ANCESTORS, US, AND OUR FUTURE

Haa shagóon is often translated as "our ancestors" but it is so much more than that. When a person says du shagóon, it means his/her ancestors/history/lineage/identity.

When we say haa shagóon, we can mean all of that and so much more. We're not just referring to ourselves and our ancestors but to each other who are present with us now and thinking about those who will come Us, long after we're gone. It's a singularity moment when we say haa shagóon. We can be linking the generations together...Past, present and future.

Even as we share our stories, speak our language or sing our songs that singularity is taking place.

Even as we bring out our at.óow (sacred clan belongings) or put on our l'aḡkeit (dance regalia), that singularity is taking place.

The theme for this year's Indigenous People's Day in Sheet'ká is linking the generations together. We invite you to bear witness of this.

We will come together.  
We will sing together.  
We will dance together.

Ch'a tula.aan teen yei yee gaḡtoo.éex' wooch eenḡ haa naḡsateeyít.  
With only loving kindness we will invite you so that we can be together.

Wáa sá yak'éi áyá wooch een kaa kusteeyí. Yéi áyá, gunalchéesh.  
How wonderful it is for people to live together. This is the way, thank you.

David Kanosh  
Yookis'kookéik  
Shdeen Hít (Steel House)  
Clan Deisheetaan

# A WORD ABOUT THE DESIGN

"When sketching out this design I was thinking about how to connect the generations. I thought back to the Shee Atiká celebration this past month and remembered the dancers and their blankets. Along with how family members seemed to share similar designs. To start off, the big figure in the back with the Orca/Whale helmet is to represent an ancestor and the blanket covering/ surrounding the other figures. The next level (the parents, representing the "us" in the theme) is to represent traditions being passed down, as their blankets are a part of their ancestors. The smallest figure represents the youth or the "future". The child doesn't have the same blanket the rest of the figures share yet, but is still surrounded and wrapped up in the connection between generations. The child opening the raven/eagle box symbolizes learning and being exposed to the culture. There are elements hinting at different tribes like the Orca for Haida and Raven for Tlingit. Along with traditional colors in the blankets keeping the contrast between the bright red and the prominent black figure."



- Gabrielle Hammock

FIND & FOLLOW GABRIELLE ON INSTAGRAM



@GabbiRavens\_Art



## GUNALCHÉESH TO OUR VOLUNTEERS, PARTNERS AND SPONSORS:

Akléi Helen Dangel, Alex Xaanatlseix Johnson-Rice, Andrew Hinton, Anna Niechcicki, Anna Schumacher, Antonio Rosas, Blossom Teal-Olsen, Brenna Cummings, Bridget Hichcock, Brody Smith, Carrie Fenton, Celestyn Carson, Chip Camden, Chohla Moll, Christine Galiza, Clare Corydon, Crystal Duncan, Daniel Brincefield, David Kanosh, Debby Leveck, Debe Brincefield, Delta Kappa Gamma, Denise Shaffer, Drew Larson, Garrett Jack, Gracia Connell, Hannah Portello-Swagel, Harper Glazer, Harry Lysons, Harvey Kitka, Helen Mickel, Holly Flanegin, Jackie Fernandez-Hamberg, Jasmine Shaw, Jeff Budd, Jennifer Mingo, Jessica Killeen, Jon Galiza, Joshua Houston, Julie Platson, Justice Lysons, Karen Mcintyre, Kari Sagel, Katherine Plummer, Kelly Schwarz, Kh'asheechtlaa Louise Brady, Konnor Broussard, Krista Gwaanek'i Perala, Laura Castetter, Lily Perez, Loyd Platson, Lucas Opgenorth, Luke Phillips, Mariana Robertson, Martina Kurzer, Melissa Wileman, Michael Miller, Michelle Kavouras, Nadia Dushkin, Paul Bahna, Paul Kraft, Roby Littlefield, Roy Hammock, Sara Ebersole, Sara Tobey, Sheridan Bacon, Sitka Woman's Club, Skeiwduśá Matthew Spellberg, Stephanie Weddel, Sue Conrad, Suzanne Portello, Vickie Kraft, Yeidikook'áa Dionne Brady-Howard

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO

**RACHEL MORENO & RAMONA PERKINS**

for cooking the food

THANK YOU TO OUR LOGO ART CONTEST PARTICIPANTS:

**LARISA MANEWAL, TAMMY JUDD JENNY, and  
GABRIELLE HAMMOCK**

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR LOGO ART CONTEST JUDGES:

**TOMMY NAAL XAK'W JOSEPH, KRISTA GWAANEK'I PERALA, and  
CLOVER SNELLING-KLANOTT**

### Gunalchéesh!

FIND & FOLLOW OUR JUDGES ON INSTAGRAM



@clover\_aya\_xat



@tommyjospehcarver

We apologize for anyone we missed!

# GUNALCHÉESH TO OUR VOLUNTEERS, PARTNERS AND SPONSORS:

