

NMAI receives nearly \$5.7 million gift to launch Native Knowledge 360°

The Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian has received a \$5.67 million gift from the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, a federally recognized Tribe in Northern California. This gift is the largest to date dedicated to supporting the museum's national education initiative, Native Knowledge 360° (NK360°).

These funds will allow the museum to underwrite, pilot and launch the first national, state and local model, which will produce content that can be easily integrated into education curricula throughout the nation. The model also includes professional development for educators.

"It cannot be overstated: Native history is American history," said Kevin Gover, director of the National Museum of the American Indian. "Native people need to be involved in the telling of the American story. Native Knowledge 360° is our museum's way of ensuring that Indigenous people are in that conversation. This generous gift from Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria makes it possible for the museum to work with Native scholars and knowledge-keepers to include Native narratives in educational materials at the national, state and local levels."

"Understanding more about America's collective roots will help us succeed in the future," said Greg Sarris, chairman of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. "We're excited to make this important gift to the National Museum of the American Indian to provide much-needed access to historically accurate Native history for generations to come. It's time to look at our past, present and future in the United States with transparency and truth."

About Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria

The Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria are descendants of Coast Miwok and Southern Pomo Tribes. The Miwok of west Marin County have, through the years, been referred to as Marshall Indians, Marin Miwok, Tomales, Tomales Bay and Hookooeko. The Bodega Miwok (aka, Olamentko) traditionally lived in the area of Bodega Bay. The neighboring Southern Pomo Sebastopol group lived just north and east of the Miwok. The town of Sebastopol is located about one mile midway between the north boundary of Miwok territory and the southern edge of Southern Pomo territory.

In 2000, President Bill Clinton signed into law legislation restoring federal recognition to the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. The legislation also provided for the restoration of land.

About NK360°

Native Knowledge 360° (NK360°) is a set of teaching resources that provides educators and students with new perspectives on American Indian history and cultures. Most Americans have only been exposed to part of the story, as told from a single perspective through the lenses of popular media and textbooks. NK360° offers educational materials and teacher trainings that incorporate Native narratives, more comprehensive histories and accurate information to enlighten and inform teaching and learning about Native America.

It challenges common assumptions about Native peoples – their cultures, their roles in United States and world history, and their contributions to the arts, sciences and literature. The initiative provides a view that includes not only the past but also the richness and vibrancy of Native peoples and cultures today.

Principal funding for the Native Knowledge 360° education initiative is provided by the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Lead funding is provided by Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies, Cherokee Nation and Elizabeth Hunter Solomon.

Major funding is provided by the Booth Ferris Foundation, Ralph Lauren Corporate Foundation, National Museum of the American Indian's National Council, Bonnie and Jere Broh-Kahn and Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation. Additional funding provided by Rodney Coenen, The Nathan Cummings Foundation, William Lomax, TEW Foundation, the Secretary of the Smithsonian and the Smithsonian Seattle Regional Council.

To the editor:

We would like to give a special thank you for the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund donation. We were awarded \$2,000 toward new flooring and carpet for our classroom.

We appreciate our Parent Committee, led by Jimmy Williams, for requesting these funds for our classroom.

We look forward to when our students can return to enjoy the new classroom environment.

With gratitude,
Teacher Robin
Teacher Lori

To the editor:

Good day to you and your family, I wish you all good health and a Happy New Year. I'm once again asking for your vote as the election date comes closer.

Please take time to fill out your ballot and make a difference with your vote. I do know from previous times I have run for Tribal Council only a fraction of eligible voters send in their ballots. And large numbers of eligible voters do not cast a vote at all.

I please ask for you to vote and help any other family member or Tribal member you can to cast their vote too. Send a message that Tribal members care about Tribal government and affairs conducted by elected council members.

I have a daughter who suffered discrimination with her 18-year-old per capita payment being taxed by the kiddie tax of 37% and she lost thousands of dollars. Now I know that nothing was/or has been done to compensate these young Tribal members for their loss.

And rather than bring a class action lawsuit with other Tribes or even just our Tribe against the IRS and the U.S. government, it has been just swept under the carpet as if it didn't happen. My daughter with many more young Tribal members questioned why this was happening to them when their sister or brother a couple years older didn't have this happen to them.

I truly believe this is a violation of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians Constitution and these young Tribal members should be compensated.

Now currently the payment policy has changed to where there are limits on how much an 18-year-old Tribal member can get of their per capita payment without being taxed by this unfair kiddie tax. If elected, I would support all young Tribal members should be compensated and repaid, and we should never sit idle and let something like this affect any Tribal member again. Every Tribal member should be treated equal, period.

Thank you for your time and please vote for Frank Aspria Sr.
Frank Aspria Sr.

Siletz News Letters Policy

Siletz News, a publication of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, is published once a month. Our editorial policy encourages input from readers about stories printed in *Siletz News* and other Tribal issues.

All letters must include the author's signature, address, and phone number in order to be considered for publication. *Siletz News* reserves the right to edit any letter for clarity and length, and to refuse publication of any letter or any part of a letter that may contain profane language, libelous statements, personal attacks or unsubstantiated statements.

Not all letters are guaranteed publication upon submission. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *Siletz News*, Tribal employees, or Tribal Council.

Please type or write legibly. Letters longer than 450 words may be edited for length as approved by Tribal Council Resolution #96-142.

Please note: The general manager of the Siletz Tribe is the editor-in-chief of *Siletz News*.

Editor-in-Chief: Gerald L. Smith
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BUILDING NATIVE COMMUNITIES: FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT FOR TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS VIRTUAL TRAINING

JANUARY 25-29, 2021

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5. Credit & Loans - Understanding, Applying, and Managing - Oh My!
6. Home is where the Heart Is - Ultimate Adulting
7. Circle of Life - Financial Milestones

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