

Plateau dress making artist in residency with Evergreen State

This summer Roberta Kirk led a four-day Plateau dress making workshop at the Museum at Warm Springs.

Linley Logan, of the Evergreen State College Longhouse Northwest Heritage Program, organized the workshop.

Ms. Logan works with tribal communities to develop artist in residence programs focused on cultural arts.

Ms. Kirk, who friends know as 'Birda,' and Linley are both alumni of the Institute of American Indian Arts.

Some time ago, Linley noticed that Roberta posted to her Facebook page her dress making updates, when Roberta made a dress for her Simnasho Longhouse community feast events.

Linley asked Roberta if she would consider leading a Plateau dress making workshop in Warm Springs, and Birda enthusiastically agreed. The Museum at Warm Springs graciously offered to host the group for which the Longhouse is deeply grateful.

This Plateau dress making artist in residency received a great response. The program hosted 18 participants representing multiple generations and many inter family groups.



Courtesy Linley Logan/Evergreen College

Roberta Kirk demonstrates the Plateau dress making technique.

The youngest participant, Virgilena Walsey-Begay, is 10 years old. She worked on her dress with her mother Cece Walsey-Begay and Virgilena's sister in-law, Courtney Fasthorse.

Virgilena danced in her dress at the Simnasho Hot Summer Nite Powwow three days after completing it.

The dress making space at the Museum at Warm Springs was at capacity, with folks spreading their dress material out on the board room table and the floor in the hallway.

The workshop ended up with a wait-list of 20 people who interested in a future Plateau dress making artist in residency.

Roberta has great respect

for all tribes and ways of cultural artistic expression.

"I was taught our cultural value, that when you are going into ceremony or you will stand before the Creator, you must present yourself in your best traditional attire," Birda says.

The Plateau dress making artist in residency proved to be a very powerful arts in action connector for community members.

A number of the participants were making their dresses for family naming ceremony purposes.

Many of the residency participants had great things to say about their experiences. One artist said:

"This artist in residency is a blessing of wonderful

days filled with laughter and love."

Another artist noted: "It was so beautiful to see the dresses come alive. Truly, each dress has the spirit of its maker in it."

Yet another artist noted, "Everyday held prayers, laughter, sharing and cultural creativity." An elder participant commented:

"It was a thrill to see the young one sewing her shells on her own dress. I am inspired." Another participant shared:

"The artist in residency was a beautiful four days with family, friends and new friends."

And one said: "When I completed the last stitches in my dress, I cried. I mourn

no more, my life has come together as well as our families. I am so proud to be released and lifted by my friends through making this dress in this artist in residency.

"Thank you to the organizers and leader of this artist in residency for providing a means of healing for me."

A healing song was shared by another participant for the healing tears that day.

Community members stopped in to visit the artist in residency throughout the four days.

One community member shared her visit comment via a social media post in which she wrote, "Lots of positive energy. You have done a wonderful thing to host this workshop for our people."

Another community member who didn't attend the artist in residency responded to the public posts: "The support for our regalia making gives us a better outlook on our traditional ways, that they will never die, that traditions hold strong, and it lets us walk as our elders did with pride to be Indigenous. Thank you for helping to keep this

practice alive and well."

The participants in the Plateau dress making artist in residence discussed the idea of organizing a Plateau dress fashion show with their dresses at a future Museum at Warm Springs event.

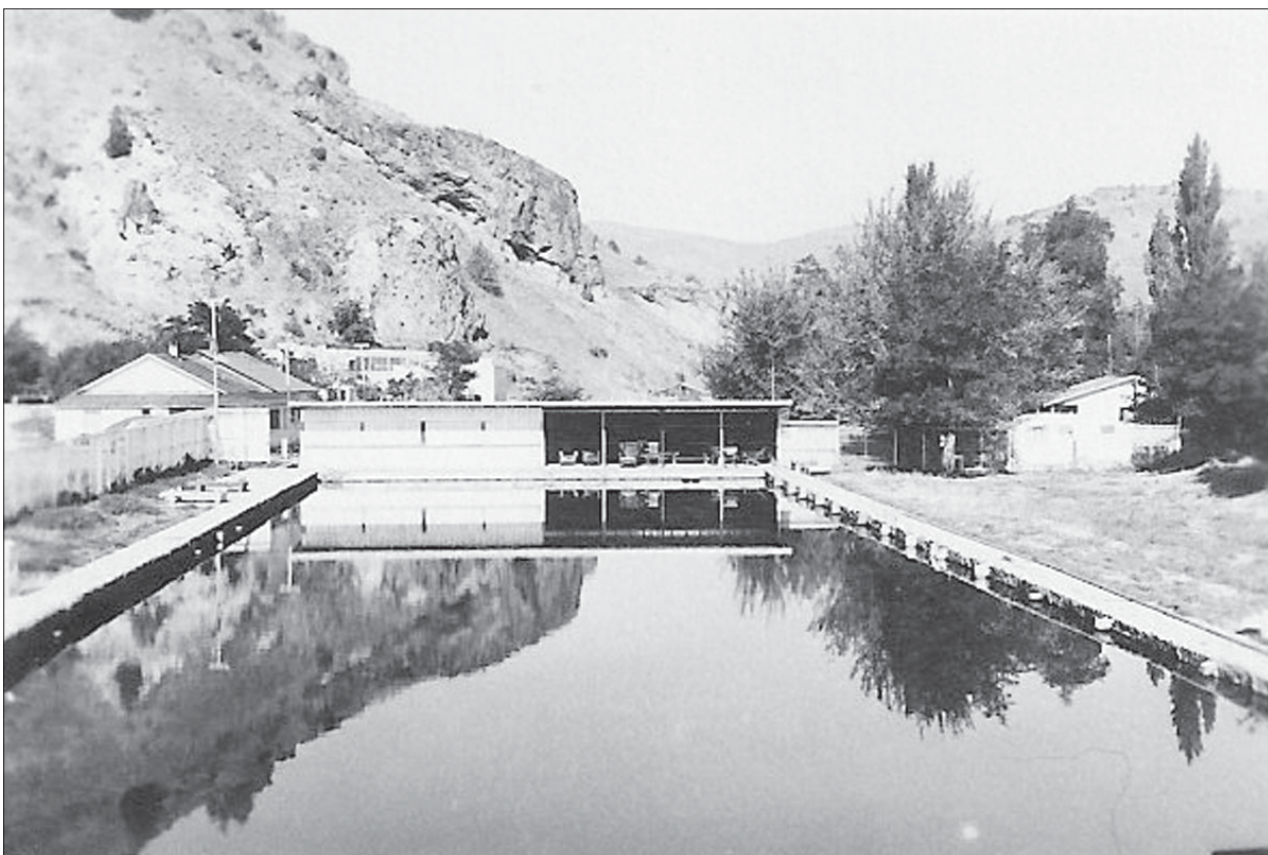
The Evergreen Longhouse through the Northwest Heritage Program is excited and very proud to be able to partner with Museum at Warm Springs to develop and host such incredible culturally powerful and healing community based artist in residencies in native community.

We are thankful to everyone who makes these artist in residencies possible. Our thanks acknowledge the Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies for making our artist in residencies work possible through the Northwest Heritage Program at the Longhouse Education and Cultural Center, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA.

Migwech, Gunalcheesh, Nia:weh, We are Thankful.

Thank you to Linley B. Logan, of Northwest Heritage Program Longhouse Education & Cultural Center at Evergreen State College, for this article.

65 years ago at KNT



Courtesy Richard Macy

Picture taken in 1953 shows the Village pool, featured on a post card from that year.

Around Indian Country

Developments with cannabis, online gaming

The state of Wisconsin is promising not to interfere with the St. Croix Chippewa Indians as the tribe moves forward with a hemp and cannabidiol, or business.

A consent decree entered in federal court confirms that the state lacks jurisdiction on the reservation. The agreement comes just a few months after the tribe filed a lawsuit to protect its sovereignty.

"The tribe commends the state Attorney General for working with our community to resolve any con-

fusion over the tribe's inherent sovereign authority to adopt and implement its hemp and CBD control program," said council member Elmer J. Emery.

The tribe developed a comprehensive set of regulations to govern hemp and CBD production last fall.

The announcement drew objections from the state even though industrial hemp and CBD oil are legal under Wisconsin law, as the consent decree notes. Elsewhere:

Internet betting

The Muckleshoot Tribe will be launching a system that will allow gamblers to place real-money bets over the internet through a mobile app.

The app, set to debut this fall, will feature Class II games like bingo and pull tabs.

While bets can be placed from anywhere, a player must be at the Muckleshoot Casino in Washington state to buy games and to collect winnings.

The tribe will be the first to explore this market.

CRITFC recruiting specialized library leader

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission is recruiting for a StreamNet Library project leader and librarian.

The position closes on September 7, with a starting salary of \$72,148 (equiva-

lent to GS 12 with excellent benefits.

The project leader-librarian will manage and guide the StreamNet Library, a small specialized collection that provides access to data and literature on the Columbia

River Basin fish, fisheries, and fisheries research.

Please see the complete application and job description at the following website:

www.critfc.org/blog/jobs/streamnet-library-project-leader-librarian/



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