

Howlak Tichum

Pat Courtney Gold ~
1939-2023

Pat Courtney Gold, renowned Wasq'u basketmaker, passed away on February 1, 2023. She was 74.

Ms. Courtney Gold was born on January 22, 1939, and grew up on the Warm Springs Reservation. In her youth, she attended a Bureau of Indian Affairs boarding school, went on to earn a BA in Mathematics and Physics from Whitman College, and became a professional mathematician and computer specialist.

Childhood visits with her mother to museums, displaying traditional Wasq'u artwork, inspired Pat to study and help revive the full-turn twining technique, unique to her tribal community.

The result was a resurgence of Wasq'u 'sally bags,' twined root-digging bags with a traditional function for harvesting and storing traditional food.

The baskets were important because they were vital con-



Pat Courtney Gold presents at Oregon Folklife Network 2013 Arts in Parks series.

tainers, Pat said: "We would catch the salmon, filet them, dry them and sell them as filets, or we would pound the filets into a powder salmon-like pemmican. That's what we traded. So the baskets were constantly being made, because when we would trade the salmon we would trade a container

and all.

"I always thought that was an interesting way to keep the skill of making baskets going.

"It's impossible to overstate the significance of awakening this sleeping tradition, which restores Indigenous wisdom and knowledge, revitalizes cultural form and function, and embodies Indigenous values and pride in ways that have therapeutic impact on intergenerational trauma."

By 1991, Pat was following a new career path dedicated to preserving of her cultural heritage.

She became a participant in Oregon Folklife programming in 1995 during Oregon Historical Society administration by folklorists Carol Spellman and Nancy Nusz. Pat's work was widely recognized for artistic excellence and merit.

She was a 2001 recipient of the Oregon's Governor's Art Award; a 2003 honoree of the First Peoples Fund Community Spirit Award and their 2004 Cultural Capital Fellow; and the National Endowment for the Arts bestowed upon her the highest honor given to traditional artists, the Heritage Fellowship, in 2007. She accepted numerous speak-

ing and exhibiting opportunities in the Pacific Northwest, nationally—including the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian—and internationally in countries including China, New Zealand, Canada and England.

Ms. Courtney Gold's art is exhibited at the High Desert Museum, Royal British Columbia Museum, and the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at Harvard University.

Like so many of our nation's finest traditional artists, Pat explored her creative boundaries beyond traditional structures.

During Pat's 2009 Eric and Barbara Dobkin Native Artist Fellowship at the School for Advanced Research, Santa Fe, Pat utilized School of Advanced Research collections to research and gain inspiration for what became her two-dimensional wall hangings.

One of these weavings is proudly displayed in the Indian Arts Research Center vaults. A School for Advanced Research documentary video of Pat's time in residency provides a heartwarming glimpse of the thoughtful way she explored her culture, her relationship with the land, and her expressive creativity.

Pat was engaging audiences through Oregon Folklife Network programming as recently as 2016, and giving interviews as recently as November 2021.

In her public presentations, Pat married the skills of a trained mathematician and traditional artist, describing baskets as spirals and twining as binary computation.

She captivated Indigenous and non-Native audiences alike, weaving left- and right-brain perspectives like cordage. Many have been blessed by Pat's gifts of time and talents.

'We celebrate her life and trust that her invaluable impact on culture will endure.'



Ms. Courtney Gold demonstrates a traditional Wasq'u weaving technique.

Community notes...

An important health care coverage update: If you are enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan, Medicaid or CHIP, and if you are member of the Confederated Tribes, you should check in with a contact representative at the Health and Wellness Center. This is to make sure you are able to maintain coverage.

Changes are coming soon on April 1. You may have already received, or will be receiving a letter from the state about com-

pleting a renewal form. Call the clinic to learn more at 541-553-1196. Ask for a contact representative.

Central Oregon Community College will host the **Native American Salmon Bake** on Saturday, May 13. For more details, or if you want to volunteer, contact Jeremiah Rector, COCC's Native American Student program coordinator: jrector@cocc.edu

The Yakama Warriors Association is inviting the public and all veterans to the **Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans** celebration on Saturday, March 25 at Sarge Hubbard Park in Yakima. The event starts at 1 p.m.

Advanced Cheer conditioning class is this Thursday evening, 5:30-6:30 in the Old Elementary School gym. For more information call 541-699-9111.

How to use **Narcan training**

is offered every Wednesday mornings from 9 until 10:30 a.m. at the Warm Springs Prevention program. If you are interested, please contact Jacylene at: jaycelene.frank@wstribes.org

Narcan, also known by its brand name of naloxone, is a life-saving nasal spray that reverses opioid overdoses.

Everyone is welcome to participate in a **Free Flow and Restore Yoga** class on Wednesday, March 29 at 5:30 p.m. at the Agency Longhouse. This class will offer a range of meditation and poses ac-

cessible to all ages, abilities, and experience.

The Madras Community **Food Pantry** is open each Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 49 NE Twelfth Street. The Madras Community **Free Food Market** is open the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at the United Methodist Church, starting at 4 p.m.

The Warm Springs **Farmers Market** is set to begin in June on the Campus.

Council seeking to fill board positions

The Tribal Council seeks to fill a number of positions on boards of directors of the Confederated Tribes. The following are summaries of the positions:

The Telecom Board of Directors: Two positions—Class II: non-members. Candidates should be interested in the economic and social development of the tribes and membership, and possess experience in the telecommunications or related industry.

Letters of interest and resumes of applicants for the Telco board should submit no later than 5 p.m. on **Friday, April 7, 2023**. Drop off at the tribal administration building, addressed to the Secretary-Treasurer/CEO. Or by mail send to: Secretary-Treasurer/CEO, PO Box 455, Warm Springs OR 97761.

Please sign a criminal and credit background check. Forms can be emailed to you. Information will be submitted confidentially to the S-T/CEO.

Warm Springs Composite Board of Directors: One position—Class III: Tribal member. Candidates should be interested in the economic and social development of the tribes and membership, and possess expertise in the marketing, management, manufacturing, finance, banking or some other field that would benefit Composite.

The Class III directors shall have an initial term in office expiring on December 31, 2025; or until a successor is appointed and takes office.

Process to submit letter of interest and resume is the same as above.

Warm Springs Credit Board of Directors: Two positions—Class II: One Class II director shall be a tribal member, and one shall be a non-member. Candidates should be interested in the social and economic development of the tribes and membership, and have expertise in the field of credit or related profession.

Process to submit letter of interest and resume is the same

as above. **Warm Springs Power and Water Enterprise Board of Directors:** One position—Class I: Tribal member. Candidate should be an enrolled member, and interested in the economic and social development of the tribes and membership, and have expertise in the field of energy or related matters.

Process to submit letter of interest and resume is the same

as above. **Warm Springs Ventures—Economic Development Corporation—Board of Directors:** Two positions: Class I: One tribal member and one non-member. Term ending December 31, 2025. Candidates should interested in the economic and social development of the tribes and membership, and possess expertise in private industry, finance, or banking or some



other field that would benefit the corporation. Process to submit letter of interest and resume is the same as above.



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Portland Office Positions

- Chief Financial Officer \$130-160K
- Watershed Dept Manager \$124-132K
- Salmon Marketing Asst. Coord. \$43-46K
- Fish Technicians \$21.15 - 22.11/hr

Columbia Gorge Positions

- Police Officers \$62-68K
- Dispatcher/Comms Officers \$45-50K
- Fish Technicians (temp) \$21.15 - \$22.11/hr

Hagerman, Idaho Positions

- Genomics Researcher \$51-71K

La Grande, Oregon Positions

- Fishery Technicians (temp) \$20.92- \$22.32/hr

Coming Soon

- Fishing Site Maint. Deputy Mgr., *The Dalles, OR*
- Maintenance Workers, *The Dalles, OR*

3/15/2023