

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



Greetings from the Suquamish Foundation



Our inspiration for the 2018 event was the Suquamish story of "How Blue Jay Saved Daylight". This is a classic hero story of a small bird that risked everything to bring light and health back to friends. It also represents the importance of oral tradition, storytelling, play, resilience, belief in our abilities and the strength of timing. Individually, families may have some differences in how they tell the story - titles, animals involved and other nuances; but the story arc and values remain the same. The version I shared this night is how I have been blessed to remember it and tell it to my children. My respect and love to Barbara Lawrence, who has shared stories with me throughout my life. Other storytellers in my life are Peg Deam, Tina Jackson and my

mom, Lynne Ferguson. These women have all loved and influenced me.

Oral traditions have important meanings and are not static. They meet you where you are in your life and mature with you; providing strength, joy and insight. As I have sat with the Blue Jay story for the last few months, it has taken on new meaning for me. I have more compassion for the protagonists and see them now as lost and not evil. They remind me of our family and friends that have been lost to drugs and alcohol. Living in the dark but yearning for warmth and light.

I have devoted my life to increasing healthy and joyful living in our Suquamish community, through healing, education and connection. I am grateful to have connected with the Suquamish Foundation, which shares this vision. Together, we recognize that play and cultural connection STRENGTHEN individuals, families and the world. We are committed to building and sustaining resiliency.

On May 31, 2018, the Suquamish Tribe closes the 50 year chapter of our history. This day marks the end of the lease of 50 acres of prime Suquamish waterfront land. Our ancestors made this deal because we

had no money to fight for our sovereignty, so with a heavy heart they signed the lease. Developers assumed that we would not be here by the end of the lease and the land would be sold for next to nothing. But like Blue Jay, we persisted, we resisted and we have thrived.

We invite you to join us on the journey towards a more resilient Suquamish. We are building a playground for the Suquamish Community that includes playground structures that will each be based on a story from our oral tradition. They will be built to feel like the trees, beach and trails - our natural playgrounds. We are working with Suquamish storytellers, artists, dreamers and children to ensure that it will foster activity, dialogue, education and intergenerational connection. This is an exciting and healing project.

We thank you for your open hearts, and ask for your continued support to make this vision a reality.

Joyfully yours,

Robin Little Wing Sigo

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Sovereign Style

Indian Up

Sovereign Style Event --

In 2005, the Cultural Resurgence Campaign focused on bringing the Suquamish Tribe's ancestral culture, values and spirituality to the forefront of community life—recognizing their relevance in the present, reawakening Tribal pride in its members, and sharing the Tribe's history and culture with the greater Suquamish community in Kitsap County.

The inaugural Sovereign Style: Ribbons of Resilience event in October 2016 showcased the artistry of shirts, dresses, and children's clothes adorned with beautiful ribbons and modelled by Suquamish Tribal members. Hosted by the Suquamish Foundation, it was the beginning of the Suquamish Sovereign Style campaign celebrating artistry, resilience and generosity.

Ribbon shirts and dresses represent many aspects of indigenous history since contact—assimilation, creativity, prayer, ingenuity, tradition, strength, protection, style, and rebellion. Ribbons were used not only to adorn plain clothing, but to show status, family ties, and preservation of cultural values. As all cultural activities were outlawed by the U.S. government, ribbon clothing signified a covert resistance to assimilation.

The second event was held again in October 2017 with the theme of "Wrapped in Resilience." This fashion happening called for shawls, blankets and vests to be exhibited by Suquamish high school student models. Shawls, blankets and vest have been a traditional showcase for Native artistry while serving the practical purpose of keeping a person warm. The exquisite pieces on display ranged from an original woven cedar vest to breathtaking colorful shawls depicting revered Salish characters. The designs incorporated Native artistry representing traditional craftsmanship and dedication to preserving long-honed skills in a celebration of beautiful garments.

Telling our story through style. That is the tradition that the Suquamish Foundation Sovereign Style campaign seeks to uphold for the Tribe and the broader, shared community. It represents the style in which we gift grants, education, and love. It also represents the need to seek support to further our goal to build resilience for our children and generations to come.



Left: Jude & Joanna Sharphead modeling her wool skirts. Right: Joel Moffet with Ribbon Shirt by Alaina Capoeman and LynDee Wells.



As we reclaim our homeland, we celebrate with pride the ceremonial style that has been an outward sign of our creativity, spirit, prayers,

land, and the natural world. By this practice, we enable these traditions and practices to continue on with future generations.

tion, environment, and physical well-being of the Tribe and the greater community. It works best when we all are involved as a community of Givers. Sovereign Style allows all of us ways to give with our hands, our heads and our hearts. *The Sovereign Style 2018 was held on October 19th. We hope you join us for the event this year!*



Shilene George walking the runway with her daughter Keilene.

strength, protection and preservation of cultural values, relationships to home-

The Suquamish Foundation's mission is to build on our ancestral vision to enhance the culture, educa-

2018 FINANCIALS

Revenue & Expenditures

Donations	\$48,651
Employee Donations	\$9,418
Income	\$20,851

Fund Balance \$78,920

Expenditures Breakdown

Salaries	\$33,197
Fringe	\$8,718
Travel & Training	\$1,627
Contractual	\$1,000
Supplies & Materials	\$43,428
X Contributions	\$210,140
Indirect Costs	\$3,618

Expenditures \$91,653

Holiday Tree Lighting at the House of Awakened Culture

Written By: Teresa Barron

What brings us together as a community? Sharing the fun and festivities of the holidays. Sharing our love of children and family. Sharing our love of traditions. Sharing a reason to celebrate hope and joy with music.

All these things merged and created a beautiful sense of community in the first Suquamish Community Holiday Tree Lighting on December 7th at the House of Awakened Culture as over 400 community attendees celebrated the start of the Christmas season together. The Suquamish Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Suquamish Tribe, hosted the event as a way to thank the community for its generosity and build a new tradition we can share as a community. The beautifully decorated House had over 1,000 sparkling lights that joined with the clear winter night's sky full of stars. Indoors, there was a hot coffee bar with cookies, candy canes and marshmallows for everyone. A Christmas concert was presented by the Kids in Concert, an organization that includes and trains children of all ages that want to learn to play an instrument in a performing orchestra. Outdoors, the brightly lit Argosy Cruise Christmas Ship kept a date to come close to the shore to serenade us with carols from the water. At the same time,

Suquamish Tribal Chairman, Leonard Forsman, led the countdown to lighting up the tall cedar trees outside the House of Awakened Culture. A wonderful cheer rose up from the delighted crowd surrounding the luminous trees and viewing the waterfront reflections.

One of the community attendees made a most memorable remark. She said when the tree was lit and the cheer went up, she turned around and looked at the shining, laughing faces of all the children there with their families and she realized that this was the beginning of a new tradition that these children would remember all their lives and return to with their own children year after year.

In the faces of these children, we could see that they did believe, unwaveringly, in hope and joy. And beyond that, that they also believe in us, their families, their community, to continue to share our commitment to each other to help, protect and celebrate the health and vibrancy of this precious place we call home.

MANY THANKS TO OUR 2018 DONORS

All donations, big and small, made a difference. Thank you for donating to improving our community!

<i>Marlaina Anderson</i>	<i>David & Frances</i>
<i>Teri Bayes</i>	<i>Korten Trust</i>
<i>Rit Bellis</i>	<i>Sandra Senter</i>
<i>Sable Bruce</i>	<i>Edward & Hilda</i>
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2019 SUQUAMISH FOUNDATION EVENTS

A Time to Gather

Annual Fundraising Dinner and Auction

April 27

Sovereign Style Fashion Show

First annual inspired-native fashion show brings community together

October 6

Holiday Tree Lighting

First annual inspired-native fashion show brings community together

December 5



S U Q U A M I S H
F O U N D A T I O N

PO Box 498
Suquamish, WA 98392

MEET THE 2018 SUQUAMISH FOUNDATION STAFF



Left to right: Teresa Barron, Robin Sigo, Albie Lawrence, Margeaux Lewis, Angela Flemming, Ann Donovan, Kati Gubatayao-Bolima