



Yak'ei yee x̱wsateeni – It's good to see you!

GHF is pleased to launch the first issue of *Heritage Highlights*, our new monthly e-newsletter. We hope you enjoy this additional way of staying informed of upcoming events and some of the exciting things happening at GHF. Make sure also to visit GHF's Facebook and Instagram daily to stay up-to-date!

GHF Launches First Remote Cultural Class

GHF is pleased to launch our first remote cultural learning opportunity. Registration is now open for **Beginning Basket Weaving** which will be offered Sept. 16-17 & 23-24. The materials fee is \$50 and interested participants can register for the class on the MyGHF portal.



“Over these past few years, we’ve had many requests to offer cultural classes outside of Juneau,” said Executive Director Desiree Jackson. “GHF’s programming team has worked hard to design these classes and set-up an infrastructure for their success. We are so pleased that we are now able to reach people across the country with our workshops.”



GHF Co-Hosted Several Youth Camps This Summer

In our commitment to continue supporting cultural education, the GHF team was pleased to partner with different organizations over the summer to co-host several youth camps. These camps focused on cultural teachings, career pathway exposure, and leadership development. Some of the camps we hosted included:



June 3-10, GHF hosted **Culture Camp** in Juneau for high school students. Camp was held at the Eagle River Boy Scout Camp in Juneau, Alaska. Each camper received a \$200 stipend to help cover expenses for any gear or equipment they needed for camp. In addition to participating in a variety of cultural activities, campers also paddled together in a traditional canoe as part of the *Hokule'a* crew welcoming!



July 10-14, GHF partnered with Goldbelt, Inc., and Goldbelt subsidiaries Peregrine Technical Solutions and CP Marine to host the **Cultural Youth Cyber Camp** for middle and high school students. In addition to completing the U.S. Air Force's Cyber Patriot curriculum, campers participated in several cultural activities that included making cedar headbands, paddling canoes, and harvesting and preserving traditional foods.



July 17-21, GHF partnered with the University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative Extension, Douglas Indian Association, and Tlingit & Haida to co-host the **4-H Experience Camp** at the Eagle River United Methodist Camp in Juneau, Alaska. Campers in 8th grade through high school learned outdoor survival skills, participated in several different Native arts and cultural activities, and gained traditional ecological knowledge.



Victoria Johnson Receives JAHCLeadership Award

In early August, GHF's Pre-K/Elementary Language & Cultural Specialist, *Tléikw Xoo* Victoria Johnson was presented with an award for Leadership in the Promotion of Oral Traditions by the Juneau Arts & Humanities Council.

Victoria was nominated by Laura Talpey, Executive Director of Juneau Montessori School who said, “Victoria leads culturally responsive pedagogy for preschool-aged children in the community. Each week, she visits our preschool program and leads songs and stories in Tlingit. Our children go home singing the songs and repeating the vocabulary words they learned with her. Victoria is warm and caring with all children and deeply committed to bringing Indigenous pedagogy to children in Juneau. She is a bright light in our community, as a knowledge bearer and an educator.”

GHF has an MOA with the Juneau Montessori School, where Victoria provides weekly Tlingit culture and language instruction and leads culturally relevant activities for students. Congratulations to Victoria for this well-deserved recognition!

GHF Staff Retreat in Kake for Cultural Team Building

On August 15, GHF's staff participated in a team retreat in Kake, Alaska. Also joining the staff for the retreat was GHF's Board President, Jackie Pata.

Joel Jackson, President of the Organized Village of Kake taught the staff how to cut and dry newspaper-style dry fish (*At x'éeshi*), which takes 3-4 days to process and dry. Other activities included jarring salmon, preparing salmon eggs, and berry picking.

"The GHF team had a great time coming together to learn these important traditional food preservation techniques that we can pass on to other students," said GHF Executive Director Desiree Jackson. "We look forward to more culturally-focused team building activities in the future."



Welcome Aboard!

GHF would like to welcome the following new employees to the GHF team:

Eva Marks
Curriculum Developer

Maranda McGowan
Curriculum Developer

Hurricane James
Aan Yatx'u Sani Intern

Ike Puustinen
Aan Yatx'u Sani Intern

Arii Shodda Lee
Aan Yatx'u Sani Intern



UPCOMING CLASSES & EVENTS

Beginning Basket Weaving Sept. 16-17 & 23-24, Remote.

Gathering of Alaska Natives (GOAN) for youth ages 14-19. Sept. 17-18, Juneau.

High Top Moccasin Making with Janice Hotch, (Weekends) Oct. 7-Nov. 5, Juneau.

Note: Schedule subject to change. Check the GHF website for the most current information.

