



NAYA NEWSLETTER

EMPOWERING THE LIVES OF NATIVE AMERICANS IN THE PORTLAND AREA

WINTER 2019

2019 BEGINS WITH GRATITUDE

We are grateful for our community of elders, families and youth—of partners, donors, supporters, participants and friends. Because of your trust, support and participation, we have much to celebrate as we conclude one year and move to the next. Thank you for your belief, commitment and investment. We wouldn't be NAYA without YOU!

Because of you, we impacted the lives of 10,000 community members through our wraparound, life-affirming programs that move our families out of crisis and into prosperity. This past year we:

1. Celebrated 13 students graduating from our Early College Academy with high school diplomas in June, and welcomed 50 students to school in September.

2. Helped 114 families remain warm and safe in their homes with our weatherization services and 1,503 families remain in their homes with our housing and energy assistance programs.

3. Engaged 841 youth in culturally specific activities, and helped 651 youth, parents and elders with essential services including foster youth advocacy, elder support, early childhood home visits and our healing circle for families impacted by domestic violence.

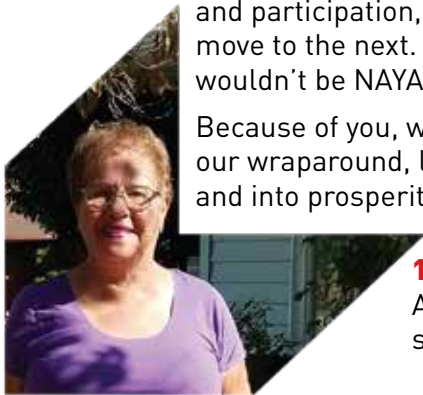
4. Held our 13th Annual Housing to Homeownership Fair to provide rental and homeownership information and workshops for our community members and helped 14 families on their journeys to closing on new homes.

5. Graduated nine Native American entrepreneurs from our Micro-enterprise Program—which supports their goals of starting small businesses—and hosted our Ninth Annual Winter Marketplace.

6. Honored our partners and volunteers and celebrated Native culture through dance, music and art, as we welcomed hundreds of participants to our Ninth Annual Neerchokikoo Powwow.

7. Worked to “Get Out the Native Vote” to assure that our communities’ voices were heard and our votes were counted during the all-important mid-term elections in November.

8. Facilitated 48 Individual Development Accounts for community members to help them save for college tuition, home purchases or small business investments, with a 3:1 or 5:1 match from the state of Oregon.





NAYA SAYS THANK YOU

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION TO OUR COMMUNITY

We at NAYA are overwhelmed with gratitude. Because of an outpouring of donations in the final days of 2018, NAYA surpassed our year end fundraising goal by 30%.

You gave through the mail and through our website. You generously donated holiday gifts for our foster youth and families. Because of you, NAYA also met its ambitious fundraising goal through the Willamette Week Give!Guide. After running neck-and-neck with another local organization, NAYA won the Give!Guide's coveted 35 & Under Challenge, getting the most individual donations from young donors. With the win came a \$1,000 prize! Thank you, Millennials!

We understand that during the waning days of the year, your email, mailbox and social media are filled with requests from many worthy organizations. It means a lot to us to have earned your support and trust this past giving season.

NAYA will continue to serve the Portland community in 2019. We'll keep reporting on the events, classes, services, success stories, and achievements made throughout the year so that you will know how your financial support is impacting the community. Thank you!



ECA CLASSROOMS AND GYM GO GREEN

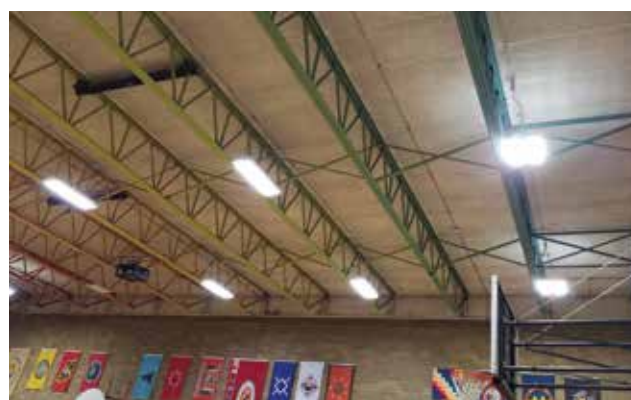
NAYA GETS A LITTLE MORE ECO-FRIENDLY WITH THE HELP OF COMMUNITY PARTNERS

For weeks, anticipation had been growing around the news that capital improvements to the NAYA Early College Academy (ECA) were imminent. Then, on December 21, 2018, NAYA Operations Manager Darla Hilmoie excitedly announced to staff that the project to update the lighting system in ECA classrooms and the gym had been completed.

Thanks to generous community partners, the estimated \$20,000 cost of the project did not hit NAYA's budget. Hilmoie explained, "Evergreen Consulting along with EC Company and Energy Trust of Oregon made this happen at no cost to us."

Now, the gym and all ECA classrooms have LED lights with occupancy controls that turn off if sensors indicate the room is not occupied. Not only was the cost of the project free to NAYA, but the increased energy efficiency of the LED lights and the occupancy controls will save energy and money in the future.

NAYA thanks the generous support of Evergreen Consulting, EC Company, and Energy Trust of Oregon. Helping NAYA save \$20,000 ensures that our resources can go to the programs and services that the Portland community relies upon NAYA to provide.



NAYA gym during installation





GETTING OUT THE NATIVE VOTE

WE BELIEVE THAT CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT IS CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



Last fall our Native American community engaged in the November 2018 elections with perseverance and the strength of our collective voice. We partnered with the National Urban Indian Family Coalition to launch a national voter and civic engagement initiative with 16 other urban American Indian communities across the country representing nearly 700,000 Native people.

“NAYA Family Center has made an intentional investment in building the capacity of our civic and voter engagement programs over the past few years and they’ve paid huge dividends. Our Native community is well positioned when it

comes to advocating for public investment to address socio-economic disparities experienced by our children, family, and elders,” says NAYA Executive Director Paul Lumley.

This past year NAYA has worked hard to reduce barriers for community members, providing support to update their voter registration and submit their ballots. We partnered with other Native organizations to reach out to our community on our campus, at powwows, and at other social gatherings. The Multnomah County Elections Office joined us at our October Portland Youth & Elders Council (PYEC) meeting to answer questions about new voter laws.

Community members rallied together at voter education sessions to gain a better understanding about the measures included on the November ballot. NAYA also hosted a candidate forum for Portland City Council Seat 3 with Jo Ann Hardesty and Loretta Smith, so community could ask them directly about the issues they care about the most.

Our community’s efforts made a difference both on the national scene and the local level. It’s a good feeling to have our values and voices contributing to our governing systems. We did what our ancestors could not do, we voted.



NAYA Elders Frank and Rosa Alby, Mary Renville, and Portland Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty, October PYEC meeting

NAYA’S GOT TALENT SHOWCASE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2019, 5:30–7:30 PM, NAYA FAMILY CENTER

It’s time to dust off that ventriloquist dummy and get your Beyonce-style marching band lined up because we want to see your amazing talents. NAYA’s Got Talent Showcase is a fun and supportive event for everyone from kiddos to elders and dinner will be provided! To participate, you must attend one mandatory practice on Wednesday, February 20 or Monday, February 25, 4:30–6:30 p.m. at NAYA. For information, please email rileyf@naydpdx.org or katieh@nayapdx.org. See you there!





15TH ANNUAL NAYA GALA AND AUCTION

NAYA RAISES FUNDS AND AWARENESS FOR IMPACTFUL WRAPAROUND PROGRAMS

What does a record-breaking event look like? First, sell out all gala and golden raffle tickets. Then watch as all of NAYA's renowned silent auction items are swept up. Next, witness contributions flow in during the paddle raise and live auction. Mix in 550 festive community members dressed to the nines, top it all off with beautiful music, delicious food, and a lot of inspiration and you've got the 15th Annual NAYA Gala and Auction: One Home. Many Nations.

NAYA hosted its annual gala on Friday, November 16, 2018, at the Portland Art Museum. With the support of attendees, sponsors, donors, volunteers, and others, the event raised \$475,000, the most ever in the event's 15-year history.

The evening's program included a beautiful invocation by the Cowlitz Tribe Spiritual Leader Tanna Engdahl, Swil Kanim's violin performance, and Early College Academy graduate Juanita Tapio Brewer's inspiring story.

For many, the event represents a highlight of the year, where we showcase all of our organization's hard work providing wraparound services impacting 10,000 community members each year. NAYA's successes are also attributed in large part to the collaboration and partnership with our community.

In the words of NAYA Executive Director Paul Lumley, "Thank you for standing with us in love and support of Portland's Native community. You make all our work possible!"

A huge thank you to our major sponsors:

POTLATCH "TO GIVE"



ILLAHEE "SUSTAINING LAND"



TILlicum "RELATIONS"



KLOSHE NANITCH "TO TAKE CARE"





CELEBRATING ONE HOME. MANY NATIONS.

A RECAP OF THE 15TH ANNUAL NAYA GALA AND AUCTION IN PICTURES



*Michelle DePass, executive director,
Meyer Memorial Trust*



Doug Stamm and Jackie Gordon



Se-ah-dom Edmo and James Parker



NAYA Executive Director Paul Lumley addresses our guests



Juanita Tapio-Brewer shares her story



*Brian Sun Eagleheart McDowell
and Yolanda Salguero*



*Nancy and Paul Phillips
of Pac/West Communications*



Eric Hunter, CEO, CareOregon and guests



*NAYA's Tamara Henderson and
Rebecca Brown of Comcast*



Rose High Bear



*Nichole June Maher, CEO
Group Health Foundation*



Pat Reser and William Westphal



MARKETPLACE A WINTER WONDERLAND

COMMUNITY GATHERING CREATES HOLIDAY JOY FOR SHOPPERS, VENDORS, AND NAYA ALIKE

If you happened to wander into the NAYA cafetorium on Saturday, December 8, 2018, you would have been greeted by the homey sight of a toasty fire in the fireplace and the inviting aroma of frybread in the air.

This year's NAYA Winter Marketplace was a triple success. First, holiday shoppers encountered NAYA's biggest marketplace yet, giving shoppers a diverse selection of jewelry, clothing, prints and paintings, health and body care products, carvings, foods, beadwork, and so much more.

Second, NAYA successfully hosted another event to support Native entrepreneurs in the local community. "Whether formally or informally, each vendor is an entrepreneur and each booth represents their small business," said Sky Waters, community prosperity manager and organizer of the event. "Our marketplaces are one point of connection with community members who have—or think they may have—an entrepreneurial spirit. Like our business classes and coaching, marketplaces are part of the NAYA Microenterprise Program to help local micro-businesses."

Indeed, micro-businesses who participated in the Winter Marketplace as vendors, benefited from not just the brick-and-mortar location to set up shop for a day, but also from NAYA's extensive marketing of the event. Most importantly, vendors enjoyed the opportunity to find new customers among the hundreds in attendance and to generate income from the increasingly-popular event.

Vendor Karen Fura stated, "Once again, NAYA put on a really nice holiday marketplace. Plenty of space was allotted to each vendor and it was nice to be part of a high-quality, authentic event. I feel lucky to be a part of it and you can really make good money there."



Roxanne Williams at NAYA's Winter Marketplace



Asdzaa Olta - LaKota Scott at NAYA's Winter Marketplace

Can your vendor booth benefit from NAYA's Microenterprise Program?

Are you a vendor who would like to grow your business? Do you have a unique skill or service to offer, business idea, or unique product that you think would make a good business? Are you curious what it takes to start up a business but don't know where to start?

Here's one place to start. Contact the NAYA Microenterprise Program to learn more about the classes, trainings, one-on-one coaching, business plan development, and other services they offer. NAYA is dedicated to promoting prosperity and economic well-being in the community. The Microenterprise Program page of our website (under Community Economic Development) has an online inquiry form you can fill out to get started today. Or email Microenterprise Coach Santiago Vazquez at VazquezS@nayapdx.org.



TANYA GOLDEN, A NAYA SUCCESS STORY

MICROENTERPRISE, IDA GRAD GOES FROM BOLD IDEA TO BUSINESS OWNER

On its website, the Golden Saffron Company seems perfectly aligned with Portland's earthy community. But missing from the website is the story of Saffron Owner Tanya Golden's journey from herbalist to business owner—and the role of NAYA's Microenterprise Program in it.

Tanya, of Grand Ronde and Cherokee descendancy, had frequented marketplaces and powwows selling herbal remedies. Soon, NAYA Microenterprise Coach Santiago Vazquez successfully persuaded her to join the Microenterprise Program at NAYA. Early in the cohort-based, nine-module course, Tanya noticed instructors challenging participants to get specific about their business goals in order to start making them a reality.

In response she says, "I decided to give it up to Creator. I asked, 'show me the way.'" Immediately, she experienced a fortunate coincidence: Tanya happened across an article on saffron production. The very next day in class, someone by chance handed her saffron. Tanya's bold idea was born. "Santiago asked again, 'What are you going to do?'" Tanya recalls. "This time, I said, 'I'm growing saffron.'"

NAYA trained Tanya in small business development and connected her with grant and training opportunities to better position her business. Still, there were obstacles along the way. The need for cash upfront seemed daunting—especially for Tanya, who until then had eschewed credit cards and loans. "Santiago really had to talk me into the credit-building program," she says.

With guidance, Tanya strengthened her credit score and secured a loan. With this positive credit history, she secured grants and other funding.

NAYA's Individual Development Account Program was also essential to her start-up success. This program matches 3:1 (up to \$1,000 over a 12-month period) what program participants put into a special savings account to help them build an asset like a small business.

But the challenge that proved most transformational was within Tanya herself. "I went from not a lot of self-confidence to realizing that I could do this. It's the first time in my life I've felt like this." Because her experience has been so life-changing, she wishes more Native people would consider entrepreneurship. "A lot of Native people are already business owners," Tanya explains, referring to vendors, fishermen, and others. "These ways have been part of their lives forever."

But Tanya understands why Native people feel reluctant identifying as a "business people." "It comes down to traditional values," Tanya explains. "Capitalism goes against how we relate to the earth. Also, we're resistant to being cutthroat, in competition with each other instead of collaborating."

Tanya believes the Microenterprise class addresses these differences head on, with an indigenized perspective. She elaborates, "The curriculum made sense because it's grounded in community. It's a great service," she says. "The lessons learned will help people and affect them positively. I'm sure of this." To learn more about the NAYA Microenterprise Program, visit our website, www.nayapdx.org. To learn more about Golden Saffron Company, visit www.goldensaffronco.com.



Tanya Golden and her saffron

NAYA's Microenterprise Program is supported by



**PROSPER
PORTLAND**



Native American Youth and Family Center
5135 NE Columbia Blvd
Portland, OR 97218
503.288.8177
nayapdx.org

NON PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND OR
PERMIT NO 2851

IN THIS ISSUE

2019 BEGINS WITH GRATITUDE

NAYA SAYS THANK YOU

ECA CLASSROOMS AND GYM GO GREEN

GETTING OUT THE NATIVE VOTE

NAYA'S GOT TALENT SHOWCASE

15TH ANNUAL NAYA GALA AND AUCTION

MARKETPLACE A WINTER WONDERLAND

TANYA GOLDEN, A NAYA SUCCESS STORY

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE ECA LUNCHEON

FIRST NPFN OF 2019



SAVE THE DATE FOR THE ECA LUNCHEON

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2019, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM, NAYA FAMILY CENTER

Pull out your calendars and put a big heart shape around Wednesday, April 24, 2019—the date for one of our most inspiring events of the year, NAYA's Annual Early College Academy Luncheon. This is the tenth year of the event, where guests are treated to student stories and performances, as we raise the essential funds to help them succeed. Join us and learn how the NAYA Early College Academy's inclusion of a culturally relevant, hands-on curriculum, and student-centered learning environment enhance our youth's resilience, cultural identity, and academic success.

Get ready to buy an extra ticket for a friend, eat a uniquely Indigenous-inspired meal, and be filled with hope as you meet some of the ECA's students and learn about their plans for the future. We hope to see you there! For more information visit nayapdx.org.



DeVonntae Amundson, 2018 ECA keynote speaker

NATIVE PROFESSIONALS AND FRIENDS NIGHT



NPFN at Froelick Gallery, February 2018

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 5:30 PM-7:30 PM

PORTLAND CENTER STAGE AT THE ARMORY, 128 NW 11TH AVE, PORTLAND 97209

Meet, mingle and enjoy a delicious selection of food and refreshments at the year's first Native Professionals and Friends Night. This free event is open to everyone, Native and non-Native alike, interested in making friends and building relationships within our diverse Portland area community. Receive two beverage tickets with a \$25 suggested donation. Pre-register online and be entered to win one of five fabulous prizes. Pre-register at <https://nayapdx.org/event/nPFN-pcs/>