Native Arts and Cultures Foundation Announces New 2023 SHIFT Program Awardees

PORTLAND, Oregon, November 14, 2023 – The Native Arts and Cultures Foundation (NACF) is excited to announce the new 2023 SHIFT – Transformative Change and Indigenous Arts program awardees.

Following a national open call for American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian artists, eight projects were selected to receive a $100,000 two-year award designed to support artists and community projects responding to social, environmental and economic justice issues to draw increased attention to Native communities.

The SHIFT – Transformative Change and Indigenous Arts program provides multi-year services for Native artists and cultural practitioners to work on expansive projects for community engagement and presentation in collaboration with partner organizations.

"This group of SHIFT artists and partners are utilizing their brilliant artistry and deep connections to communities to offer new perspectives and solutions to some of the most pressing issues we face in the world today." – Laura (Cales) Matalka (Chickasaw Nation) Associate Director of Programs

Selected artists for the SHIFT 2023 awards are as follows:

Maile Andrade
Maile Andrade (Kanaka ʻŌiwi) in partnership with Hoʻoulu ʻAina. Andrade’s Hoʻoulu Maikoha will grow a network of cultural resource gardens and practitioners of the Hawaiian cultural practice of kapamaking.

Growing Thunder Collective
The Growing Thunder Collective in partnership with Ephemera. The Growing Thunder Collective’s Waksupi Waunspe: Dakota/Nakoda Beadwork Knowledges will engage the Growing Thunder family, spanning four generations, and Fort Peck Reservation youth in the co-creation of women’s regalia through workshops and hands-on learning that will be documented for film and presented in a traveling exhibition.

Lani Hotch
Lani Hotch (Chilkat Indian Village) in partnership with Takshanuk Watershed Council. Hotch will mentor four apprentices in the creation of five Chilkat Salmon Protector Robes which will be utilized as a tool for advocacy and cultural education on the vital importance of the Chilkat River Salmon and the prevention of industrial development that threatens the Chilkat River/watershed.

Anthony Hudson & Felix Furby
Anthony Hudson (Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Siletz) and Felix Furby (Chinook Nation and Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde) in partnership with Chachalu Tribal Museum and Cultural Center

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and New Expressive Works, Hudson and Felix’s The Shimkhin Project will be a touring exhibition and supporting programming about transfeminine Atfalati (Tualatin) Kalapuya healer Shimkhin (1820-1904).

Leilehua Lanzilotti
Leilehua Lanzilotti’s (Kānaka Maoli) in partnership with Te Ao Mana. Lanzilotti’s Lili’u is a new opera celebrating the legacy of the last Queen of Hawai’i that will be presented alongside free hula, language, and cultural workshops to bring the community together and celebrate the diaspora.

Christen H. Marquez
Christen Marquez (Kānaka Maoli) in partnership with Hawaii Strategy Lab. Marquez’s Lucky We Live Hawaii is a feature documentary that highlights stories of Native Hawaiians whose lives and access to housing and land are impacted by white supremacy and will offer Native Hawaiian solutions for access to land, housing, and capital.

Warren Montoya
Warren Montoya (Tamaya [Santa Ana Pueblo] Kha’po Owingeh [Santa Clara Pueblo]) in partnership with Santa Fe Indian School. Montoya’s Santa Fe Indian School Heritage Murals Project is a multi-phase program to design and permanently install multiple murals embedded with Augmented Reality coding technology across the Santa Fe Indian School campus.

Marie Watt
Marie Watt (Seneca Nation) in partnership with Forge Project. Watt’s Chords to Other Chords is a series of three site-responsive neon sculptures that aim to amplify stories and conversations about land, stewardship, and place.


About the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation
The Native Arts and Cultures Foundation’s mission is to advance equity and cultural knowledge, focusing on the power of arts and collaboration to strengthen Native communities and promote positive social change with American Indian, Native Hawaiian, and Alaska Native peoples in the United States. To learn more about the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation, visit www.nativeartsandcultures.org.

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