



NEWS RELEASE
North Olympic Library System
2210 South Peabody Street
Port Angeles, WA 98362

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 2, 2019
Contact: Nate Anderson, Library Services Specialist
360.417.8500 x7739; NAnderson@nols.org
Re: Indigenous Peoples' Day Events at the Port Angeles Main Library
Attached: *The Makah Whaler.jpg, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe Song and Dance Group.jpg*

In honor of Indigenous Peoples' Day, the Port Angeles Main Library of the North Olympic Library System (NOLS) will host a special program on Monday, October 14. First, the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe Song and Dance Group will perform in the library beginning at 5:15pm. Following the welcome performance, Yolanda Machado, Longhouse Director at Peninsula College and Assistant to the College President on Indigenous Affairs, will speak on her Makah ancestry.

About the Lower Elwha Tribe Song and Dance Group

The Lower Elwha Tribe Song and Dance Group is comprised of Lower Elwha Klallam tribal and community members. Funded by a Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) grant, the group provides positive cultural teachings to youth and provides them opportunities to practice their culture.

About the Yolanda Machado

Yolanda Machado first created her presentation My Makah Ancestry, out of a need to provide a brief introduction of her native cultural background to her colleagues and students at South Puget Sound Community College. During the late nineties, there was a great deal of controversy surrounding the Makah Tribe and their 1855 Whaling Treaty. The Makah Tribe's

exercise of these Treaty rights resulted in a successful whale hunt in 1999. Machado was often asked to speak to college classes about the whaling issue. Through those experiences, Machado found that “many people didn’t even know where the Makah Tribe was located.” Recognizing a need, Machado created her presentation as a catalyst for deeper conversations; conversations that can only truly happen after establishing a basic understanding of tribal culture in general.

About Indigenous Peoples’ Day

In 2018, the Port Angeles City Council proclaimed the second Monday in October Indigenous Peoples’ Day. The proclamation’s purpose is to “promote tolerance, understanding and friendship, and to combat prejudice and eliminate discrimination stemming from colonization.” It also recognizes that the city occupies Klallam ancestral land and encourages all to celebrate the thriving cultures and values of the Indigenous Peoples of our region.

The Port Angeles Main Library is located at 2210 South Peabody Street. To learn more about this program, visit www.nols.org, call 360.417.8500 or email Discover@nols.org.



My Makah Ancestry will be presented on Indigenous Peoples' Day at the Port Angeles Main Library.



The Lower Elwha Tribe Song and Dance Group will perform at the Port Angeles Main Library.

###