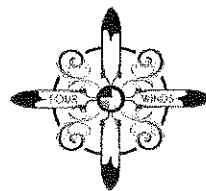
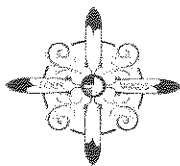




Indigenous Youth Dance Troupe

Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission 2013 Grant Report





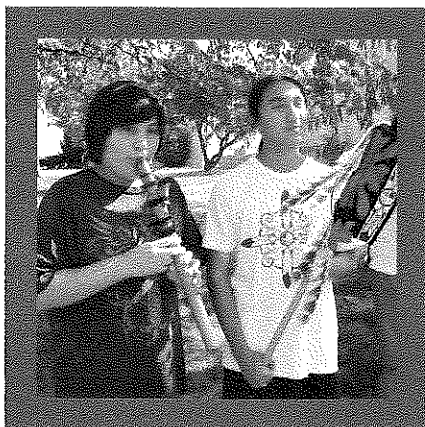
Project: Indigenous Youth Dance Troupe

FWNC'S MISSION

The mission of our nonprofit organization is to strengthen the Indigenous community of Lawrence in a traditional and holistic way by offering family-based service and culturally integrated education programs.

FWNC'S GOALS

- To provide educational nutrition and wellness courses to native and non-Native low-income residents of the Lawrence community.
- To actively garner community involvement within our local Native/Indigenous community and non-Native community members.
- To provide family-oriented services and programs for Native families
- To provide traditional and contemporary culturally integrated educational programs for the entire family.
- To provide youth mentorship and community service learning.



President's Message:

On behalf of the Four Winds Native Center, I wish to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission for their generous \$1,700 grant awarded for the Indigenous Youth Dance Troupe.

Pi'na-gi-gi'win (Thank you), Sonya N. Ortiz, FWNC President

Highlights of the Grant:

This final report to the Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission will highlight our project's accomplishments and illustrate our future plans indicating the continuance of this project.

The purpose of the is project was to research and preserve the traditional dances of the Kansas's tribes and to teach these traditional dances to the younger generation of Native children in Kansas as well as to share the stories and traditional knowledge of the dances with the public and public schools.

Secondly, Native youth will benefit from working with professional artists and dancers to create regalia, which is an opportunity new to the Lawrence community. Artists, dancers, and cultural consultants will benefit from being compensated for their time and skill.

In addition to teaching entrepreneurial skills, this dance program teaches the importance of preserving history, forming intergenerational relationships and preventing cultural erosion.

Contributors & Experts involved with this project:

Four Winds Native Center's

Sonya N. Ortiz, Board President & Project Coordinator

Stephanie Farve, Four Wind's (VISTA) Cultural & Community Resource Coordinator

Haskell Indian Nations University's:

Rhonda LaValdo, Haskell Indian Nations Media Instructor & HICC Sponsor

James Jones, Haskell Intertribal Cultural Club Co-Sponsor

Haskell Intertribal Cultural Club Dance Instructors:

Joshua Woosypitti and Britney Weatherwax

Artisans:

Nicole Bennett – Beading Instructor

Victoria Wilson – Moccasin Making Instructor

Trilby Wahwahsuck – Drumming & Singing



Boys & Girls Club East Lawrence May 2012



In class: Students playing the "Hand Game" August 2012



Students and parents making moccasins - September 2012

Public Events & Classes

Classes began on August 30th and concluded on November 15th with a public performance at Four Winds' "Celebrating the Youth" Pow-wow at Haskell Indian Nations University on November 16th, 2012. Classes were held on Thursday afternoons for a span of twelve weeks. The location of the classes were held on Haskell Indian Nations University's campus taught by the Haskell Intertribal Cultural Club student instructors, Joshua Woosyipiiti and Britney Weatherwax under the supervision of both the HICC Sponsors and FWNC's Stephanie Farve.

Public events showcasing the Indigenous Youth Dance Troupe were held at the following:

- Boys and Girls Club of East Lawrence, May 2012
- "Celebrating the Youth Pow-wow" hosted by Four Winds Native Center at Haskell Indian Nations University, November 2012

At the first public event, former youth dancers volunteered to perform as a means to recruit for 2012 Fall enrollment while the Haskell student instructors shared about the history of the dances with the Boys & Girls club youth and also performed alongside with the youth. By the second event, the students gained enough knowledge to perform on their own.



Students and parents making dance shawls as HICC dance/regalia instructors assist. - September 2012



Students learning the Potato Dance October 2012



Students performing the "Hoop Dance" at the Celebrating the Youth Pow-wow - Nov. 2012

Indigenous Youth Dance Troupe

Project Overview

Four Winds Native Center's VISTA AmeriCorp Fellow, Stephanie Farve assisted with this project. Stephanie collaborated with the Haskell Intertribal Cultural Club student instructors and with the student's parents to make this a seamless project and arranged for refreshments and beverage for the students.

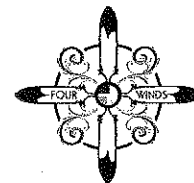
The Lawrence Cultural Arts grant allowed for the continuance of FWNC's Indigenous Youth Dance Troupe classes, regalia making and public debut. The first day of class began on August 30, 2012 held at the Haskell Library. This gave the youth, instructors, Haskell Intertribal Cultural Club members and a Washburn AmeriCorps VISTA Fellow from the Four Winds Native Center a chance to get reacquainted with previous spring season youth dancers and welcoming the new participants. The basic guidelines of what was to be taught were talked about and then the class began. As an icebreaker, the instructors taught the youth participants how to play a traditional "Hand Game". Like the dances, these traditional games play a vital role in cultural preservation and incorporates math skills, such as manipulating materials, cooperative work, problem-solving, analytical reasoning and prediction.

Youth participants were taught pow-wow etiquette of the dances (i.e. Traditional dance, Grass dance, Boy's Fancy and Girl's Fancy Shawl, the Potato Dance, Two-step and Hoop Dance), song/music recognition of each dance and regalia making (i.e. shawl making, moccasin making and hoop making) with their parents. The duration of the dance classes were held at Haskell Indian Nations University's gazebo and the regalia making classes were held at Four Winds Native Center with a total of 12 youth and 14 adult participants with a final class presentation held on November 16, 2012 that concluded with a public Hoop Dance and a show case performance during Four Winds Native Center's "Celebrating the Youth" Pow-wow Celebration held at Haskell Indian Nations University.

Lawrence Cultural Arts Budget					
Expense Category	LCAC Grant Request	Requestor's Contribution	3rd Party Cash Match	3rd Party In-Kind Match	TOTAL
Personnel	\$0.00	\$2,640.00	\$3,900.00	\$0.00	\$6,540.00
Fees and Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Rental Fees	\$0.00	\$4,200.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$6,200.00
Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Marketing	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Operating Expenses	\$1,700	\$336.00	\$1,000.00	\$200.00	\$3,236.00
Capital Expenditures	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$1,700.00	\$7,376.00	\$6,900.00	\$200.00	\$16,176.00

The project was changed to accommodate the readiness of the youth participants. Since 7 of the 12 youth participants were new, public performances as proposed were reduced to one debut performance taking place on Friday, November 16th, 2012. This allowed for all youth participants to feel self-confident in their styles of dance and ability to perform as instructed by the Haskell Inter-tribal Cultural Club instructors. Travel monies were absorbed into the regalia making and Haskell's Pueblo Club's cultural "throw". A pueblo throw is a tossing of gifts; snacks and items children participants and attendees are gifted. A pueblo throw is a traditional offering of a 'giving of thanks'.

"Ensuring our future generations will have a strong community base, access to cultural learning and enriching opportunities."



Four Winds Native Center

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