



# GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS

**GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS PROGRAM NEWSLETTER**

**June 2023**

## GHC HONORS NATIVE PATHWAYS GRADUATES



**STARLA BOYER**



**JASAI PETERSON**

Congratulations go out to Starla Boyer and Jasai Peterson who received their Associate of Arts Degrees in the Native Pathways Degree Program. Recognition for dedication to their studies serves as an inspiration to all Native Pathways students who juggle work and family schedules while attending to their courses of study.

### NOTABLE DATES

**\*Summer and Fall Registration is currently underway**

**\*7/5 First day of summer quarter instruction**

**\*9/18 First day of fall quarter instruction**



### APPRECIATION EVENT FOR DR. BREWSTER



The GHC Foundation sponsored an appreciation event on June 14 for President Ed Brewster celebrating his retirement. Much credit is given to Dr. Brewster for his original approval of the Native Pathways Degree Program and his outstanding support and leadership in connection to the continued existence and success of the program.

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# GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS DEGREE PROGRAM

## YOUR COMMUNITY



**NATIVE PATHWAYS STUDENTS MAKE UP A COMMUNITY OF INTERACTIVE LEARNERS FROM OVER TEN TRIBAL NATION SITES AND SUBURBAN AREAS IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON.**

## YOUR COLLEGE



**GRAYS HARBOR COLLEGE IS THE HOME OF THE NATIVE PATHWAYS DEGREE PROGRAM.**



## YOUR FUTURE

**THE GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS DEGREE BRIDGES WITH THE UPPER DIVISION NATIVE PATHWAYS DEGREE PROGRAM AT THE EVERGREEN STATE COLLEGE THAT PROVIDES THE BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE FOR PROGRAM STUDENTS PROMOTING UPWARD MOBILITY AS WELL AS ENHANCED JOB OPPORTUNITIES.**



## GHC Native Pathways Degree

A full time course load for the quarter would include two online courses plus the Weekend session courses. 12 to 13 credits are considered a full time load.

Scheduling is flexible according to student personal and work schedules. A part time schedule of less than 12 credits is also an option, but may affect financial aid situations.

## Online Component

Online courses at GHC are delivered through a program referred to as CANVAS, a web-based online learning system that allows students to log in for access to their classrooms at any time during the day.

## GHC Native Pathways Service Area

The GHC Lower division Native Pathways AA program degree serves students from Nisqually, Quinault, Queets, Squaxin Island, Chehalis, Shoalwater Bay/Aberdeen, Tacoma, Suquamish, Puyallup and Makah. Students from other Native Nations or urban areas are also welcome to join the program.

Contact Gary Arthur,  
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## GHC PARTICIPATES IN TRIBAL STEWARDS RETREAT



### STUDENTS APPRECIATE THE NATIVE PATHWAYS DEGREE APPROACH

Student comments in connection with the course of study provided by the Native Pathways Degree, assists with assessment and support. The following quote by a Native Pathways student, Liz Prior, exemplifies this type of feedback.

*“The design of the Native Pathways program has always been attractive to me. The hybrid classes are extremely convenient for those of us that live out in rural areas. By rural I mean it takes me an hour to get to my local Grays Harbor College campus. I have taken classes on the GHC campus before and although it was not horrible, it was not the best option for me. All in all, I would spend about eight hours a week commuting to college and back. On the other hand, traveling to the Evergreen campus a few times during the quarter is much more enjoyable. Traveling to learn more about the culture I missed growing up, makes it worth the time on the road.”*



The State Board of Technical and Community Colleges sponsored the Tribal Stewards Retreat Summit hosted by the Squaxin Island Tribe on June 12th and 13th. GHC participants were President Carli Schiffner, Dean of Instruction Evi Buell, Forest Resources Management Coordinator Todd Bates, and Native Pathways Degree Coordinator Gary Arthur. A collection of administration and faculty from Spokane Community College was present as well as a strong contingent of tribal leaders. Lynn Palmenteer-Holder, Director of Tribal Government Affairs for the SBCTC organized and administrated the event with the assistance of Maya Esquivido, Graduate intern for Tribal Government Affairs.

Some underlying themes addressed climate solutions, Traditional Ecological Knowledge, Tribal Sovereignty, Government to Government relationships, and Indigenous adjustments to curriculum.

A proposed Tribal Stewards Program would be instrumental in development of curriculum that addresses tribal knowledge systems inclusive of cultural connections that engage tribal knowledge in traditional approaches to areas such as technology and environment.

During the conference, the GHC group discussed possible ways to connect natural resources, such as Forestry, to the existing Native Pathways Degree inspired by the presentations about Indigenous climate solutions.

A quote that resonates from the conference is “Honor all life. Connect all things.”

## NATIVE NEWS

### U.S. SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS ADOPTION LAW

The Supreme Court on Thursday upheld a 1978 law aimed at keeping Native American adoptees with their tribes and traditions, handing a victory to tribes that had argued that a blow to the law would upend the basic principles that have allowed them to govern themselves for years.

### NCAI CONVENTION AND MARKET PLACE

Tribal Nations gathered on June 4 to 8 in Prior Lake, Minnesota for the Mid Year Convention and Marketplace. Agenda items that were featured addressed environmental sustainability and climate resilience. Important conversations were held between Tribal Nations, Native Organizations, federal agencies and the administration.

### QUINALT NATION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

The Quinault Indian Nation is embarking on a planning process to prepare for impacts from natural disasters. Responding to federal mandates in the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390), the Quinault Indian Nation will update its 2017 Hazard Mitigation Plan to enhance resilience throughout the Reservation and Tribal Planning Area. This planning process is being led by Faith Webster, Project Manager for the Quinault Indian Nation, with support from Beverly O'Dea of Bridgeview Consulting, LLC, the hired technical consultant. This project is funded by a planning grant from FEMA. The planning process will take approximately seven to nine months to complete

### SHOALWATER BAY WINS CULVERT REPLACEMENT AWARD

Shane Thomas attended the Northwest Region BIA Transportation Symposium last month at the Northern Quest Casino. While attending this symposium, Shane and the Shoalwater Bay Tribe was honored with an award from the BIA on the Ranch Road culvert Project that was completed mid-September 2022. The award was for outstanding planning and completion of the Ranch Road Culvert in a record time of 6 weeks and under budget.

### CHEHALIS TRIBE SPONSORS FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

The Chehalis Tribe Youth Prevention Program sponsored family engagement activities on June 2nd and June 30th. The festivities featured outside yard games that were open to the Chehalis Tribal Community youth and their families.

### NATIVE CASE STUDIES SUPPORT PATHWAYS CURRICULUM

While over 30 credits of the 90 credit Native Pathways AA Degree have direct cultural relevance in course content, using Native Case studies in the core course curriculum further supports this dynamic. Educating all students in the area of Native culture also aids in closing equity gaps strengthening areas of diversity and inclusion.

There are over 100 case studies located on The Evergreen State College website (below) that address a wide range of topics and areas of study.

<https://nativecases.evergreen.edu/>



## Contact Us

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**THE GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS DEGREE PROGRAM HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE SINCE 2005. THE PROGRAM IS UNIQUE WITH ITS CULTURALLY RELEVANT CURRICULUM. ADMINISTRATION AND FACULTY ARE COMMITTED TO STUDENT SUPPORT AND SUCCESS.**

