

INSPIRING THE NATIVE TRADITION OF GIVING

# POTLATCH FUND



- April 30, 2015 -

## Potlatch Fund Accepts Generation Indigenous Challenge



*A call to action from Swinomish Chairman and President of the National Congress on American Indians Brian Cladoosby.*

Potlatch Fund's Executive Director Dana Arviso traveled to Washington, DC on April 8th for the White House Convening on Creating Opportunity for Native Youth, an event co-hosted by the Center for Native American Youth. White House administration cabinet members convened with Native foundations and nonprofits, Tribal leaders, Native youth, and foundation leaders from across the nation to kick off the White House's Generation Indigenous initiative. Among the highlights of the day was a powerful speech by First Lady Michelle Obama, which referenced the historical legacy of discriminatory federal policies that have led to many of the contemporary challenges that our Native youth face. The day also included panels featuring perspectives from Native researchers, Native youth, foundation executives, and Obama administration officials. The day ended with an inspirational call to all attendees to invest deeply and for the long term in Native youth in Tribal communities and urban areas to ensure their future opportunities.



*CIRI Foundation CEO Susan Anderson posing a question to Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of*

Potlatch Fund has signed on to the Generation Indigenous Native Youth Challenge and encourages all of our past and current grantees serving Native youth to also accept the challenge. The Gen-I Challenge inspires Native youth to act as future leaders by doing something positive to help build community. Native youth who sign up for the Gen-I Challenge will be eligible to attend the 2015 White House Tribal Youth Gathering in Washington, DC this summer. Visit the Center for Native American Youth's website to accept the challenge and sign up to receive a toolkit to get started on documenting and sharing your community building efforts.

As a Native foundation serving Pacific Northwest Native and Tribal communities since 2002, Potlatch Fund continues to invest in the future of our communities by funding programs for Native youth through our InterTribal Canoe Journey, Community Building,

Education and Megan Smith, U.S.  
Chief Technology Officer.

Native Arts, Language Preservation, and Native Student Success grant programs. We raise our hands to everyone involved in working with our youth.

Full text of FLOTUS Michelle Obama's [remarks](#), and [more information](#), including how to sign up for the Gen-I Native Youth Challenge.



*Damara Jacobs-Morris,  
Squamish, Development and  
Communications Manager.*

*Philanthropy as translated from its  
Greek origin and history means,  
“love of humanity.” The  
significance of this word is deeply  
rooted within Damara’s worldview.  
She truly believes that through  
philanthropy and education we  
can achieve positive and  
meaningful social change.*

## **Development and Communications Manager Increased Staff Capacity at Potlatch Fund (2 of 2)**

Damara Jacobs-Morris carries the Ancestral names Cha7awtenaat iy Siyamiya. She is proud of her Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and African American ancestry. She was born and raised in the villages of Xwemelch’stn and Esla7han (Capilano and Mission Indian Reserves) located in Vancouver, British Columbia. Damara grew up surrounded by educators and artists, an aspect of her identity that lead her to choose a career in creative fields.

She received a B.A. in Communications from Simon Fraser University and a M.A. with honors in Art and Visual Culture Education from the University of Arizona. Her academic background reflects her two passions: people and art.

Damara has worked extensively within her own community and with cultural and non-profit organizations in the United States and Canada. She has occupied several roles throughout her professional life; she has been a curator, designer, educator, and facilitator. She successfully ran a small business offering public relations and project management services to Tribal governments, schools, museums, community centers and Native entrepreneurs.

Damara is passionate and dedicated to community-building programming, cross-cultural dialogue and civic engagement. She is honored to be a part of the Potlatch Fund and looks forward to contributing to the exceptional work being done within Native communities.

## **2015 Leadership Honoring Awards**

### **Nominations for These Prestigious Awards NOW OPEN**

The Potlatch Fund Annual Gala is Northwest Signature Event, which raises the profile of the Native community and highlights the innovative work being undertaken by Tribes and Native nonprofits.

Since 2006, Potlatch Fund has honored Northwest Native leaders



*Emmett Sampson Oliver,  
Quinault, 2014 Leadership  
Honoring Awardee.*

[View the 2014 Leadership  
Honoring Award Video.](#)

## **I PLAN TO GIVEBIG!**



*Mark your calendars for  
this opportunity to support  
Potlatch Fund.*

making a difference in the areas of: Economic and Community Development, Civic Participation, Natural Resource Protection, Education Award, and Cultural Preservation.

Nominations are reviewed annually and awardees are introduced during our annual Fundraising Gala, which for 2015 will be held on Saturday, November 5, at the Tulalip Resort Casino.

To access the 2015 Nomination Form [click here](#).

To view the 2014 Leadership Honoring Awardees [click here](#).

To view a list of all Leadership Honoring Awardees [click here](#).

Nominations must be received by COB Friday, May 8, 2015. Only complete nomination packets will be accepted.

## **GiveBIG**

### **Plan to GiveBIG on Tuesday, May 5**

On May 5 Potlatch Fund will participate in The Seattle Foundation's GiveBIG online charitable giving event to inspire people to give generously to nonprofit organizations –like Potlatch Fund– that make our region a stronger, more vibrant community for all.

Every dollar you give on May 5 will go further because of GiveBIG's incentive pool. If, for example, Potlatch Fund raises 5% of the combined total on May 5, we will receive 5% of the pool.

Presented by The Seattle Foundation GiveBIG will take place on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 from midnight to 11:59PM. During that time, please visit The Seattle Foundation, donate to Potlatch Fund, and encourage others to do the same.



*Don't miss out on these  
opportunities to reconnect!*

## **Native Professionals and Friends Night**

### **Spokane and Seattle Events: RSVP Today!**

Potlatch Fund recognizes the importance of bringing people together to share our stories and experiences. Our intent is to generate deeper connections and conversations among Native professionals and our extended community.

All are welcome (this event is 21+) to attend and build

relationships with the Native communities of Spokane and Seattle.



*The Spokane River, only steps away from our Spokane office!*

\$25.00 suggested donation will benefit Potlatch Fund and support the work we undertake in Northwest Indian Country.

#### **SPRING 2015**

Co-hosted by Empire Health Foundation

Friday, May 15 from 5:00PM to 6:30PM

Philanthropy Center

1020 W. Riverside Avenue; Spokane, WA 99201

[Click here](#) to RSVP for this event.

#### **SUMMER 2015**

Co-hosted by Sealaska Corporation

Thursday, June 18 from 6:00PM to 7:30PM

Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture

17 Ave NE and NE 45th Street, Seattle, WA 98105

[Click here](#) to RSVP for this event.

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