



INSPIRING THE NATIVE TRADITION OF GIVING

POTLATCH FUND



November 23, 2011



Thank you for your support and generosity!

2011 Annual Potlatch Fund Gala

Among Northwest Coastal tribes, a potlatch is a coming together, in ceremony, celebration, and giving. Potlatches have always embodied the best of what Native culture personify, and strengthen community ties, with food, song, and above all else, sharing.



Shanoa Pinkham, Miss Yakama Nation/Miss Indian Nations.

To honor these traditional values, Potlatch Fund was formed in 2002. Potlatch Fund is a community foundation and leadership development organization, dedicated to inspiring the Native tradition of giving, and expanding philanthropy within Tribal Nations and Native communities in the Northwest.



Attendees enjoy the reception.

As a way of honoring the spirit of the potlatch, the annual Potlatch Gala brings together leaders from Tribal and grassroots organizations, foundations, corporations, and individual community members. In 2010, for the first time in its history, the Potlatch Gala broke the \$100,000 donation mark. This year, over 400 people joined the annual event, including representation from over twenty-five different Northwest Tribes, and collectively, over \$170,000 was raised. This was Potlatch Fund's most successful event to date by far, and sold out six weeks before the night of the event.



Potlatch Fund President Kirby Jock stated, "The gifts given on the night of this year's Gala were collected on a blanket. The blanket represents our connections. Each of us alone is like a thread, and small in our strength and capability, but when woven together according to a common vision and a common purpose, we become the power of many. This success of year's Gala is a testament to the growing spirit of the Potlatch, and the growing number of people standing together to honor the wisdom, sacrifices, and dreams of the Native peoples in the Northwest".



Swinomish Indian Tribal Community provided the opening cultural performance.



Charlotte Coté and Gene Tagaban share a laugh as co MC's for the event.



Dana Arviso, Executive Director, is officially introduced.



[Leadership Honoring Video by Longhouse Media.](#)



Funds raised at Potlatch Fund events are used to support the organizations operations and grant programs, currently in the areas of Community Building, Native Arts, Intertribal Canoe Journeys, and a Cedar Tree Fund.

Potlatch Fund also annually recognizes outstanding leadership in the Northwest's Native communities at its annual event. This year, Leadership Honoring Awards were presented to: Bruce Thomas (Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde) for economic development, Washington State Representative John McCoy (Tulalip Tribes) for civic participation, Jamie Valadez (Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe) for education, Eric J. Quaempts (Yakama Indian Nation) for natural resource protection, and Tribal Chairman Leonard Forsman (Suquamish Tribe) for cultural preservation. Potlatch Fund also recognized the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe, First Nations Development Institute, Marguerite Casey Foundation, and Patricia Baillargeon as Philanthropists of the Year.

In furthering Potlatch Fund's long-standing commitment to support Native and Tribally owned businesses and to "buy Native", next year's 10th Anniversary Gala will be held on Saturday November 3rd, 2012 at the Tulalip Casino and Resort, an enterprise of the Tulalip Tribes, which features conference facilities, hotel accommodations, a spa, and award-winning restaurants. It is Potlatch Fund's vision in coming years to alternate the annual Gala between all tribally owned casino resorts in the Northwest that can host large receptions and dinner events. Next years Gala is slated to seat 500 guests.


For links to photos from the 2011 Gala, and the 2011 Leadership Honoring video, please visit the [Potlatch Fund Gala web page.](#)

Special Thanks to our 2011 Gala Volunteers

Urban American Indian Alaskan Native Education Alliance - We are a group of educators, parents, students, and all generations of our American Indian, Alaskan Native and First Nations people through proactive collaboration in support of educational excellence and traditional and cultural knowledge. We strive to empower our students for success and for a working partnership with school districts in the greater Seattle area.

Red Eagle Soaring - Red Eagle Soaring Native Youth Theatre (RES) exists "to empower American Indian and Alaska Native youth to express themselves with confidence and clarity through traditional and contemporary performing arts." RES offers Seattle urban Native youth ages 11-19 contemporary theatre integrated with the traditional performing arts that define our Native culture – drumming, singing, and storytelling.

Individuals - Audrey, Becca, Bridget Ray, Cindy Pederson, Fern Renville, James


*Michael E. Roberts accepts
The Philanthropists of the
Year Award on behalf of First
Nations Development Institute.*

Neale, Mary Kummer, Melissa Bob, Sarah Kelly, Shanoa Pinkham,
Travis, Tricia Depoe and Yvette Pinkham.

SAVE THE DATE - Saturday, November 3, 2012

The Tenth Annual Potlatch Fund Gala
Tulalip Resort and Casino

2011 Gala Supporters

THUNDERBIRD

- * Marguerite Casey Foundation
- * Snoqualmie Tribe
- * Tulalip Tribes

EAGLE

- * Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- * Longhouse Media
- * Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
- * Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
- * Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

RAVEN

- * Bank of America
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HUMMINGBIRD

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COMMUNITY PARTNER

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- * NativeNorthwest.com
- * Pride Foundation
- * RIDOLFI Inc.
- * sister sky
- * Social Justice Fund Northwest
- * SparrowHawk Consulting Company, Inc.

TABLE HOSTS

- * Antioch University Seattle
- * Bryan, Board Member, and Christine Mercier
- * Chief Seattle Club

- * Dana Arviso
- * FNX - Indigenous Media
- * Heather Miller
- * Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
- * John Chess, Board Member
- * Kimberly Craven
- * Kirby Jock, President & Heather Johnson-Jock, Board Member
- * Makah Nation
- * Nez Perce Tribe
- * Northwest Indian College
- * Pah-tu Pitt
- * Snoqualmie Canoe Family
- * Stephanie Coté and Darwyn Fishinghawk
- * The Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture
- * The Leake Family
- * The Russell Family Foundation
- * The Suquamish Tribe
- * UW - Intellectual House
- * UW - NALSA
- * University of Washington

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Potlatch Fund
801 Second Avenue
Suite 304
Seattle, Washington 98104
US

