



**For Immediate Release**

For further information, contact:  
Ariel Kazunas  
Media & Outreach Coordinator  
Sitka Center for Art and Ecology  
arielkazunas@sitkacenter.org  
(541) 994.5485  
PO Box 65  
Otis Oregon 97368

**Sitka Center Fulfills “Happy Bottom Quest”  
with Help from Siletz Tribe**

**Otis, OR – December 9, 2010** – “Hey! These chairs hurt!” During its 2010 workshop season, the Sitka Center for Art and Ecology staff decided the chairs needed a change. The Workshop Program, which runs May through September, gives participants of all levels the transformative and joyful experience of making art. It’s offered as part of the nonprofit organization’s overall mission to support people who enjoy making art and discovering their connections to nature.

But to enjoy making art for 6 hours a day, participants need to be comfortable – a sensation not necessarily encouraged by Sitka’s aging fleet of metal folding chairs.

So Sitka launched a donation drive and dubbed it the “Happy Bottom Quest.” The task was daunting: raise \$2,244 for 28 chairs, but it needed to be done. Posterior comfort was at stake. Butts needed benefits. Rears needed Relief. Aging assets needed assistance. Sitka was on a mission.

Individual donors stepped up and, chair by chair, Sitka inched closer to its goal. As the summer wound to an end, however, the Happy Bottom Quest had raised a mere \$640 – or enough money for 8 lonely chairs. The turning point came in November when the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund donated \$1,600 for the purchase of the remaining 20 chairs. In that moment, the dreams of the 998 people who sit in Sitka’s workshops each summer came true.

“New chairs have been long requested by our guests,” said Eric Vines, Executive Director at the Sitka Center, “Having a happy place to sit makes all the difference when learning a new skill.” Sitka is extremely grateful for the generosity of the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund, and knows it will feel the rewards – literally – for years to come.

The Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution fund was created to support the Tribe's local community, particularly groups that promote education, health, public safety, gambling addiction, prevention, drug and alcohol treatment, housing, the arts, the environment and natural resource preservation, cultural activities, historic preservation, and other charitable purposes.

Committed to expanding the relationships between art, nature and humanity, the Sitka Center for Art and Ecology is renowned for its workshop and residency programs. Exploration of the coastal environment has remained a key component to The Center's vitality. Located on Cascade Head, with views of the Pacific Ocean, Sitka offers a place where artists come to inspire, create, and ultimately transform themselves. Go to [www.sitkacenter.org](http://www.sitkacenter.org) or call 541.994.5485 to learn more.

###