

For Immediate Release:

Contact: Ariel Kazunas
Media & Outreach Coordinator
The Sitka Center for Art & Ecology
PO Box 65, Otis OR 97368
arielkazunas@sitkacenter.org
541.994.5485



Sitka Center Hosts Siletz Tribe for Traditional Crafts & Art Workshop

Otis, OR - This weekend, eight youths from the Siletz tribe spent two days at the Sitka Center for Art and Ecology participating in the Siletz tribe's Traditional Crafts and Art Workshop. For three years, the Sitka Center has donated the use of its facilities so these young tribal members can work with and learn from Native artists and craftspeople in the areas of Siletz weaving, ceramics and traditional bone carving.

Traditional Siletz crafts and arts have historically been practiced and handed down from generation to generation in a very intimate manner. The Traditional Crafts and Art Workshop approached art and craft, therefore, as a traditional mental, emotional, physical and spiritual health practice, with Siletz members sharing tribal history, traditions, personal and family history, and storytelling with the participants. The lessons involved were meant to set in place a practice for being in harmony with nature and having healthy relationships with self, family and community.

The mission of the Sitka Center is to expand the relationships between art, nature, and humanity and the nonprofit organization feels that supporting the Siletz tribe's Traditional Crafts and Art Workshop, in conjunction with a SAMHSA grant administered to tribes and counties by the state of Oregon, helps promote their belief in the power of creativity, inquiry and connection.

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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 or call 541.994.5485 to learn more.