



UNIVERSITY
nuhelot'ine thaiyots'i nistameyimākanak
BLUE QUILLS

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Check for the latest information
Or download the application form

Indigenous Artists Program

HONOUR YOUR TALENT



INDIGENOUS ARTIST'S PROGRAM

THE INDIGENOUS ARTISTS PROGRAM *iyiniw acâhkowaskowikowew*

A Creative Approach to Building Strength in Our Communities

The Indigenous Artists Program at Blue Quills is an invitation to pursue your learning and talent through the context of Indigenous knowledge and practice. It is about the artists, about human beings deeply engaging in all dimensions, spiritual, emotional, mental, physical, about developing a sense of wholeness of being and purpose, and with that awareness, exploring opportunities to create works that will tell the story of our people. We are of the land, we have responsibilities gifted to us by the Creator, we learn from our ancestors and through ceremony. Our languages carry our knowledge, and our artists tell our stories. Our world is about our relations, our ancestry. This program invites Indigenous Artists to carry the voice and vision of their ancestors of this land.

The primary responsibility of the artists is to see, to learn how to see through the lens of our culture, to think and to share. Through ceremony we learn who we are, what our responsibilities are as individuals and as a people. Through ceremony we learn our languages and knowledge which define our world, we learn how to communicate with all our relations, we learn how to interpret our experiences, we learn how to see the world, then share what we see, to help others see.

Art is about reflecting meaning. In it's highest form of expression, it is magic.
(Cajete, 1994)

Admission Requirements:

1. **Vision, Passion, Determination**
2. **Application & Fees**
3. **Language Assessment**
4. **Artist's Statement (intent/philosophy of art)**
5. **Portfolio of Art Work**
6. **2 Reference Letters (character/professional)**
7. **Interview with Coordinator**

*Check the Website for details on
The Art Camp– September 19—23, 2011*



*Release your inner artist!
Help us create our world,
vision our future, tell our
stories, build our economics.
Let's make a space in this
contemporary world for our
ancestral knowledge and
aesthetic.*

The Curriculum Framework:

The curriculum framework is grounded in Natural Law, Spiritual Practice, Ceremony, Values & Ethics, and a belief that learning is life-long, wholistic, interdependent, process oriented, and experiential. The program will be modelled on natural Indigenous methods of transferring knowledge through ceremony, dialogue, and creative practice, using self-directed and interdependent learning methods, including reflection, discovery, and mentoring.

Core faculty will act as facilitators for participants on their own self-defined individual and collective journeys, as they are invited to explore and find strength in the knowledge of:

Diploma/Degree– Core Competencies:

- Indigenous Languages & Syllabics
- Indigenous Identity & Knowledge
- Treaties & Governance
- The Artist and The Art
- Written and Spoken English (Creative/Business applications)
- Business Concepts (Management/Marketing/Proposal Writing)
- Marketing– Independent and Gallery approaches
- Indigenous & Western Art Histories
- Computers– Business & Art Applications

Diploma (60 credits)- Traditional Art Forms:

- Drawing
- Beading
- Painting
- Clay Works
- Stone/Wood/Antler Carving
- Quill/Fish Scale Work
- Hide Preparation & Tanning
- Shelter, Tools & Clothing
- Oral & Written Storytelling
- Theatre
- Music
- Dance
- Collaborative Projects

Degree (120 credits)– Technologies & New Mediums

Senior Students will continue to work in Traditional Art Forms, as well as exploring;

- Photography
- Digital/Computerized Art
- Film & Video
- Composition, Design, Perspective, Color
- Mixed/Multi Media, Graphic Design
- Indigenous languages, knowledges, philosophies, and practices
- Socio-Political-Economic Contexts

Each Classroom based course is 3 credits:39-42 hours per term.

Each Studio based course is 3 credits for a minimum of 70 hours per term.

The Process:

Each week will begin and end with formal ceremony, creating a space for reflective practice, dialogue, and individual and collective creative activity. Students will be responsible for participating a minimum of 25 hours per week on campus during regular hours (9am-4pm) including opening and closing ceremonies, and are invited to invest additional campus hours as arranged with the Program Coordinator. Elders and established artists will regularly be invited to participate in the program, to share their knowledge and experience. Students will be required to create and present a continuous portfolio demonstrating growth in their work, their learning, and their personal journey based on the curriculum framework and their learning goals.