

University of Alaska, Fairbanks
Kuskokwim Campus
Bethel, Alaska

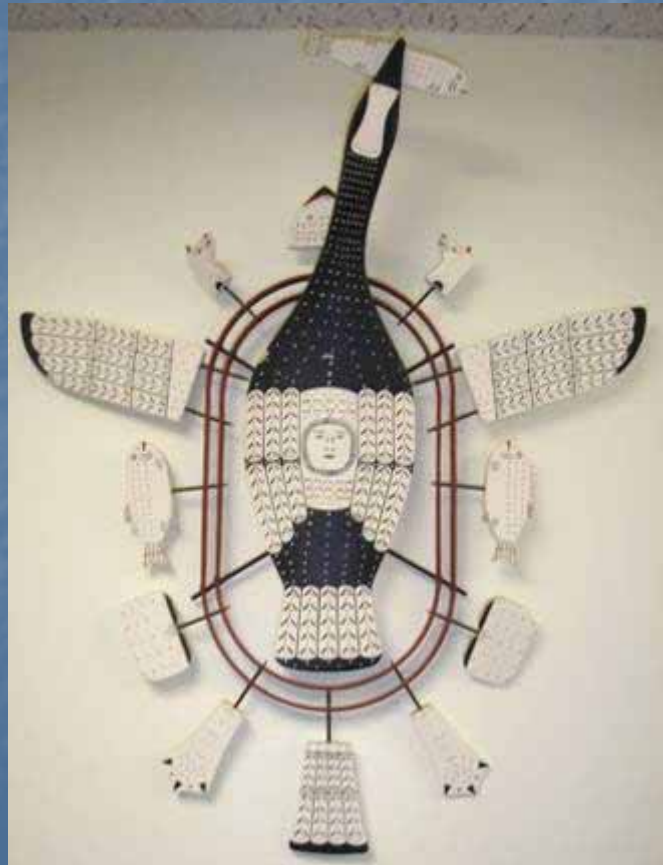


Yupiit Piciryarait Cultural Center
Strong Cultures Build
Strong Futures

Kuskokwim River at dawn



Strong Cultures Build Strong Futures



Goal One:

- To preserve and promote at least nine Yup'ik cultural activities: 1) Native foods; 2) Native medicines and herbs; 3) storytelling; 4) traditional and nontraditional arts; 5) games; 6) traditional and nontraditional crafts; 7) dance; 8) toys; and 9) tools, also to propagate them into micro businesses via training and mentoring; preserved digitally.

Tools – Bobby Johnson

- First class: Students made a crooked knife (melgar) and ulu (uluqaq).
- Second class: Students used tools they made to make wooden spoons (ipuun).



Grass Collecting – Elizabeth Smith

- First Class: Students collected, dried, and braided sea grass for baskets.
- Second Class: Students used grass they collected to weave a split grass piece.



Skin Sewing - Elizabeth Smith

- Liz Smith is from Kipnuk, and taught two styles of beaver hats, (malaggaiyaq).
- One is all beaver outside with cloth lining. The other is beaver front, ear flaps, and back, with cloth covering inside and out.



For really cold and just normal

- All beaver malaggaiyaq



- Beaver and cloth hat



Qaspeq – Lucy Kuhns

- This is the traditional style 'qaspeq' worn by both men and women. The first "hoodie" with pockets.
- Several students now make qaspeqs as gifts and for sale at Saturday Markets.



Skin Sewing – Lucy Kuhns

- Georgiana Waska pieces together her 'malaggaiyaq', beaver hat.
- Each student learned the traditional 'up river' style of beaver hat making, and took home a finished one.



Goal Two

- To succor 50 established and starting entrepreneurs with technological and business training utilizing intensives, workshops and mentors, using the YPCC as an incubator facility for economic growth.

Planning Your Own Business

Workshops included:

- Business plan development
- Excel spreadsheet
- Local bankers panel
- B & B presentation
- Alaska host certificate
- Meeting mentor
- Completed Bus. Plans received State Bus. License.



Small Business Follow-up

Participants' from past workshops invited to attend a three day follow-up training.

Alaska Host training,
Native arts marketing,
Excel spreadsheet,
Tips on taxes,
Finding a mentor,
Banking panel
Web design and
blogging



Saturday Markets

Open to small businesses
as a venue to advance
exposure, sales and
networking with clients.



Weekly during the
summer, monthly
during the winter.

Summer Youth Art Camp

Building strong communities with positive activities for the Youth, ages 7 – 12.

Focus areas:
Community mural and paper mache' creatures



Summer Youth Art Camp



Making beach ball creatures. Community pot luck during show and tell time with parents and friends.

Bethel Dog Show

Building strong communities with pet bonding and bragging rights. Dogs are a way of life here, from spoiled peak-a-poodles to hard working husky dog sled teams. Cat lovers are lobbying for a Cat Show too.



Goal Three

- Utilizing Village Training Centers and workshops, assist 50 entrepreneurs to become proficient in e-commerce, allowing them access to global markets.

Web Design & Blogger Class

- Chris Ho, Web Design Instructor
- "We had fun at our business workshop with our instructor, Chris. We are hopeful future small business owners." student Marjorie said.
- Check out our blog, Bizzis.blogspot.com



Addresses

- Alaskanthings.bloggers.com
- Kaganakshuntingsupply.blogspot.com
- ypcc.blogspot.com
- Buyalaska.com (Bethel Saturday markets)

Villages sites visited

- Bethel
- Emmonak
- Toksook Bay
- Chevak
- Kongiganak
- Mountain Village
- Scammon Bay



YPCC Web Page
Under construction

http://www.bethel.uaf.edu/index_files/Page1682.html

Yupiit Piciryarait Cultural Center at Sunset

