Hello CIBA Members,
First and foremost it has been a wonderful year serving my California Indian people and Indigenous people across the U.S. With the power of my basket, I have been able to unlock many dreams for many Indian people. It is important to me that I bring in good things for the tribes so that the youth and elders have a steady support foundation. I strongly feel that in order for my CA Indian people to heal and reclaim our traditional land, we need more program funding, tribal inclusion and healthy leadership.

During their time, they assessed and gathered sedge roots at various land bases in the California Delta in cooperation with the Lower Molkumne Water Shed Managers. As the gatherers kneeled in the dirt and touched the sedge beds that have been neglected because of inaccessibility, there was a familiarity and recognition of the importance of the long-standing relationship between basketweavers and the plant. The two cried at witnessing the abundance and over-grown beds. And as Fred said, “The plants are saying- Thank you for touching me.”

It was a reminder that the California Native community, through organizations like the California Indian Basketweavers Association, find ways to take care of one another, take care of the plants that occupy our homelands, and continually strive to be good stewards of the California landscape because we desperately need one another.

We would like to thank the water shed managers and the City of Lodi for their collaboration. We look forward to sharing more with the community in the future.

Fred Briones, Pomo
Ayukii (Hello)

My name is Alice Lincoln-Cook, I am a proud Karuk tribal member. I have been honored to serve on the CIBA’s Board of Directors during the last 4 years. As Chairwomen, I plan to continue to be the voice for our elders, basketweavers and youth ambassadors to promote our cultural ways.

I’m grateful for our dedicated, diverse and culturally strong board members. We have been working remotely, to find ways to support CIBA’s vision during this unfortunate pandemic we are facing. Our hearts are breaking seeing the effects the pandemic has brought to our people in Indian countries everywhere. Please know that our Board is thinking of you and your families.

This year we have been faced with multiple staffing changes, which has been difficult, but we are working through and doing our best for continued success for our organization. We are all looking forward to the new year, with open minds and healing hearts to continue business for CIBA. We appreciate all support members have given to our Board of Directors.

Please feel free to contact any Board member or myself with any questions or concerns you may have.

Yoot’va (thank you),
Alice Lincoln-Cook
Karuk Tribal Member
Chairwomen-CIBA
New Vice Chairperson Clint Mckay

Clint, who is Wappo, Pomo, and Wintun, is an enrolled member of the Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians and a descendant of well-known Pomo basketweavers and culture bearers, including Laura Fish Somersal and Mabel McKay. Clint formally served as Chair of CIBA for many years and looks forward to again serving a statewide community of weavers.

New Project Assistant Thea Traina

Hi! My name is Thea Traina, Project Assistant for CIBA. I have worked in the accounting field for 10+ years in various roles such as AP/AR, Payroll, General Ledger, Account Management and Operational Finance. In addition, I have extensive customer service experience, and have worked with many non profits coordinating volunteer events. I love volunteering my time, whether it be at the local community garden, food bank, senior care, etc. It’s a wonderful feeling to give your time to help others and I hope to inspire my 2 daughters to continue in my path.

New Project Manager Donald Salcedo

Hello Everyone,
My Name is Donald Salcedo, I am from the Quechan Nation in Fort Yuma California. I grew up in La Mirada, California which is located in South-East Los Angeles. I am a recent graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles, where I obtained my undergraduate degree in American Indian Studies with a minor in Public Policy. I have worked in Indian Country for the past 10 years Urban and Reservation before attending UCLA. If I have any flaws it might be that I am a die-hard Dodger fan. It is an honor for me and my family to serve the California Indian Basketweavers’ Association as your new Project Manager.
Keeping Safe While Keeping Our Traditions Alive

Lena Hurd
Yurok Tribal Member

Lena has been weaving for over 20 years. She is a master Basketweaver, teacher, mentor, and a valued member in her community.
Denise Dv-Nis McKenzie
Towola, Yurok, and Chetco

Denise Dv-Nis McKenzie is Towola, Yurok, and Chetco. She has been weaving for over 10 years. Whether she is weaving, crocheting hats or beading her work is exquisite. With all of her pieces, she adds traditional adornments, which highlights who she is.

Denise is a well-respected artist and basketmaker.

Shelbey Cook
Karuk

Shelbey Cook, a Karuk tribal member and up and coming traditional basket weaver and teacher. Shelbey has been a CIBA member for 8 years. She has been a teacher at CIBA’s annual gatherings, as well as several other gatherings in Oregon and California.

When Shelbey heard the news of her cousin expecting twins, she went to work on what she loves to weave.
Board Virtual Summaries

Catch us on Facebook live!

Check out our past, present, and future events!

Beargrass Braiding with Alice Lincos-Cook
September 1, 2020 6pm-7pm PST
Facebook Live
http://facebook.com/californiaindianbasketweavers

Join Alice Lincos-Cook for a very special event where she will teach beargrass braiding. Beargrass is used by many different tribes in various California as dance, ceremony, and even for medicinal purpose. As an artist, Alice will share her stories of beargrass braiding and show her art pieces. She will also give away some beautiful beargrass basket for your next project.

We’re going outdoors with a Pomo Basket
October 1, 2020 5pm-6pm PST
Facebook Live
http://facebook.com/californiaindianbasketweavers

CIDE Board Member, Paul Boyes will take us on an adventure, sharing with us a view of the landscape through a basketmaker’s eyes.

Join us on a short film as Paul takes us on a journey to gather basketry materials. Following this educational video, we will have a Q&A with Fred. Fred shares his weaving knowledge and stories with us.

Dogbane Cordage with Cristina Gonzales
October 22, 2020 6pm-7pm PST
Facebook Live
http://facebook.com/californiaindianbasketweavers

Cristina Gonzales is a Dogbane Cordage of the Yurok Nation. She will share her knowledge and artistry in the art of Dogbane Cordage.

Carrying the Generations: Pomo Baby Baskets w/ Mary Clark
January 12, 2021 6pm to 7pm PST
Facebook Live
http://facebook.com/californiaindianbasketweavers

Join us for a fun and informative evening with Mary Clark.

Mary will be taking us on her journey, through 20 years of weaving. Mary will share her passion for Baby Baskets and the techniques she was taught by her mother.

This is sure to be a night of fun and culture.

Pesticides with Indigenous Cultural Practitioner: Diania Caudell
January 27th, 2021 6pm to 7pm PST
Facebook Live
http://facebook.com/californiaindianbasketweavers

Please join us for informative and educational evening with Diania Caudell.

Diania will be sharing her work with pesticides and the effects on the Cultural Practice of Weaving.

This is sure to be an exciting night of information and culture.

Wukchumni Baskets with Jennifer Malone
September 15, 2020 6pm-7pm PST
Facebook Live
http://facebook.com/californiaindianbasketweavers

Jennifer Malone has over 25 years experience weaving, gathering, and teaching. Jennifer will be giving us an inside view of her baskets, describing the materials and techniques that go into creating such wonderful baskets. Jennifer has a story to tell, and with Jennifer sharing these stories with us, we are sure it will be a wonderful event.

Pomo Baskets Yesterday and Emerging With Clint McKay
November 12th, 2020 6pm to 8pm PST
Facebook Live
http://facebook.com/californiaindianbasketweavers

Clint McKay will reflect on his journey as a Pomo basket weaver. Through stories and personal experiences, Clint will reflect on the gifts, spiritual lessons, and weaving traditions that he learned from his Auntie, Mary Jo and Michael McKay. He will share some of his family’s stories and techniques and will demonstrate his weaving techniques.

Clint, Jenea’s younger brother, is an accomplished basket weaver from the Pomo Tribe of the Cache Creek Pomo Nation. He has been weaving for over 15 years and is a strong member of the CIBA Board for two years and is coming back so she can continue to help pass on her knowledge to others.
Shirley Claudeen Forga (1943-2020)

Shirley Claudeen Forga 77, passed away November 11, 2020, after a long courageous battle with cancer. Shirley was born March 7, 1943 in Mariposa to George and Ella Rhoan. Shirley worked for the Mariposa County school District, retired in 1999. Shirley was a member of Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation. Shirley participated in CIBA for many years attending annual events and teachings. She had baskets in the Autry gift shop, as well as traditional items in the gift shop at Yosemite Museum store. She was loved by many and honored for her traditional values and teachings. She will be missed in the native community and missed by family and friends. Thoughts and prayers to Shirley for a safe journey.

Marshall McKay (1952-2020)

There are many Indigenous leaders that are held in high regard by their communities, long after their earthly life is over. They are revered for their commitment and dedication to their people. They live their life in service to their community, always putting the needs of their people above their own. Wanting not for recognition or personal gain but striving for true and full sovereignty for their people.

Occasionally, a leader will impact communities far beyond their tribal boundaries. They put forth a sustained effort to improve the lives of not only their own community, but throughout Indian Country. Marshall McKay is one such leader.

Marshall’s mother, Auntie Mabel McKay, was a wonderful example to him for what it is to be a strong and consistent leader for your people. Marshall learned this lesson well and provided unwavering guidance to the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation. He was instrumental in bringing economic development and self-reliance to Yocha Dehe. His focus was all encompassing. Economic development was to be a tool to further advance his people’s cultural, economic, educational, and political sovereignty.

Marshall’s leadership was seen throughout Indian Country in many ways. He was vital in founding the California Tribal College. He dedicated his time to mentoring countless young leaders, sharing his wisdom to shape influential and strong generations of leaders for Indian Country. Marshall’s contributions to sovereign leadership were so revered that he was named Chairman Emeritus for the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation. Marshall was a passionate advocate for Indigenous culture and arts and was the first Native American to serve as president on the Board of Trustees for the Autry Museum of the American West. He was a founding board member of the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation where he leveraged his advocacy efforts to ensure Native artists and culture bearers were awarded financial scholarships to support their ongoing projects.

Throughout Marshall’s childhood, he was surrounded by the beauty and strength of Auntie Mabel’s basket weaving, so his appreciation and respect for basket weaving was lifelong. Through his leadership with the Yocha Dehe Wintun Community Fund, many CIBA gatherings and weavers were supported and encouraged. Marshall was delighted when the Autry Museum was chosen as a host site for one of CIBA’s annual gatherings.

Marshall McKay was born June 5, 1952 and began his journey to the spirit world on December 29, 2020. The void in Indian Country left by Marshall’s passing is monumental and his loss will be felt by all who knew him. We, the McKay Family, will miss Marshall dearly, but we know that his legacy will continue through all of those whom he mentored, inspired, and collaborated with throughout his lifetime.

Clint McKay
CIBA would like to gratefully acknowledge these organizations for the support that they have given that makes our programs possible.

- California Indian Basketweavers Association
- Northern California Indian Development Council
- San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
- Funders for Regenerative Agriculture
- NoVo Foundation
- Native Cultures Fund
- TIDES, A Force for Social Good
- NDN Collective
- The California Endowment
- First Nations Development Institute