



TulalipCares.org

## Tulalip Charitable Contributions Funds Distribution Report

**NAME OF AGENCY:** Southeast Effective Development  
**ADDRESS:** 5117 Rainier Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98118  
**CONTACT:** (206) 723-7333; <http://www.seedseattle.org>

**GENERAL GOALS:** SEED's mission is to improve the quality of life in Southeast Seattle by creating partnerships and inspiring investments in housing, arts and economic development - with a special focus on residents with fewer opportunities and resources.

### SPECIFIC USE FOR THIS AWARD:

These funds helped underwrite our 2015 Arts Gumbo programs, which celebrated diverse Native American cultures and traditions.

For more information please see the attached report from Southeast Effective Development.



## Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions Fund

### Final Report for SEEDArts' Project

#### Arts Gumbo 2015: Exploring Stories, Songs, Dances & Food of Native American Cultures

Code: Q2 2015 14.2. / SouthEast Effective Development: [www.seedseattle.org](http://www.seedseattle.org)

*SEEDArts is deeply grateful to the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contribution Fund for a generous grant in the amount of [REDACTED], which we received on Aug 20, 2015. These funds helped underwrite our 2015 Arts Gumbo programs, which celebrated diverse Native American cultures and traditions.*

SEEDArts presented two long weekends of Arts Gumbo programming that explored the arts, food and traditions of Native American Cultures. Events were held at the SEEDArts' owned facility, Rainier Arts Center (formerly the Rainier Valley Cultural Center) and at the Seattle Public Library, Columbia Branch, located about a half block from the Rainier Arts Center. The total number of individuals who attended Arts Gumbo 2015 events as audience members and workshop participants was 325. This included 275 adults and 50 youth and children. The combined total of artists who were engaged by this series totaled 30. Accordingly, some 355 individuals were impacted with the help of Tulalip Charitable Contributions.

#### **October 8 – 10' 2015**

During the first Arts Gumbo weekend, the art and cultural traditions of Coast Salish Canoe Tribes were celebrated. Events started with a discussion about the book ***Salish Myths and Legends: One People's Stories***, held on Thursday evening, Oct 8<sup>th</sup> at the Seattle Public Library, Columbia Branch. This discussion was led by Roger Fernandes, Lower Elwha S'Klallam. On Friday, Oct. 9, SEEDArts screened two films about the Coast Salish Canoe peoples: ***Princess Angeline and March Point***. Then on Saturday, Oct. 10, Native visual and crafts artists John Romero, Jessie Cook, Anna Haala and Willard Hilaire presented their work in the Rainier Arts Center's event room. Simultaneous to the visual arts display, Chef Bear Alexander served traditional soup and salmon with corn bread to guests. The evening concluded with a rousing performance by the ***7 Generation Youth Dancers*** performing in the facility auditorium. Their performance was followed by a participatory dance workshop for all ages.

#### **November 12 – 14, 2015**

During the second Arts Gumbo weekend, the art and traditions of the Plains Cultures were explored. On Thursday, Nov. 12, a discussion about the classic work of literature, ***Black Elk Speaks***, was held at the Seattle Public Library, Columbia Branch, led by Kathryn Arquette, Muckleshoot, Duwamish. On Friday, Nov. 13, Sherman Alexie's ***Smoke Signals*** was screened at the Rainier Arts Center. This was followed by Saturday's festivities, which kicked-off with a Native visual artists displaying relief style canoe paddles, beadwork and regalia, as well as mixed media paintings in the Rainier Art Center's event room. Chef Bear Alexander returned, to demonstrate preparation and provide fry bread and Indian tacos for all guests. Featured performers for the evening were the ***Spearfish Drum & Powwow Dancers***, who treated audiences to an exhibition showing of powwow drumming and songs, including powwow dancer regalia styles of Men's & Women's Traditional, Women's' Fancy Shawl, Men's Fancy Feather, Men's Chicken, Men's Grass, and Women's Jingle. Teen dancers in these regalia styles were also presented. The performance was followed by Q & A and social dances, with audience members participating to learn and perform intertribal and round dances. In addition, Native American hip hop artist Iris Has the Eagle performed some of her original and groundbreaking work. Randy Vendiola served as emcee for the evening's activities.

Our goal for Arts Gumbo 2015 was to build cultural understanding of Native American ways, which have historically been overlooked and systematically dismantled by mainstream American culture. While we had been hoping for even higher attendance numbers, we believe that these two long weekends provided vital opportunities for audience members who were not Native American to learn about the ways of this country's first peoples. For Native American audience members and artists, we were grateful to provide an opportunity for the extraordinary richness of their traditions to be showcased.