

OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE
AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

2021 TRIBAL YOUTH VIRTUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Strengthening Resilience, Promoting Healing, Restoring Culture



**SHAPING BRIGHTER FUTURES WITH
AMERICAN INDIAN, ALASKA NATIVE YOUTH
AND TRIBAL COMMUNITIES**

MARCH 29 - APRIL 2



2021 OJJDP Tribal Youth National Conference

Creativity & Innovation in the Face of COVID-19: Maskiizibii Oshki Gabeshiwin 2020 Virtual Youth Conference

Friday, April 2, 2021

8:45am AKT/ 9:45am PT/ 10:45am MT/ 11:45am CT/ 12:45pm ET

Session Facilitators:

**Lynn Bigboy and Wyatt Nelis, Bad River Band of Lake Superior
Chippewa Indians Tribal Youth Program**

**Jeri Brunoe and Daryl Jay, Jeri Brunoe Training & Consulting,
Tribal Law and Policy Institute**

Opening in a Good Way



Today's Facilitators

Lynn Bigboy, Director, Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians Tribal Youth Program

Wyatt Nelis, Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians Tribal Youth Program

Jeri Brunoe, JBTC & Tribal Law and Policy Institute

Daryl Jay, Project Manager JBTC - Project Virtual Tech Support



We Are Living Arts (WALA) Program

Mission Statement

We Are Living Arts (WALA) will create, heal and inspire Indigenous and Alaskan Native Youth through positive peer to peer mentoring, cultural integration, and an exploration of the arts.

WALA assists youth to become solution oriented, build resiliency, and embrace positive self-identity through various restorative practices through creative arts.



Strength-Based Components & Methods

Methods

- Peer to Peer Mentoring
- Culture
- Environment
- Interaction
- Arts



Components

- Leadership
- Cooperative Alliance
- Youth Voice

Arts & Artist Criteria

- Professional Artist
- Skilled To Work With Youth
- Healthy Lifestyle
- Be Collaborative
- Contemporary Artist
- Cultural Artist
- (Utilize Local Artist)
- Cultural Art, i.e. basket weaving, traditional songs, drum making, traditional dance, etc.
- Performing, Visual and Literary arts



Maskiizibii Oshki Gaveshiwin 2020 Virtual Youth Conference Highlight

One Day Pre-Training Peer to Peer Mentoring (High School age)
Learn: Mentoring (role model) Leadership, Facilitation & Communication

Four Day Youth Conference Format

1. Create a sense of “Belonging”
2. Cultural Openings & Closings
3. Interactive Activities
4. Cultural Stories
5. Mini-teachings
6. Artist Sessions



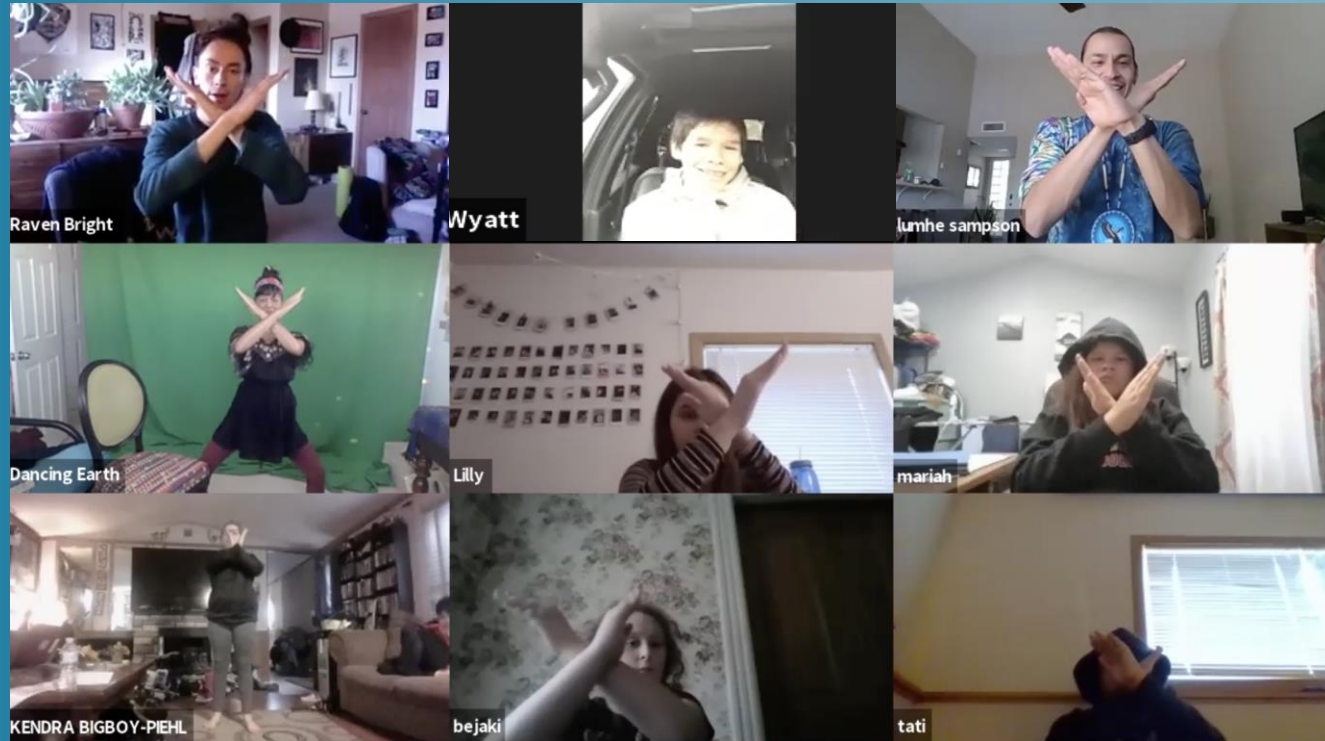
Maskiizibii Oshki Gaveshiwin 2020 Virtual Youth Conference Highlight

Youth Quotes

"I felt inspired!"

"I felt comfortable."

"Felt energized!"



"Learned something new!"



Maskiizibii Oshki Gaveshiwin 2020 Virtual Youth Conference Highlight



“Lots of positivity!”

“That was so cool!”



“Love that song!”

“We seen lots of beautiful art.”



Maskiizibii Oshki Gaveshiwin 2020 Virtual Youth Conference Highlight

"The conference was fun and I like dancing and learning from others"
– Kendra

"I liked doing the rap and being creative, and seeing the adults be funny" – Wyatt

"The artist was helpful and I liked all the art supplies, I want to do more." – Amayah



Maskiizibii Oshki Gaveshiwin 2020 Virtual Youth Conference Goals

Through the arts the youth built and enhanced skills, connections and the confidence to express themselves with the understanding of healing of historical trauma and living in alignment.



Maskiizibii Oshki Gaveshiwin 2020 Virtual Youth Conference Goals

Keeping the youth safe and ensuring the planning team was well aware of the obstacles that the youth were facing, which included:

- Transition to virtual setting
- Wifi Access
- Family / Community Concerns
- COVID-19



Maskiizibii Oshki Gaveshiwin 2020 Virtual Youth Conference Outcomes

- Talented youth
- Willing & Excited to learn
- Taking healthy risks
- Learn new skills
- Willing to be vulnerable
- Working as a team



Maskiizibii Oshki Gaveshiwin 2020 Virtual Youth Conference Sustainability

Following the conference the Bad River youth continued to meet virtually and now have regularly scheduled meetings. In addition, the excitement and sharing of the conference allowed the youth council to recruit new members. The Youth Council and Bad River Community have both expressed their hope for a 2021 Youth Conference.



Planning Your Virtual Youth Gathering

PRE PLAN

Step One: Identify Goal & Objectives

TASKS

Step Two:

a. Identify Resources



Planning Your Virtual Youth Gathering Contd.

(Tasks Cont.)

b. Collaborations & Partnerships

- JBTC
- Professional Artists
- Local School(s)
- Tribal Youth Council
- Middle School Youth



Planning Your Virtual Youth Gathering Contd.

Step Three:

- a. Identify Artist
- b. Recruitment
- c. Advertisement
- d. Social media outlets
- e. Poster: placement, emails, snail mail



Planning Your Virtual Youth Gathering Cont.

Step Four:

a. Virtual Agenda

- i. Time online
- ii. Virtual platform
- iii. Tech support
- iv. Virtual activities

b. Registration & Forms



Planning Your Virtual Youth Gathering Cont.

Step Five:

a. Supplies

i. Toolkits

a. Distribution plan

i. Prizes

Step Six:

a. Budget



Planning Your Virtual Youth Gathering Cont.

Implementation

Step Seven:

a. Virtual Youth Gathering

- i. Stay Connected: Contacts (group text and/or individually for team)
- ii. Take Attendance
- iii. Tech Support (see next section)

Step Eight:

a. Evaluation



Tech Support

- Zoom Platform
- Know your internet/Wifi Connections (hotspots)
- Devices for your youth
 - tablet, phone, laptop, working mic, headphones

Best Practices

- Practice before the event/ gathering
- Enable waiting room and request that all participants log in using their real name



Tech Support Cont.

- Treat the meeting as if it is in person (get ready, be on time, have materials needed, etc.)
- Log on early to check settings
- Anticipate & prepare for potential challenges
- Backgrounds
- Virtual Tools: Whiteboard, Chat, Wheel of Names, Kahoot.com, Menti.com, etc.
- Use music



Tech Support Cont.

- **Monitor**
 - Youth activity, i.e. mute/unmute sound, camera on/off etc.
 - Highlight speaker view
 - PowerPoints, videos, etc.
 - If participants lose connection, allow them to sign back in
 - Have agenda on hand



Overview

- **Culturally relevant**
 - Creating a virtual safe space
 - Identity
- **Prevention through the arts**
 - Healthy interaction, i.e. exploration, self-expression
 - Engaged in a meaningful and challenging activity
- **Health and Wellness**
 - Prevention, intervention skill building
 - Self-esteem
- **Sustainable**



Discussion

Questions & Answers



THE TRIBAL YOUTH RESOURCE CENTER

www.TribalYouth.org



Envisioning a future
where Indigenous youth
thrive through traditional
lifeways.



The Tribal Youth Resource Center is a part of the [Tribal Law and Policy Institute](#) and is supported by Grant #2018-MU-MU-K001 awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Dept. of Justice.

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Ensuring accountability.
Empowering youth.

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Session Evaluation

Please remember to fill out the workshop evaluation.

Workshop Information:

Friday, April 2, 2021

8:45am AKT/ 9:45am PT/ 10:45am MT/
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Session E1: Creativity & Innovation in the
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Closing in a Good Way





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