



JUNE 2021 - JUNE 2023

Maada'ookiing Outcomes & Impacts

Contact Us

CAYLA BELLANGER DEGROAT
 cayla@northlandfdn.org / (218) 740-7308











The Story of Maada'ookiing

In Indigenous community, the act of giving and sharing is a mutual act that benefits the entire community. Traditional giveaway ceremonies involve thoughtful preparation, kind intention, and putting positive energy into the gift itself. In this spirit, Maada'ookiing ("the distribution") was created.

Indigenous Designed and Led

Seeking to strengthen partnerships with Native nations and Indigenous community, Northland Foundation approached Tribal officials and other Indigenous leaders for guidance. Through a group process, they determined the structure and strategies for a new Indigenous-led philanthropy model. Maada'ookiing was introduced in May 2021.

Grassroots grantmaking is a key component. Grants up to \$2,500 are awarded three times per year to individuals to help support creative community solutions and activities. This effort has been warmly welcomed by Indigenous people living in the region. The Northland Foundation is thankful for the opportunity to better support their good work. To date, grantmaking has encompassed:

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|  Zagaakwaandagowininiwag
(Bois Forte Band of Chippewa)
\$12,500 (5 Grants) |  Carlton County
\$5,000 (2 Grants) |
|  Nagaajiwanaang
(Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa)
\$26,899 (11 Grants) |  Northern St. Louis County
\$2,500 (1 Grant) |
|  Gichi Onigaming
(Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa)
\$20,000 (8 Grants) |  Southern St. Louis County
\$34,705 (14 Grants) |
|  Gaa-zagaskwaajimekaag
(Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe-District I)
\$12,000 (5 Grants) |  Regional/Multiple Communities
\$46,740 (19 Grants) |
|  Misi-zaaga'igani Anishinaabeg
(Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe District II)
\$2,500 (1 Grants) |  Itasca County
\$2,500 (1 Grant) |



Voices of Grantees



Ivy Vainio
Niigaani -
Leading the Way Billboard

This outdoor billboard featuring University of Minnesota medical student Jennie Murillo (Shoshone-Bannock tribal member/Red Lake Nation Anishinaabe descendant) was created to open the minds of our Native and BIPOC youth to know they, too, can achieve excellence.



Chaz/Giniw Wagner
Anishinaabe
Summer Drum Club

I spent my whole life learning from elders on my reservation at Bois Forte. I want to share this knowledge, before it is lost, to inspire our youth and teach them our humble ways. I believe these ways can help heal the damage caused by historical trauma.



Linda Newman
Zoongoshkiniigikwe
Mentorship Program

As a neighbor of the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, I wanted to offer outdoor experiences to young women in that community, at no cost to them. I would not have been able to continue the program if not for the grant.



Major Grant Project Themes

Passing on Knowledge

Indigenous Language-based Teachings
Storytelling
The Seven Grandfather Teachings
Mahnomini (Wild Rice) Harvest
Birch Bark & Basswood Basketry

The Arts

Textile Arts & Regalia
Beadwork
Anishinaabe Imagery
Drum & Dance

Healing and Wellness

Ceremony & Prayer
Traditional Food & Medicine Systems
Smudging
Medicine Bags
Feasting

Reflections and Impressions

- Youth are not a singular group. **Young people are supported and engaged** when family and friends are there to participate and learn with them.
- There is power in **bringing elders and youth together**. These two groups have so much to share with each other.
- Healing happens when **one feels safe and supported** by their community.
- A combination of **culture, language, togetherness, and self-expression** are needed to help create healing and wellness.
- There is a **deep recognition that culture is a living thing** and must be lived to be strengthened and passed on to the next generation. Maada'ookiing grantees understand this and build their projects looking ahead to a future where language and culture are stronger than ever.