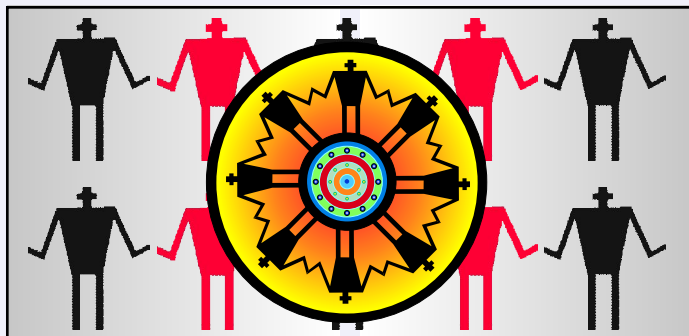


The 22nd Annual
**DRUMS ALONG
THE HUDSON[®]**

A Native American and Multicultural Celebration



Sunday, June 2nd, 2024

FREE Admission 11 AM to 6 PM Rain or Shine

At Inwood Hill Park - 218th Street & Indian Rd, 4 blocks west of Broadway (#1 and A trains)

**Drummers and Dancers from Around the World,
Pow Wow, Special Guests, Native Arts & Crafts,
Environmental Tent, Storytelling, International Foods**

Honoring:

Sandra Bookman,

WABC-TV News Anchor and host of "Here and Now"

and

Jennifer Hoppa,

former Northern Manhattan Parks Dept. Administrator

Featured Performers:

**The Haudenosaunee Oneida Nation Dancers,
Kathak Ensemble and Friends: Kathak and Tap Collaboration
and the Dominican Arts Collective**

Plus:

**Mohawk Elder Tom Porter, Louis Mofsie, Thunderbird American Indian Dancers,
Kalpulli Huehuethlatholi Aztec Dancers and Drummers, and much more...**

This event will be live streamed on www.lotusmusicanddance.org/live



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

212.627.1076

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wqxr.org

www.drumsalongthehudson.org



**NYC Cultural
Affairs**

Drums Along the Hudson Program – June 2, 2024

(Program Subject To Change)

11:00 AM

Area 1 – Main Stage

Opening Ceremony

Patrick Riley, Pop Culture Expert/ Blogger,

Welcomes everyone to the 22nd Annual Drums Along the Hudson.

Opening Blessings by **Tom Porter**, Elder & Spiritual Leader of the Mohawk

Community of Kanatsiohareke

All Native People in Regalia on Stage

11:15 AM - 6:00 PM

Area 4 – Environmental Tent

Coalition for Healthy School Food, NYC Fire Department,

Shumei America NY Center, Trinity Church Environmental Justice,

American Indian Community House, Ital Kitchen, Urban Indigenous Collective,

Plant Powered NY – **All Day Long**

11:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Area 5 – Storytelling Tent

Storytelling and Crafts by Nitchén Children's Museum of Native America,

Mohawk Basket Making and Cornhusk Dolls on display: Lotus Tent

— **All Day Long** —

11:25 AM

Area 1 – Main Stage

Haudenosaunee Oneida Nation Singers and Dancers

11:55 AM

Area 1 – Main Stage

Patrick Riley introduces Co-Creators & Co-Producers of

Drums Along The Hudson: **Carl Nelson & Kamala Cesar**

Patrick Riley introduces **Kajori Chaudhuri**, Deputy Commissioner,
Community Relations Bureau and **Ryan DuBois**, Associate Human Rights
Specialist, Native American & Indigenous Communities Liaison

to make a Public Service announcement

Patrick Riley introduces the Elected Officials

Patrick Riley introduces Senior Producer of "Here and Now,"

Tracey Washington Bagley who will introduce Honoree **Sandra Bookman**

Susan Donoghue, Commissioner of the NYC Dept. of Parks and Recreation

will introduce Honoree **Jennifer Hoppa**

Carl Nelson will make a special presentation to **Desiree Gayle**

for 22 years of volunteering at Drums Along The Hudson



(continued on next page)

12:20 PM

Tree Planting Location

Planting of the White Pine Tree, Iroquois Symbol of Peace
Tom Porter, *Mohawk Elder*, leads processional from the mainstage
to the Tree Planting

with *Honorees*: **Sandra Bookman** and **Jennifer Hoppa**
Kamala Cesar, **Carl Nelson** and **Elected Officials**

12:45 - 3:45 PM

P O W - W O W

Area 3 – Pow Wow

Grand Entrance of Native People in Regalia into Pow Wow Area
Presentation of Ceremonial Blankets to **Sandra Bookman** and **Jennifer Hoppa**

The Honor Dance

Singing, Dancing and Drumming with
the **Thunderbird American Indian Dancers**

All Native People in Regalia

The Pow Wow will continue throughout the afternoon

A L L D A Y :

VISIT the Crafts vendors in Areas 2, 3 & 4

VISIT the Food vendors

VISIT the Environmental Tent, Informational Tents and
The Lotus Tents in Area 4.

2:30 PM-4:30 PM

SPECIAL EVENTS

Area 4

Mohawk Crafts Demonstrations by Chrisjohn Arts

Basket Making and Cornhusk Doll Making

11 AM - 6 PM

Healing Drumming Circle with Patrice C. Queen & Ndigo

(Location: near the Soccer Field)

SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

4:15 PM

Area 1 – Main Stage

Welcome back to the Main Stage with **Patrick Riley**

Patrick Riley introduces **Kajori Chaudhuri**, Deputy Commissioner, Community
Relations Bureau and **Ryan DuBois**, Associate Human Rights Specialist, Native
American & Indigenous Communities Liaison to make a Public Service announcement

4:20 PM

Area 1 – Main Stage

Edwin Ferreras - Dominican Arts Collective

4:40 PM

Area 1 – Main Stage

Kathak Ensemble and Friends: Kathak and Tap Collaboration

5:15 PM

Area 1 – Main Stage

Kalpulli Huehuetlahtolli *Aztec Dancers and Drummers*

Closing Remarks

and Dancing led by

Kalpulli Huehuetlahtolli, Aztec Dancers and Drummers

Drums Along the Hudson® Inwood Hill Park - 2024

The Drums Along the Hudson Festival continues a centuries-old tradition of the northern tip of Manhattan being a key gathering place for Native peoples and their guests in Inwood Park. Called Shorakapok (edge of the river) in Lenape, Inwood was the site of the first oyster bar in the country and Lenape served up the tasty mollusks to customers of all backgrounds. The oysters themselves were the foundation of a valuable ecosystem that cleaned the waters and provided habitats for other marine creatures; they are almost extinct, but environmental activists struggle to bring them back.

Jumping ahead a few centuries, Shorakapok was the spot where the first American Indian Day was observed. Episcopalian Reverend Sherman Coolidge (1862-1932) was an Arapahoe activist, who joined with others in a push for a pan-Indian organization to both represent and celebrate Native peoples. He founded the Society of American Indians (1911-1923), forerunner of the National Congress of American Indians and on September 28, 1915, he issued a proclamation designating the second Saturday of each May as American Indian Day (AID) and urged Indians to observe it as a memorial to their "race." The first celebration took place in Inwood Park under the great tulip tree, which became iconic of Indian New York.

Over the decades, Native New Yorkers turned the annual serious event into a festive occasion, which for the past several years has been sponsored by Lotus Music and Dance.

Historian Reginald Pelham Bolton and Oklahoma Cherokee Marie Noemi Boulerease Constantine Kennedy, better known as Princess Naomi, collaborated on developing an Indian Village on this site to preserve Indigenous cultures. In 1926, Princess Naomi and other Native people moved into the village; it was advertised as a subway destination and became extremely popular. She helped improve the economic health of Native folks by developing an outlet for them to sell traditional arts in the onsite museum. Sadly, Parks Commissioner Robert Moses came along a decade later with a new design, which eliminated any Native presence. Although the Princess and almost a thousand Indians launched a protest and petitioned to convert the park to official Indian lands, they were evicted and the village was destroyed.

Today, Drums Along the Hudson preserves and celebrates the past, present and future of Native New Yorkers and the legacy of Shorakapok.

—Yvonne Wakim Dennis

Art in the Park *Emerging Artists will be displaying their artwork throughout the park.*

Rose B. Simpson "Seed" Sculpture

Installation Two eight-foot high bronze sentinels will be on view in Inwood Hill Park, a 196-acre public park that is a contested space in Native American history as the site where Dutch colonial governor Peter Minuit took Manhattan Island from the Lenape for 60 guilders in 1626. The artist has described the sculptural pair's installation in a significant space in Lenapehoking. "Where there is my work, I have the opportunity to guide reminders. Maybe it is about the displaced Indigenous residents who had thousands of years of commune with that ground – a

heuristic relationship that shaped their culture. Maybe it's about the act of being in that space, gendered. Maybe it's about the feeling of commune in a public space..."

The artist references the colonial past as a signpost while building strength through figures who look ahead in time. Simpson's keepers are androgynous; there is fluidity in their bearing. Simpson's was raised in Santa Clara Pueblo in NM.



Visit Rose B. Simpson's "Seed" Sculpture Installation near the Shoakapok Rock at the opposite end of the Park

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2024 Drums Along the Hudson Honorees



SANDRA BOOKMAN currently co-anchors Eyewitness News at Noon. She joined Eyewitness News in 1998 as Weekend Anchor. Since then, she has covered some of the biggest stories of the last two decades: the terrorist attacks on September 11th, 2001, the Northeast Blackout in August of 2003, the Presidential Campaigns in 2008, 2012 and 2016, and the Covid pandemic.

Before coming to New York, Sandra worked as an anchor/reporter for WSB-TV in Atlanta, WRAL-TV in Raleigh, North Carolina and KFDM-TV in Beaumont, Texas. Be it a hurricane, a tornado or forest fire, Sandra has hit the road to cover it. She also reported from two Olympic Games: Barcelona in 1992 and Atlanta in 1996. And she counts among her most memorable assignments a series of reports from South Africa following the release of Nelson Mandela from a South African prison.

In 2011, Sandra became the host of the WABC-TV public affair's show "Here and Now", which covers issues important to the African American community.

Sandra especially enjoys using the show to introduce viewers to people working hard to make a difference in their communities-- and succeeding--despite having few resources at their disposal. Her work on the show earned her a 2012 Emmy nomination.

Sandra has received numerous awards and honors... including 9 Emmy Awards. In 2013, she was named one of The Network Journal's 25 Influential Women in Business. In 2009, she was recognized as one of McDonald's Faces of Black History. In 2007, Sandra was honored with the Mercy College Quill award for professional achievement.

Sandra is a native of Texas and is a proud graduate of the University of Texas at Austin with a Bachelor of Journalism Degree. But she calls living and working in New York a career highlight. "I am living my dream...except in the dream my apartment was bigger and my thighs were smaller."

Sandra and her husband, Savio, call Manhattan home.



JENNIFER HOPPA is NYC Parks' Chief Strategy Officer, working on the development of a vision plan and related strategic initiatives that advance the agency's mission to grow, maintain and program a world-class park system prioritizing equity, access, safety and nature.

She previously served as the Administrator for Northern Manhattan Parks and the Executive Director of the Fort Tryon Park Trust for close to 17 years. In these roles, Jennifer executed strategic planning, partnership development, community engagement, fundraising and put on more than 300 special events and public programs to enhance uptown's 600 acres of parkland, including Inwood Hill Park. Jennifer helped oversee the public input, design, and execution of over \$199M in capital projects for uptown's parks. In 2011, working with the Planning Division she developed the Northern Manhattan Parks Master Plan, and in 2017 collaborated with NYC Parks' Capital Division on the

Highbridge Park Anchor Parks Master Plan and its \$30M in priority implementation projects. Jennifer oversaw the reinvigoration of Fort Tryon Park's 3-acre Heather Garden and directed \$500,000 in private funding to transform it into a year-round horticultural destination. She enhanced uptown's open spaces to strengthen parks by building bridges with the diverse communities that surround them.

She began her Parks career in 2003 as the Deputy Director of the Planning Division. In that role, she served on the High Line Development Team; helped to develop the Lower Manhattan Open Space Plan post 9/11; implemented Mayor Bloomberg's Manhattan Waterfront Greenway plan; and secured \$13M in federal transportation funding to extend the City's greenway network in Queens, Staten Island, and the Bronx. In 2007 she received the Frederick O'Reilly Hayes prize in recognition of public service.

Jennifer received her undergraduate degree in Public Policy from Trinity College, a Master of Urban Planning degree from Hunter College, where she was awarded the Robert C. Weinberg award and holds an Essentials in Urban Park Management Certificate from the Central Park Conservancy Institute/CUNY.

Jennifer and her husband Jeff settled in Washington Heights over 21 years ago and along with their two sons, love hiking in Inwood Hill's forest, playing on its ballfields, and relaxing along its waterfront.

2024 Drums Along the Hudson Performers

Kathak Ensemble & Friends — Cross Cultural Collaboration

Artistic Director, Janaki Patrik

American Tap and North Indian Kathak dance, two seemingly different cultural dance styles have much in common. See them come together in the universal language of rhythm in dance. Tommy Waisuta and Amanjeet Kaur create an exhilarating conversation through movement and sound.



TOMMY WASIUTA is a tap dance performer, educator, and choreographer based in New York City. He has been described as a "breath of dance freedom" by the New York Times. Tommy has been on stage at the Joyce Theater, at Chelsea Factory and the American Dance Festival, with Jazz at Lincoln Center (2022) and at the Caribbean Music Festival in the U.S. Virgin Islands (2023).

He has taught at Steps on Broadway, Beyond the Stars Dance Conventions as well as other dance schools. He has also choreographed works for St. Louis Rhythm Collaborative, Morton Gould's Tap Dance Concerto and Reflections Dance Company.

Tommy's goal is to continue expanding his knowledge of tap dance and spread it throughout his performances, teachings, and choreographic work. By doing this, he hopes to represent tap in a dignified manner, and exemplify the magic that exists within the dance.

AMANJEET KAUR is a native of New York and has been performing since the age of 10. She has been training in the Indian classical dance form Kathak, at Srijan Dance Center. Amanjeet continues to conduct dance/lecture demonstrations for Board of Education programs with NYC schools and to assist in facilitating workshops in NYC Public Libraries to educate children and adults about Indian culture and dance. She has worked within different styles such as Bhangra, Contemporary, Bollywood, Folk and Bharatnatyam, of which she trained under the guidance of Komala Kumari Devi in 2013. She began 2023 by performing in the 'Song of Joy', an autobiographical Off-Broadway play by Carol Mazhuveneril. She has recently completed her Rang Manch Pravesh (Kathak Dance Graduation) under the guidance of her guru, Abha Bhatnager Roy.



Edwin Ferreras and the Dominican Arts Collective



Edwin Ferreras “El Embajador”

International Ambassador of Dominican Arts, Edwin Manuel Ferreras Madrigal, is a knowledgeable and enthusiastic educator of music, dance, and ethnomusicology. Born in San Pedro De Macorís, Dominican Republic, he moved to Washington Heights at a young age. While in New York City, he earned his BA in Music Education K-12 with a secondary concentration in Music at City College. After graduating, Edwin began his career as an arts educator. Today he works as an international teaching artist with partner Dakhóta Romero and their company Areíto Arts and as a Music and Dance teacher in NYC public and charter schools grades pre-K through 8th.

Merengue and Bachata are two genres of dance that have their roots in the Dominican Republic but have gained popularity worldwide.

Bachata is a style of dance and music that originated in the 1960s. It is known for its low bluesy rhythm, which focuses on the guitars and guira and bongo drums. Today Bachata is one of the most well-known rhythms around the world. Some famous bachata artists include Romeo Santos and Aventura.

On the other hand, Merengue is fast-paced and lively, with a fuller band and emphasis on the Tambora beat. It is the pride and joy of the Dominican Republic and has become a staple in Latin American music. Some popular merengue artists include Fefita La Grande and Juan Luis Guerra.

Although these genres have differences, they share a common trait - they are guaranteed to get you moving!

Haudenosaunee Oneida Dancers and Singers with Adah Shenandoah

Adah Shenandoah, a member of the Wolf Clan of the Oneida Nation, is the coordinator of the Haudenosaunee Singers and Dancers who share perspectives from their culture through traditional social dances with an explanation of the meaning and origin of the dance, including the stomp dance, fish dance, womens dance and smoke dance to name a few.

Haudenosaunee translates to “People of the Longhouse.” The Haudenosaunee Singers and Dancers travel throughout the East Coast and Canada. They dress in traditional regalia and are primarily from the Oneida Nation, although they can also include members from surrounding Native communities. The dances are non-ceremonial, but they give honor, thanks and acknowledgement to our natural world. Audience members will be invited to perform a dance, making for an interactive, educational and entertaining program.

Joining Adah will be dancers Regis Cook (Bear Clan), Ryan Oaks (Eel Clan), Teyekahilyos Edwards (Wolf Clan), and Tsilos Edwards (Wolf Clan).



Thunderbird American Indian Dancers

Established in 1963, the **Thunderbird American Indian Dancers** are the longest running resident New York City Native American Dance Company. Their performances feature a diversity of dance forms that reflect the group's multicultural tribal membership. Their mission is to preserve and perpetuate American Indian cultures and promote a more realistic understanding of Native American cultures through their performances and other activities. In New



York City, The Thunderbird American Indian Dancers have performed at the Museum of the American Indian, the American Museum of Natural History, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Brooklyn Museum, the New York World's Fair, Columbia University, New York University as well as at countless schools, churches and performance spaces. Internationally, they have toured Mexico, Canada, Israel, Europe and Japan. All of the money raised by the Thunderbird Dancers goes to a scholarship fund for Native American youth. To date, they have assisted over 200 Indian youth with their educational expenses. The Thunderbird American Indian Dancers conduct pow wows across the country during the summer season, a monthly Pow Wow at the McBurney YMCA during the winter and perform an annual benefit at New York's Theater for the New City.



Louis Mofsie is a Native American from the Hopi and Winnebago tribes. His father is from Second Mesa, Arizona and his mother is from Winnebago, Nebraska. He is a retired art teacher and taught for 35 years at the Meadowbrook Elementary School located in East Meadow, New York. Louis is a founding member of the **American Indian Community House** and served as the chairman of the board for over 15 years. Louis is currently the Director of the **Thunderbird American Indian Dancers**, the dance company he helped originate in 1963.

Kalpulli Huehuetlahtolli

Kalpulli Huehuetlahtolli (K.H.) was formed on October 24, 2010. During their first year they worked at attaining traditional recognition from elders with in the Aztec dance tradition which has its roots in Mexico. They are representatives of Aztec/Conchero/Mexica dance in the Northeastern USA. The group has worked to preserve and to teach these dance and indigenous traditions.



Along with having participated in various workshops, presentations and symposiums with Rutgers University, Red Hawk Arts Council and many other organizations, K.H. hosts an annual ceremony every June since 2011 which brings brings together many leaders and members of various dance groups from across Mexico and the USA.

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Tom Porter (*Sakokwenionkwas* or “the one who wins”), is a member of the Bear Clan of the Mohawk Nation at Akwesasne, an Iroquois territory located on the St. Lawrence River. He was acting Bear Clan Chief in the traditional longhouse movement, opposite the state-sanctioned Tribal Council and has served numerous positions on the Mohawk Nation of Chiefs Council for over 25 yrs. Tom Porter is one of the last generation of his people to be raised as a Mohawk speaker from birth. Like his ancestors, who listened to traditional stories during the long winter months by the fire, Tom was weaned on the teachings of his great-grandparents' and his grandparents' generation.

This unique background paved the way for him to become a champion for the revitalization of First Nations languages and traditions. Now a respected elder, he has devoted his life to educating both Native and non-Native people about the true history, culture and spirituality of the Iroquois or, as they prefer to call themselves, the Haudenosaunee.

Mr. Porter has been a nationally recognized figure in Indian Country since the 1960s when he co-founded the **White Roots of Peace**, a group of Iroquois Elders who toured the country sharing traditional teachings and encouraging Indians to embrace their respective Native traditions. Recognizing that Mohawk language and culture were dying out, he also co-founded the **Akwesasne Freedom School** for grades K-8, with a curriculum entirely in Mohawk.

Since 1993, Tom has been the founder, director and spiritual leader of the traditional Mohawk Community of **Kanatsiohareke**, located in the homeland of his ancestors, near Albany, New York. In 2008, Tom Porter published the book *And Grandma Said... Iroquois Teachings*, in which we get to see in print a lifetime of teachings and memories, in words direct from the heart of, in Doug George's words, “a person who has devoted his life to preserving the heritage of his Nation.” www.mohawkcommunity.org

Patrick Riley - Born in Tokyo, Japan and raised in Savannah, Georgia, Patrick graduated Atlanta's illustrious Morehouse College cum laude with a degree in Broadcast Journalism. He is currently based in New York City as an independent producer, personality, and writer – recurring clients including HARPO PRODUCTIONS, OWN, CNN.COM, NBC, BET, "Motown: The Musical", "The Wendy Williams Show", REMY MARTIN, etc.



He has been honored by the New York Association of Black Journalists' with its Trailblazer Award. To find out more about Patrick, please check out his blog website: “A Day in the Life of Riley: pop culture & possibilities”

<http://thelifeofriley.squarespace.com/rilys-blog>

Desiree Gayle

Desiree Gayle has been an employee of ABC for the past 34 years. She spends most of her spare time volunteering. She was employee



volunteer of the year at ABC and has been one of the original volunteers at Drums Along The Hudson for the last 22 years and has never missed a year, she was also very instrumental in bringing the Disney Volunteers of which she is a member to volunteer at Drums Along The Hudson. Some of the other organisations she volunteers with are Special Olympics, Fresh Air Fund and Meals On Wheels

Drums Along the Hudson 2024 Biographies



Kamala Cesar is the Founder and Artistic Director of Lotus Music & Dance, a center for multicultural, traditional performing arts. She is one of the few specialists of T. Balasaraswati's style of Bharata Natyam dance in this country and has been teaching since 1978. She has performed in Europe, India, the Philippines and the U.S. Ms. Cesar is Filipino and Mohawk Indian and resides in New York City where she teaches Bharata Natyam and directs Lotus Music & Dance's efforts to produce and promote multicultural programs such as Drums Along the Hudson. In 2002, Kamala was honored as Thunderbird American Indian of the Year.

Her multicultural programs and productions include Mohawk Heartsong: Journey Through the Longhouse, Eagle Spirit: A Tribute to the Mohawk High Steelworkers, The New York Ramayana, Asian Dialogue, Along the Caravan Route, Message of Peace, World in the City, Dancing Across Cultural Borders, the annual World Dance Festival, George Faison's Universal Dance Experience: Erasing Boundaries, Mahatma--The Great Soul and most recently Kathak Ensemble & Friends: Kathak and Tap Cross Cultural Collaboration.

In addition to her tireless activities in promoting and organizing Native American dance and cultural events, she has participated in the Mohawk Language Immersion Program at Kanatsiohareke in Fonda, NY from 1999 to 2005.

Carl Nelson is pleased to have co-created and co-produced Drums Along the Hudson for the last twenty years. Carl's expertise for creating synergies that reflect humanity and the arts is well-known in society and entertainment circles the world over. From intimate book-signings to full-scale performances, he is known for producing quality events that have heart. He has produced events nationally and internationally for the Southern Christian Leadership Council, The Congressional Black Caucus, The Dance Theater of Harlem, The Hair Fashion Group Against Domestic Violence, and for Lotus Music & Dance. He produced his first Off Broadway play, "Miracle Rwanda," which toured the world. He also produced the Play "Incognito" which was first presented at the NBTF in Winston-Salem, NC and he is presently producing a new play "Claudette Colvin" which will be presented at the NBTF this year. He also co-produced a short film called *Asian Mob* and co-created *African Odyssey* in Johannesburg, South Africa. (www.carlmlnelson.com)



Nitthen, Inc. - The Children's Cultural Center of Native America is part of Nitthen, a nonprofit devoted to education and social support for Native Americans in the New York metro area. They help foster intercultural understanding between Native peoples and nonnatives by providing accurate historical, cultural and contemporary programming to children, parents and teachers. Through workshops, classes, exhibits and performances presented by Indigenous peoples, participants gain a fair and balanced understanding of First Nations Peoples of the Americas.

Director **Irma LaGuerre** was born in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, and is of Aztec, Tarasco and Taino heritage. She is an accomplished actress and singer having appeared in lead roles on the Broadway stage, as well as in off-Broadway and regional theater houses. She graduated from the Manhattan School of Music with a Masters of Music degree. She is a past director and cofounder of FAN (Family Awareness Network). Ms. Laguerre conducts workshops in making Story Teller bags and Native American storytelling throughout the NY metropolitan area for schools, parks departments and at Pow Wows.



Patrice C. Queen & Ndigo - Facilitators of Healing Drumming Circle.

With a seat at the drum circle, you can be at peace with the whole world. This group experience allows you to experience you in the present. It is a stress relief, an unpacking that is done where it is almost effortless. We have fun. Laughter is brought back as a part of how we honor ourselves and our experience.

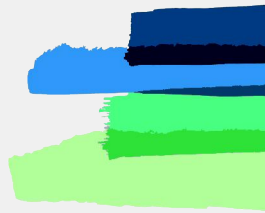




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DRUMS ALONG THE HUDSON HONOREES 2004 — 2023



2004
Winona LaDuke
Program Director of Honor the Earth and Founding Director of White Earth Land Recovery Project



2005
Elizabeth Sackler, Ph.D.
founded the American Indian Ritual Object Repatriation Foundation



2006
Rosemary Richmond
Executive Director of the American Indian Community House



2007
John Lewis
Civil Rights Leader and US Congressman



2007
Oren Lyons
Onondaga Faithkeeper



2008
Jake Swamp
Mohawk Chief, Founder of the Tree of Peace Society



2008
Xernona Clayton
Pres. and CEO of the Trumpet Awards Foundation



2009
Tom Porter
Mohawk Elder, Humanitarian and Author



2009
Laura Turner Seydel
Environmentalist and Chairperson of The Captain Planet Foundation



2010
Louis Mofsie
(Hopi/Winnebagos)
Director of the Thunderbird American Indian Dancers



2010
Gram Chapin
Grammy Award winner and multiple charitable and environmental organizations



2010
Melky Jean
The Carma Foundation for Haitian women and children



2011
Elizabeth Jordan
Philanthropist and International Photographer



2012
Jane Schacht
Former N. Manhattan Parks Dept. Administrator



2012
La Donna Harris
President of Americans for Indian Opportunity



2013
Joanne Shenandoah
(Oneida)
Grammy Award Winner, Singer/Songwriter



2013
Doug George
(Mohawk)
Author



2013
Deborah Harvey-Koenigsberger
Founder/President of Hearts of Gold



2014
David N. Dinkins
106th Mayor of NYC



2014
Tonya Gonnella Fichner, Esq.
(Onondaga)
President and Founder of the American Indian Law Alliance



2015
Tichina Arnold
Award Winning Actress/Singer & Philanthropist



2015
Kaydor Aukatsang
representing His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama on his birthday



2016
Miko Branch
CEO & Co-Founder, Miss Jessie's



2016
Cheryl Crazy Bull
President of The American Indian College Fund



2017
Rhonda Ross
Singer, Songwriter, Philanthropist



2017
Irma LaGuerre

2017
The Children's Cultural Center of Native America



2017
Yvonne Wakim Dennis



2018
Ydanis Rodriguez
New York City Councilman



2020
Joy Harjo
US Poet Laureate, Writer, Musician



2021
Stephanie Dabney
Prima-Ballerina



2022
Katsianni Fox
Akwesasne Mohawk Artist, Filmmaker and Educator



2022
Hezues R
Entrepreneur, founder of S.I.C. Film School & Creative Gods Agency



2023
George W. Faison
producer, writer, composer, director, choreographer



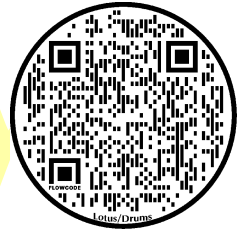
2019
Recognized the contributions of **Kamala Cesar** and **Tom Buckner** to the Arts



2023
Loida Nicolas Lewis
Philanthropist, Author

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This wonderful free event is only free if we the people support it! You can use this convenient QR code to go directly to the Lotus Donation page and become a patron of Drums. Any and all donation amounts are greatly appreciated!



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WABC-TV
congratulates
this years honorees
Sandra Bookman
and Jennifer Hoppa
and
Lotus Music and Dance
on the
22nd Edition of
Drums Along the Hudson

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The tireless Lotus Music & Dance Staff and Board and to all the

wonderful people who support Lotus all year round and the

Volunteers who devote their time and effort to make this day a success.

In September of 2002, with a generous grant from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, Lotus Music & Dance established **Drums Along the Hudson: A Native American Festival**. It began with a traditional Pow Wow to celebrate Native American heritage and culture and to commemorate the Lenape people who first inhabited Inwood Hill Park, or Shorakapak ("edge of the water"). This event takes place annually with something new added each year – including a Shad tasting, a White Pine tree planting (the Iroquois symbol of peace), international dancers and drummers, Native American Education Initiatives. The first festival had about 400 attendees, but recent festivals have had upwards of 8,000. In 2009, The Mayors Office of NYC issued a Proclamation declaring Drums Along the Hudson to be an Official NYC Event!

Environmental awareness has become a festival tradition where attendees can learn more about practical ways to implement green living. Participating organizations have included the Audubon Society, Clean Air NY, Lower East Side Ecology Center, Hudsonia, the Council on the Environment of NYC and the Captain Planet Foundation. **Attendees who ride their bikes to the park this year can have free bicycle valet parking.**



Kamala Cesar, Artistic Director/Producer, Lotus Music & Dance

Carl Nelson, Co-Creator and Co-Producer, Drums Along the Hudson

Lotus Music & Dance is grateful for the support from:



New York State Council on the Arts

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PHOTOS: If you take any great photos at Drums, you can send them to the email below and we will keep them in our archive and maybe use them in the future.

dah@lotusmusicanddance.org

www.drumsalongthehudson.org • tel: 212-627-1076x10

Lotus Music & Dance, a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, was founded in 1989 by master Bharata Natyam dancer Kamala Cesar. It is a performance space, sanctuary, and center of education for traditional and indigenous performing arts forms. The mission is to keep alive and accessible the music and dance traditions of all world cultures. Lotus Music & Dance remains the only institution of its kind in New York City where master artists from India, Korea, Burma, the South Pacific, Middle East, China, Indonesia, the Mohawk Nation, West Africa, and Spain collectively call home.

Aside from our varied schedule of unique, multicultural performances, we offer instruction in traditional ethnic forms of dance and music as well as Arts-In-Education programs to schools throughout the tri-state area. Since 2002, Lotus Music & Dance also presents Manhattan's only annual open air Pow Wow, the annual Drums Along the Hudson®: A Native American Festival.



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