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confluence

### Confluence in the Classroom Projects Bloom

Spring is when Confluence in the Classroom projects come into full bloom. At [eight schools](#) in Oregon and Washington, Native artists and tradition keepers are working with students to create meaningful projects about the Columbia River system. Once again, muralist Toma Villa (Yakama) is helping Walter Morely Middle School students in Troutdale, Oregon beautify their walls. The result is a work of art about the Columbia River they not only see everyday at school, but take pride in knowing they helped create. Similar projects, and field trips to culturally significant places, are happening in Mosier, The Dalles, Pendleton and NE Portland in Oregon and Lyle, Toppenish and Vancouver in Washington. [Thanks to our funders!](#)



Visual artist Toma Villa (Yakama) helps students at Walt Morely Middle school in Troutdale, Oregon create a mural. Photo: Staff.



View of Snake River from Chief Timothy Park. Photo: Staff.

### Chief Timothy Dedication Taking Shape

As crews begin work at Chief Timothy Park near Clarkston, Washington planning is underway for an inclusive dedication ceremony for Confluence's fifth project along the Columbia River system. The event is scheduled for Friday, May 29 at 10 a.m. Everyone is invited! Confluence's staff is working closely with leaders from the Nez Perce Tribe and communities surrounding Chief Timothy Park to plan the event.

Maya Lin has designed a [Listening Circle](#), an amphitheater built into the landscape, based on a 2005 Nez Perce blessing ceremony. It is a powerful place with cultural significance and historical resonance. We'd love to see you there! Let us know if you would like to volunteer.

### Fifty-eight Years of Silence

This month marks 58 years since The Dalles Dam closed its massive gates to harness the Columbia River for power. It also silenced the roar of Celilo Falls. There is no more powerful, significant place that shaped the Northwest culture than where the Columbia once thundered at Celilo Falls. Maya Lin has designed an elevated walkway to connect people today with this important history and invite them to learn about the people of this place. It is scheduled to be completed in 2017.



Maya Lin has designed an elevated walkway at Celilo Park near The Dalles. Photo: Maya Lin Studio

There are places we go, to look at ourselves and our environment, to think about those who came before, and about those who will follow. It's one way we make the connections that sustain us all. Confluence carries on this legacy today - and for generations to come - through places of art that span hundreds of miles, from the gateway to Hell's Canyon to the mouth of the Columbia River. This the work of Confluence, to connect people to place through art and education.

### **Upcoming events:**

Wednesday, March 18 at 7 p.m.: Confluence executive director Colin Fogarty speaks at the Salem Public Library as part of the [Straub Environmental Lecture Series](#).

Saturday, April 18 at 9 a.m.: Pre-Earyn Day tree [planting at Sandy River Delta](#) near Troutdale, Oregon in collaboration with Friends of Trees and Sandy River Basin Watershed Council.

Friday, May 29 at 10 a.m.: Dedication ceremony for Chief Timothy Park near Clarkston, Washington.

**Don't forget:** Send us your Confluence site visit pictures! At the end of the year, we'll pick the best shots to create the first Confluence calendar.

Join our cause on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and our [home page](#). Remember, donations to Confluence are tax deductible. Thank you! Your support means everything to us!



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