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confluence

Students Connect To River Through Confluence in the Classroom

This year, Native artists and tradition keepers worked with students at eight schools in Oregon and Washington to create meaningful projects about the Columbia River system. It happened through [Confluence in the Classroom](#). The photo to the right is of 280 students and community members from the small Columbia River towns of Lyle, Wishram and Dallesport. They gathered on land preserved by [Friends of the Columbia Gorge](#) to create an image of a salmon. Teacher Ann Scott helped organize the community-wide event in collaboration with [Art for the Sky](#) and artist Daniel Dancer.

Other students did Confluence in the Classroom projects in [Vancouver](#) and Toppenish, Washington and Northeast Portland, Mosier, Troutdale and The Dalles in Oregon. This summer, students at [Nixyaawii Community School](#) in Pendleton will participate.

With gratitude to our funders!

- Brot & Mary Bishop
- BNSF Foundation
- Herbert A. Templeton Foundation
- Oregon Cultural Trust
- Mid-Columbia Medical Center
- Ray Hickey Foundation
- Roundhouse Foundation
- Wildhorse Foundation



Students and community members from Lyle, Wishram and Dallesport gathered for Art for the Sky.
Photo: Daniel Dance

Confluence Courses Offered For Adults

What if there was a class where adults could explore the Columbia River system's Confluence of cultures, history, and ecology too? We're working with the [Wapato Valley School](#) and [many other organizations](#) to launch a project to create place-based, experiential education for adults. Explore your identity in relationship to place and reflect on social and environmental justice issues.

[Learn more about these courses](#) on place, the history of the Northwest, identity and the environment. All of the classes



Fishing at Horseshoe falls in Celilo Falls about 1928.
Credit: HistoricPhotoArchive.net

will take place at sites of cultural or geological significance and provide opportunities to learn more about this land and to reflect on what it means to live here with all that has come before us.

Final Thoughts on Chief Timothy Park Dedication Ceremony

On May 29, 2015, more than 200 friends of Confluence gathered at Chief Timothy Park to dedicate the Confluence Listening Circle by Maya Lin. If you haven't seen Corky Miller's gorgeous video of the ceremony, [check it out here](#). The Circle is an amphitheater built into the landscape, based on a 2005 Nez Perce blessing ceremony there in 2005. We are so grateful the same elders who led that ceremony returned to celebrate the completion of the project ten years later!



Dedication of Confluence Listening Circle at Chief Timothy Park. Photo: Miranda Ross.

It was a long time coming but as founding director Jane Jacobsen asked during the ceremony, "What is time?" With your help, Confluence is building artworks that will last for generations. It is a bold idea to look back to the Lewis and Clark Expedition as a recorded moment in time, in order to look forward to consider our own impact seven generations from now. Over the next year, the landscape itself at Chief Timothy Park will complete the Listening Circle as native grasses fill it in. Like all six Confluence sites, it will be up to each successive generation to experience these extraordinary projects in their own way, connecting people to place across time.

Onward!

Colin Fogarty
Executive Director

Please joins us for these upcoming Events:

July 12 at 2 PM: Bringing Public Art, History, and Ecology together at the [Cathlepotle Plankhouse](#)

July 29 at 7 PM: Talk Contemporary with Maya Lin at the [Seattle Art Museum](#)

September 25-26 Heritage Days in Pasco, Washington at [Sacajawea State Park](#).

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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