

Paula Larke's Sitka, Alaska 2006 Residency A Photographic Day by Day Journey

Feb.14 (Tue) Fly in, rest

Feb. 15 (Wed) Orient to town and time
zone change/ prep work
4:45 Native dancers



Elizabeth Peratrovich Dinner



First time meeting elder Isabelle Brady was fun right off the bat. She showed me her hat full of memories, commanded me, like the Navy veteran she was, to join her family.

Feb. 16 (Thu) 8:00am radio interview at
Raven Radio w/Rob Woolsey



*(Paula and Cindy try unsuccessfully not to giggle into the microphone)
Stop by Sentinel to talk with Andy (writer for the newspaper)*

Feb. 17 (Fri) 9-10:15 Sitka High w/Ted Howard (100 students. Sorry, no photos!)

Feb 18 (Sat)

10:00am breakfast with elder Isabelle Brady and daughters
4:45-5:00 sound check
7:00pm Monthly Grind - 15 minutes of music

Feb. 19 (Sun) 10:00am special music at PCUSA church and meet native elders there



The 92 year old on the left was cracking the jokes.

12-2: JAM with local musicians at the Back Door Coffee Shop local jam at the back door coffee shop (mtg. the history teacher from the HS, sound techie, and local musicians)



Paula and Hank git it.



Paula feeds jam riffs to Sitka High School jammer

**Feb. 20 (Mon)
10:00am breakfast with Tlingit elder, Louise Brady and daughters**

Prep for schools

Feb. 21 (Tue) 11:00am Mt. Edgecumbe High School assembly (boarding school for native, interior youth) 350+



1:00-2:30 Pacific High Alternative School Writing and Rhythm Workshop



Pacific High student Marry Garfield awards Paula with "PHD" in recovery from "being dumb" and graduation to "being kind and helpful"

Feb. 22 (Wed) TBA Blatchely Middle School assembly 300+



12:45-1:15 Baranof Elementary School (K-1,240) (Sorry, short program, rushed set-up, no time for photos!!!!)

6:00-9:00pm Mt. Edgecumbe Founders Day Ceremonial Dance Festival.



(No photo available, video only – Paula danced in full regalia with Brady family- the Frog clan of the Raven moiety)

Feb. 23 (Thu) 9:10-9:55,10:10-10:55 Sitka Elementary School Keet Gooshi Heen



"I need eight volunteers....."

12:00 Pioneer home Lunch/performance



"..and the award for best audience participation goes to...."



...and receives a "back home" blessing from Brooklyn native far from Bed-Stuy.



Pioneer Senior Home couple dances to Paula's "stage striking" music – (not pictured Christian and Isaiah are jamming to Paula's singing on piano and drum – an impromptu live practice for the next night's performance of The Honor Path).:



Paula receives special blessing from Northern Alaskan native Elder

3:30-5:30 Icy wind expedition to dig clams with local family.





"You guys dig, I'll take yer picture"



"...and I helped!!"



Who cares if it's cold...look at this sunset.

Feb. 24 (Fri) REST and prep for concert

Feb. 25 (Sat) Sound check
8p.m Evening concert in the Sheet' Ka Kwann Naa kahidi Tribal House. Benefit SAFV

Tlingit Representatives of Raven and Eagle Moities respond to Paula's petition to step onto their land and bring her music and stories.



Brothers Christian and Isaiah drum as Paula opens with original poem "Roots and Vines"



Motown sounds with Sitka musicians, Ted, Hank, Pete, and Gary



Gary tears it up on harp



Ted does likewise on guitar and mandolin



Paula sings "In These Times" by Joan Armatrading; local cabbie and guitarist/songwriter Hank just watches with reverence for the message-"Good to have you standing by"

Feb. 26 (Sun) All – day visit and dialogue with Vicki D'Amico, program director of SAFV Shelter. Presentation of proceeds from concert. Follow-up and evaluation of residency events.

Feb. 27 (Mon) 9:00-11:00 SAFV training Postponed for next visit (!); grant deadline took staff's priority attention.

Feb. 28 (Tue) Pack, mail, sew, video sorting, copying, photo transfers.

Mar. 1 (Wed) 5:00am AIRPORT and out.

Fisherman Tom Eliot met us and charmed five packs of his just-caught and freshly packaged smoked salmon through security to Paula at 5:30am with along with a print-out of an article on his grandfather's quest to stop the erosion and pollution of the area's waterways. No photo – camera was packed!!!

MORE PHOTOS:



I don't wanna go home!!!



Culture educators Herman (Clan Leader) and Vida pose with grandkids and Paula after concert. Vida teaches the Tlingit language, protocol, and dances from her wheelchair. Herman oversees and feeds the pride and dignity to the students. Herman is Kaa Tlein for his clan. Kaa Tlein is what the non-natives term as "chief". In the Lingit's vocabulary, a kaa tlein is the clan leader of his clan. A kaa tlein must be knowledgeable about his clan, a caring person, a very supportive leader, a compassionate person and speaks well in both Tlingit and English language.



This is Herman in full regalia of his clan.



Oh, my how Paula needed this.....and got it from Cindy's and Brant's ever thoughtful care and soul feeding.