

Planning & Research Department

Han mitakuyapi. Cante wasteya napeçiyuzapi ye. In June, I began serving as the Principal Planner for Dakota Wicohan. I'm very grateful to be in this new position, as it provides me with the flexibility needed for me to continue with school and other commitments. I want to take this time to welcome Glen Wasicuna to Dakota Wicohan! We are so happy and excited to have him and his wealth of expertise in the Dakota language and education; he truly is an answer to many of our prayers.

Just as a refresher- Dakota Wicohan is in its 11th year of operation as a Native non-profit. Our **mission** remains the same, "To renew Dakota as a living language, and through it, transmit Dakota life ways to future generations", with a **vision**, "To build a Dakota learning institute that prepares and empowers increasing numbers of people, generation by generation, to lead our communities with wodakota". Our program **strategies** include Kiksuye – to remember; Kiyuwaste – to reclaim; and Kiciyuwaste – to reconnect. We believe that our strategies support healing and are integral to our vision and mission.

What do I do? Below are some areas that I work on, most often with Director Sharon Pazi, Grants Developer & Manager, Nora Murphy and our friends at the University of Minnesota Morris – Dr. Heather Peters & Tracy Peterson, Dine'.

- Assist with staff development training
- Co-facilitate Dakota Iapi Teunhindapi documentary screenings
- Public educational presentations
- Academic/literature research – identify & learn from other Dakota & Indigenous models that work
- Participatory research – documenting & affirming our progress through our own research
- Program Planning – help identify staffing & resources needed for sustainability
- Curriculum Development – help document & develop our curriculum
- Resource Development – help identify potential partners, review grants
- Evaluation – help in evaluating our programs

We are very close to presenting our initial findings from the first tiwahe survey taken back in February. It will most certainly help in shaping how we deliver our programming.

Again, we will be asking those that participate in Tiwahe, Koska and Wikoska programs to fill out the **surveys the week of September 18th**.

Utuhu Cistinna Win miye ye.

Teresa Peterson



*Wasuŋ Wi
Harvest Moon*

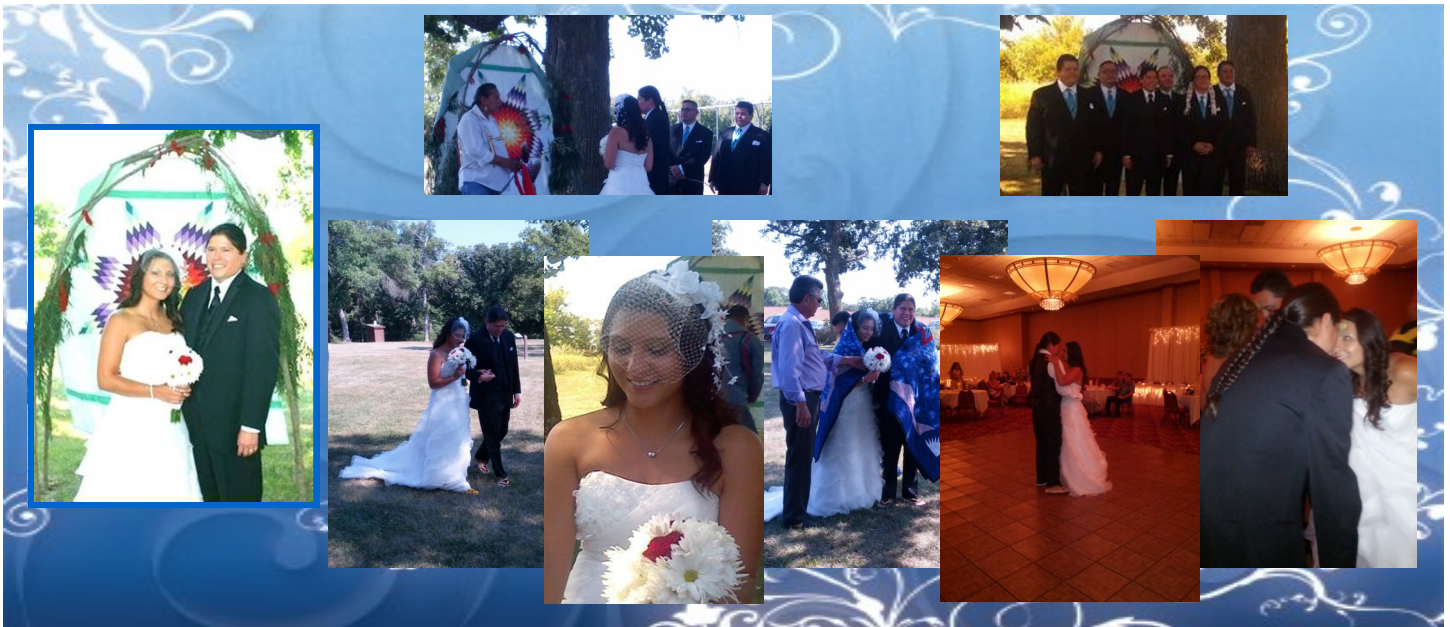
Our Mission:
**To preserve
Dakota as a
living language,
and through it,
transmit Dakota
lifeways to
future
generations.**

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Congratulations!!

Dakota Wicohan would like to say Congratulations to the newlyweds, Mr. and Mrs. Sisokaduta Bendickson! They tied the knot on Saturday, August 31, 2013 at Granite Falls State Park, MN. Katie (Blue) is one of our original Dakota Language Teacher Apprentices at Dakota Wicohan. They said their vows in Dakota Iapi, and had a traditional ceremony. They were featured on the lastrealindians facebook site. Both Sisokaduta and Katie are part of the Dakota Wicohan tiwahe. We are sincerely happy for them!



Dakota Iapi Educational Director



Hello, my name is Glenn Wasicunna. My wife Gwen and I live in Wakiyan Waste, Minnesota along with Baxter, an aging Russian Vischla, then Tobie, the meanest looking tom cat ever and the newcomer, Poppy, a Blue Heeler dash Retriever, who is 24 months old. Poppy, thrown in the midst of assassins and thugs, (Baxter and Tobie) is being educated in self defense, survival methods, the arts of intimidation and how to defend her dog dish. She understands greetings: hau, waste do, toked yaun he?. She also knows: hiya, hiyu wo, na, taku?, waste. She also knows mni.

I graduated from Grant McEwen Uni-

versity in Edmonton, Alberta and The University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario. They are both journalism schools. The latter, a tough, well known internationally, old and established journalism school had excellent instructors and provided me with a solid education in the newspaper industry. I worked in main stream media, Native media, dailies, weeklies, monthlies and newsletters.

Wopida to all who made it possible for me to be here. I will be working with the Dakota Language Teacher Apprentices Ryan Dixon, Vanessa Goodthunder and Katie Jo Blue in polishing their Dakota language skills. They already know hundreds of words and this makes it a lot easier. A lot of Dakota language students are saying: "I know what tatanka is and I must have said tatanka well over a thousand times". Or this: "I am tired of counting". We run the risk of becoming a nation of one word speakers. So, we as instructors have to meet that chal-

lenge and develop new and better teaching methods that work. We have to start using our language. To many that is a scary prospect. But, we have an answer to that. Want to know the answer? Come on over. I have other duties to keep me busy like teaching staff members to further their knowledge of Dakota. But, I am really looking forward to working with the teachers because they will reach more Dakota people and directly in the front lines working and teaching our young people. Ake, mitakuye, wopida .

Pidamayayepi do.



Koska Program

We are excited to share two great announcements for the Koska Program!! The first announcement is that we received a new grant from SWIF (Southwest Initiative Foundation) for a Koska (young men) Program. The new Koska Leader will be working with boys ranging from grades 5- 12. Our second dose of good news is that Ryan Dixon is our new Koska Leader!! You may already know Ryan, he is one of

our Dakota Language Teacher Apprentices. He is a great fit for this position, he has worked with the Koaka youth over the past year and loves our programming. Please check back for more information on the upcoming Koska schedule.

If you have any questions on the Koska Program please contact Ryan Dixon at (507) 697-6272.



Wikoska Program

This past month we had our Wikoska come in for a 3-day planning session. Since the Wikoska received their girls-Best grant for three more years, the girls came together to plan out what they were going to do over the course of the grant period. The grant was designed to build leadership skills and get the Wikoska (grades 9-12) thinking about their future endeavors. Also, with this grant, the Wikoska have the resources to start up a leadership program for girls grades 5-8 (Wiciyanna). Wiciyanna Program will be held after school on Thurs-

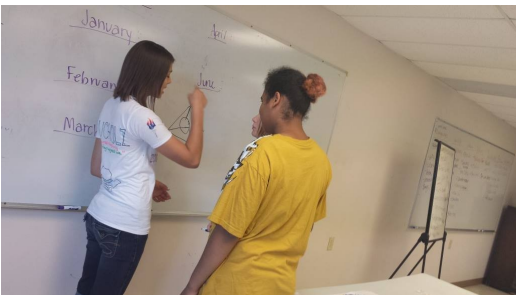
days, starting on September 19th. In this program the Wikoska will be using their leadership skills to plan and to lead activities for the Wiciyanna.

At the planning session, the Wikoska didn't just sit and write out plans, they got active and did various team building and decision making exercises. There was a "duct tape fashion show" and an "egg drop challenge" among the activities they did during their planning session.

The Wikoska would like to invite any

girl in grades 5-8 to join them for their new Wiciyanna Program. The program will teach the girls Dakota language and culture as well as what it means to be a leader. They will always be doing fun activities and making everyone feel included. It will be every Thursday after school at the Dakota Wicohan office (take Bus 11). There will be snacks and lots of fun!!

If you have any questions or would like more information please call Laverne Goodthunder at (507) 697-6272



Planning activities for the coming months.



In the Duct Tape Fashion Show, the Wikoska had two teams, each team had to design a dress and then present to the panel of judges, they were judged on: Creativity, Structure, and Presentation. Susan Bucholz and Hailie Wilhelmie won. (Right picture)



Two teams of Wikoska competed in the Egg Drop Challenge. Each team was given 8 straws, a napkin, and masking tape to create support for an 8ft. egg fall.



Volcano Team Building

Tiwahe Program

Hau Mitakuyapi,
For the month of August, the DTA's focused on everyday locations in our lesson plans. Our goal was for the Tiwahe families to be able to name local places and to be able to ask each other, "Where are you?", and respond in Dakota Iapi. We plan to build on this lesson and transition to the focal point of "ART" for the month of September.

Here is a word list for review:

mazopiye tanka= Store

woyute mazopiye= Grocery Store

mazaska tipi= Bank

wayawa tipi= School

oskad makoce= Park

Tokiya de kta he?= Where are you going?

_____ ekta bde kte. Ex. Mazaska tipi ekta bde kte.= I am going to the bank.

Tokiya yaun he?= Where are you?

Ex. Mazaska tipi ded waun do/ye= I am at the bank.

Pidamayayapi do,
Ryan Dixon, DTA

Dakota Iapi Teunhindapi

August has been a big month for our oral history project *Dakota Iapi Teunhindapi*. At the beginning of the month we published a webpage for the project that you can view at <http://dakotaiapiteunhindapi.weebly.com/> or linked through the Dakota Wicohan website. On the page we provide information on the project, including its history and development, the locations for our screenings, a documentary trailer, and more. Please check it out!

Secondly, we printed copies of our informational handbook that will accompany the project. The handbook is 24-pages, colorful, and nicely bound; it

includes quotes from the documentary, Dakota vocabulary and history, and discussion questions, among other things. Our intention for the handbook is to spark conversation, whether at a school, community, or a private training; and to provide viewers information to share with others. These handbooks have already been shared at our first couple screenings, which brings us to the last piece of exciting news...

On August 8 we hosted our first grant-sponsored screening at the interpretive center at Lower Sioux, and we have hosted two more since on:

- August 26 at American Indian Magnet School in St. Paul
- August 27 at Prairie's Edge Casino & Resort in Granite Falls

All three have gone quite well and we are excited for more in the upcoming months. For more information on the project or any of our screenings please contact me.

Pidamaya,

Simon Goldenberg

sberg15@hotmail.com

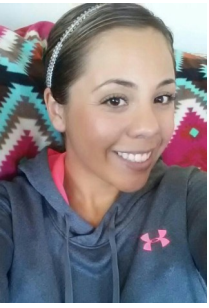
Sunktanka Program



For the Sunktanka Program, we will be having Fall Riding coming soon. We will be mailing the Fall Riding schedule in the mail to all participants. Also, it's that time of year again to fill out 4-H and DW forms for participants. We will be handing out those forms as well to get your membership renewed. We had a great time during the summer with all the youth and look forward to having a great fall riding session. If you have any questions or wish to participate in the Sunktanka (horse) Program, please call Laverne Goodthunder (507) 430-8294 or email at dw.sunktanka@gmail.com.



AmeriCorps Promise Fellow



Welcome Evelyn Tsinnijinnie! She is our new AmeriCorps Promise Fellow. Evelyn is from Lower Sioux Community, she has worked in the Community for over four years in various positions. She is familiar with youth and families in this area.

The AmeriCorp Promise Fellow position is part of the MN Alliance with Youth. With this grant, Evelyn will be providing academic tutoring, tracking academic indicators of success, such as; attendance, grades, retention and behavioral reports. I will plan and coordinate cultural enrichment activities that support Dakota identity, such as language and traditional life ways, meet regularly with a Youth Success Team to review data and identify youth to serve; track students progress; and deter-

mine which interventions to connect to individual students or groups of students. Evelyn will start on September 10, 2013.

Welcome aboard Evelyn, you are now a part of the Dakota Wicohan Tiwahe!



Contact Us:



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Like us on Facebook!



www.dakotawicohan.com




To Donate:

If you would like to donate to Dakota Wicohan Programs you can fill in and mail the cut out below. Or you can scan the QR code and donate via Razoo to Dakota Wicohan and the Dakota 38 Sunktanka riders.



Donations are accepted through Pay Pal, QR code scan or by email.
Pay Pal email address: dakotawicohan@gmail.com or scan the QR code to donate online.



Dakota Wicohan
Donation Form

Name: _____ Amount: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _() _____

Check here if you would like to receive our newsletter via email.

Dakota Arts Project

The Dakota Arts Project has been going pretty smoothly. We have met four times. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 10th at 5:00 p.m. at Dakota Wicohan Office in Morton. We be will doing some planning for the First People's Fund 2-day training. Your input is important as we will discuss dates and times for the training. Your attendance at this months meeting is important if you want to be included on the planning.

You can reach me on my cell phone (507) 626-5098 or you can email me at dw.artscordinator@gmail.com if you have any questions. I look forward to seeing you on the 10th

Pidamayayapi!

Anne O'Keefe
Arts Coordinator



Program and Grants Update

September 2013

Dakota Wicohan is happy to let everyone know that we have recently received some wonderful grants to support our programs for youth and families.

Wikoska and Wicyanna—This fall Dakota Wicohan's Wikoska Peer Leaders will be starting up a new program for our Wciyanna middle school girls, thanks to a grant from the Women's Foundation of Minnesota. As apprentice teachers, the Wikoska will help design and lead the Wicyanna once a week after school here at Dakota Wicohan. The Wikoska will also meet once a month on their own to keep building their leadership skills. Wikoska graduates Vanessa and Winona Goodthunder will be helping out the Wikoska. Laverne Goodthunder will be supervising this leadership project.

Koska—Our middle school drummers, the Red Hawk Singers, asked if they could meet more often and so we are happy to announce that with a grant from the Southwest Minnesota Initiative Fund, we can do just that. Ryan Dixon will be in charge of expanding the Koska group. Look for exciting news from the young men this fall!

Tiwahe—Given the strong turn-out for the weekly Tiwahe family language program, Dakota Wicohan went back to our funders at the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Community Crime Prevention Programs and asked if they would renew the grant that funds Tiwahe. We've just learned that we will be able to continue offering Tiwahe at least through the end of 2015! With more than 200 language learners involved, it is great that we can continue to keep learning our language together!

Arts Apprenticeships—Dakota Wicohan just learned that we will receive a Traditional/Folk Arts grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board for Walter (Super) LaBatte, Jr. and Hope Two Hearts to teach six apprentices the arts of tanning/beading and quilling. More information to come on this fantastic opportunity for our community to study these beautiful art forms.

We are grateful to everyone who joins in our shared efforts to revitalize our Dakota Iapi k'a Wicohan—our families, our youth, our artists, and our wonderful funding partners. Pidamayaye!

Twin Cities Satellite Office—Thanks to a partnership with the Ramsey County Historical Society, Dakota Wicohan now have a small donated office on the first floor at the Gibbs Farm Annex Building in St. Paul near the U of M St. Paul Campus. Our Program and Grants Manager Nora Murphy will work from there Monday through Friday. If you'd like to stop by for a visit when you're in the Cities, write Nora at nora_murphy@comcast.net.



Announcements:

OPEN POSITION

Position: Dakota Language Teacher Apprentice

Summary: Apprentices to work towards becoming Dakota language teachers through three interconnected strategies: working with a master speaker/elder; obtaining Dakota Teacher certification through the University of Minnesota; and teaching Dakota language in the community.

Requirements:

- Work directly with master or fluent speaker on a weekly basis and journal
- Complete Dakota Language teacher certification process with successful academic standing to be finished in two years
- Share the language in constructed weekly Dakota community venue, in which apprentice is modeling language learning with Dakota families and youth in the Morton Area.
- Attend and share Dakota Language at annual summer camp (6 weeks) and end of summer picnic.
- Meet weekly with Tiwahe Coordinator
- Every 6 months have Apprentice Language Fluency ACTFL assessment conducted
- Attend summits and conferences for Dakota Language
- Attend ALL mandatory meetings from Teacher in Residence
- Participate in other Dakota language revitalization efforts as requested by supervisors.

Compensation: Base and hourly stipend

Desired Qualifications Requirements:

Experience in effectively working with the public, elders, families, and youth. Ability to self-direct and work effectively with minimal supervision. Be willing to conduct at least 60% of the responsibilities on-site at the DW offices in Morton, MN.

Deadline to Apply: Wednesday, September 18, 2013 **If you would like an application or have any questions, please call Dory Stands at (507) 697-6272.**

Native American Prayer

*I give you this one thought to keep
I am with you, I do not sleep*

*I am a thousand winds that blow
I am the diamond glints on snow*

*I am the sunlight on the ripened grain
I am the gentle autumn rain*

*When you awake, in the mornings hush
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of birds in circled flight*

I am the stars, that shine at night

*Do not think of me as gone
I am with you in each new dawn*

*We extend our deepest sympathies to all the
families mourning for loved ones.*



We have a tentative date for our Annual Wopida Celebration. It's Friday, NOVEMBER 8, 2013. Please watch for more details in our October newsletter!

Minnesota Indigenous Language Symposium



Dakota Wicohan staff will be attending the Seventh Minnesota Indigenous Language Symposium on September 23-24 at Mystic Lake Casino Hotel, located in Prior Lake, MN. OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED during that time.



Mark your calendars!!

November 14th is Give to the Max Day! We hope you will donate this year to support our Dakota Language programs. Stay tuned for more in next month's newsletter!

September 2013

Dakota Wicohan Program Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <i>Labor Day!</i> 	3	4 <i>Tiwahe Gathering</i> 6:00 p.m.	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 <i>Tiwahe Gathering</i> 6:00 p.m.	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 <i>Tiwahe Gathering</i> 6:00 p.m.	19 <i>Wiciyanma</i> 4:00-5:00	20	21
22	23  OFFICE CLOSED DW Staff attending the Seventh Indigenous Language Symposium in Prior Lake, MN	24	25 <i>Tiwahe Gathering</i> 6:00 p.m.	26 <i>Wiciyanma</i> 4:00-5:00	27	28
29	30 Wikoska and Koska Program will have updates in the next newsletter, both Coordinators are working out a schedule.					