



## Seven Maada'ookiing grants awarded to Native American individuals in Fall 2023 funding round

*Diversity of creative, grassroots work receives \$16,529 in funding support*

(December 8, 2023)

The Northland Foundation is pleased to feature the individuals and projects receiving the most recent round of Maada'ookiing grants.

[Maada'ookiing](#) (“the distribution” in Ojibwe) is a Native-led program of the Northland Foundation. The program is designed to strengthen relationships with and offer support to Native American community members doing individual or small group work related to:

- supporting Native American youth
- strengthening use of or access to Native American language (including also digital apps, dictionaries, video, and other creative projects)
- sharing Native American culture/spiritual practices and activities
- sustaining Tribal civic engagement, sovereignty, and self-determination (including non-partisan get out the vote or civic education)
- shifting the narrative and increasing visibility of contemporary Native American communities
- promoting Native American leadership and experiences (projects that provide training, networking, and education opportunities)
- engaging in Native American grassroots organizing (projects that strengthen community well-being and/or respond to Native American community issues)

Grants of up to \$2,500 each are offered three times per year to applicants who are Tribal citizens, descendants, or who have kinship ties or affiliation to Native American communities within the Foundation’s geographic service area. Since the program started in May 2021, 74 grants totaling more than \$180,000 have been given.

The [Maada'ookiing Advisory Board](#) reviewed and approved the following fall 2023 grant awards.

**La Vonne Cloud, Deer River: \$2,500**

To support a beading class on the Leech Lake Reservation.

**Annette Humphrey, Deer River: \$2,500**

To support data collection for improving housing access on the Leech Lake Reservation.

**Wendy Jourdain, Cass Lake: \$2,500**

To support community building and cultural connection through weekly sewing sessions on the Leech Lake Reservation.

**Stacy Palmer, Orr: \$2,500**

To support an afterschool regalia making class for youth at Bois Forte Reservation.

**Elizabeth Jaakola, Cloquet: \$2,500**

To support the creation of an album of original music by Fond du Lac youth.

**Victoria McMillen, Cloquet: \$2,500**

To support cultural leatherworking classes on the Fond du Lac Reservation.

**Olivia Allen, Duluth: \$1,529**

To support the creation of solar-powered wild rice processors for use at a Native American youth summer camp.

Grant applications are accepted anytime using an online grant portal. **The next application deadline is February 15, 2024.** Those who are interested in applying for a grant are encouraged to visit the Northland Foundation's website and contact Cayla Bellanger DeGroat by email at [cayla@northlandfdn.org](mailto:cayla@northlandfdn.org) or phone at (218) 730-3387 with questions.

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