



Language Warriors!

Happy New Year!

In case you missed it, the Alaska Native Language Preservation and Advisory Council released their 2018 [biennial report](#). ANLPAC is a crucial advocate for native languages to the governor and legislature and their thoughtful, in-depth report, which focuses on Indigenous self-determination, addresses causes of [language decline](#) and successful revitalization strategies. There are recommendations for communities as well as policy-makers. Congratulations to the ANLPAC board, staff, and contributors!

Last week, we sent you all a short email of upcoming events. Those of us putting together this Digest occasionally get messages from one of you letting us know of upcoming language-related events. We want to get the word out but are conscious of not overwhelming your inboxes; if you'd like to only receive the digest but not these occasional event announcements, let us know.

Opportunities

Doyon Foundation is hiring for its Doyon Languages Online project. They are hiring [a project manager, linguistics consultants, and content creators](#) until January 31. This is great opportunity for those familiar with Holikachuk, Denaakk'e, Benhti Kenaga', Hän, and Dinjii Zhuh K'yaa!

The 2018 Alaska Native Studies Conference [Call for Proposals is open](#) until January 31st! Submit presentation proposals in all fields related to Indigenous and Alaska Native studies, especially that relates to the 2018 theme "Past, Present, Future—Working Together."

The American Indian Graduate Center is now [open for scholarship applications](#). The AIGC provides financial support for American Indians and Alaska Natives seeking higher education.

Statewide Upcoming

Katie Parrott shared with us the incredible work that Ketchikan Indian Community is doing. They've instituted a Native language class, the first in their school district's history, with their Xaad Kil (Haida language) high school class—for which students receive foreign language credit. They're currently working on getting a full-time Lingít language staff to provide classes. And their Sh'malgyack [language apprentices](#) are making [incredible strides](#)! You can also check out their [Haida language class](#) and [Sh'malgyack class info](#). Congratulations to KIC and the amazing work being done in Southeast Alaska.

Piama Oleyer asked us to pass on The Alaska Native Cultural Charter School's [survey](#) to see if language immersion should be expanded. The ANCC is surveying for a half-day Yup'ik immersion. You can participate by selecting 'community member' and taking the survey [here](#).

Shoot us an email if you know of anything else happening!

The last two weeks in language revitalization

Rosita Worl asked us to pass along Sealaska Heritage Institute's adoption of a [statement](#) on the importance of precise orthography in Native languages. Something for other communities to consider!

Fairbanks Native Association has launched a [dual language classroom](#) for bolstering English and Denaakk'e - Koyukon Athbascan speaking and comprehension through a US Department of Education five-year grant. Educators and families are integrating cultural knowledge into preschool curriculum to not only prepare for K-12 education, but to live the cultural values that are encoded in our language and cultural practices such as singing, dancing and sharing food.

[Inspiring words](#) from Gambell youth Agraġiiq Chris Apassingok in Siberian Yupik and English delivered at the October 2017 Statewide Elders and Youth Conference. [Watch the video](#) or [read the speech](#).

The NYTimes told an incredible, heartbreaking story about Amadeo, the last to speak his language of [Taushiro](#). You can follow the link, or if you don't have access you can [email Veri](#) for the full text.

Sarah Rivett, an English and American Studies scholar, just wrote a book about the huge impact of Native American languages on early (colonial) American literature. Read the interview [here](#)!

Sweet Resource

A website created by Qaġġun Chelsey Zibell of Noorvik translates Edna MacLean's North Slope Iñupiaq grammar book into online lessons: <https://inupiatlanguage.community.uaf.edu>. This book taught Reid much of his Iñupiaq; we're excited to see it made more accessible!

About the Digest – What is this and why am I getting it?

This mailing is our attempt to connect Alaskans who are invested in Native language revitalization. Periodically, we send out a short mailing including relevant news articles, stories from around Alaska, and anything else we, or you, find meaningful and inspiring. You are always welcome to contribute — just reply to this message.

If you know someone who should be getting this but isn't, also let us know.

And last, let us know if you wish to unsubscribe. We'll take you off.

Who are we?

We are a loose group of individuals passionate about Alaska Native language revitalization. We want to connect people across the state to share experiences, challenges, and successes. We want to spread best practices. Most of all, we want to see our Alaska Native languages thrive once more.

Contributors

This issue was put together by Veri di Suvero, with input from David Russell-Jensen, Dewey Hoffman, and Reid Magdanz.