Sealaska Heritage Institute will sponsor its first education conference for teachers and administrators in an effort to promote culturally responsive pedagogy in schools. Research has shown the effectiveness of using culture- and place-based teaching resources and methods to improve academic achievement for Indigenous students. Studies over the past three decades have shown that Native language and culturally-responsive programs are associated with improved academic performance, decreased dropout rates and improved school attendance.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Educators, administrators, teachers, para-educators, early childhood educators and providers, teachers in training, Head Start, school board members, currently enrolled UAS PITAAS and MAT students, and anyone working with children in an educational setting.

REGISTER

There is no registration fee for the conference. Follow the link to register: https://tinyurl.com/lefvz93
Dr. Christopher Blodgett is a Washington State University (WSU) faculty member and a licensed clinical psychologist. He has been the Principal Investigator for more than three dozen federal and national foundation grants addressing high-risk children and families. He is the Director of the CLEAR Trauma Center at WSU. Trauma-informed schools work in the CLEAR model now includes multiple schools in Washington, Oregon and California. Blodgett and his team partner with communities and systems to adapt the science of resilience, brain development, and trauma treatment to better address trauma resulting from childhood adversity. Now funded by multiple federal and philanthropic grants, this work documents the profound and immediate consequences of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and tests practical actions to improve child, family, and system outcomes.

Zaretta Hammond is a national education consultant and author of *Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain: Promoting Authentic Engagement and Rigor for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students*. She is a former English teacher and has been doing consulting and professional development around equity, literacy, and culturally responsive teaching for the past 21 years. She has provided instructional support for a variety of organizations such as Santa Barbara County Education Office, Sonoma County Office of Education, and Teaching for America. In addition, she has worked with leaders and teachers in school districts across the country.

Libby Roderick is Associate Director for the Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence at the University of Alaska Anchorage and director of its Difficult Dialogues Initiative. Libby conducts workshops for faculty in the U.S. and South Africa on engaging difficult dialogues in higher education and on adopting indigenous ways of teaching and learning in educational systems. A lifelong Alaskan with a degree from Yale University, Libby is also an internationally award-winning singer/songwriter and recording artist.
Sealaska Heritage is currently accepting proposals for breakout sessions on the following topics:

• Culturally Responsive Education and Place-Based Pedagogy
• Early Childhood CRE Practices
• Equity in Education

Proposals should be in presentation or interactive workshop format. Presenters will be given an honorarium.

Submit proposals by Friday, April 14, 2017. Presenters will be notified of selection by Monday, April 24, 2017.

Follow the link to submit: https://tinyurl.com/khd4ngz

Ilarion (Larry) Merculieff was born on the Pribilof Island of St. Paul, raised in a traditional Unangan (Aleut) community and given the traditional name Kuuyux by an Elder. At the age of four, he was chosen by the Elders to serve as a bridge between traditional Aleut culture and the outside world. He graduated from the University of Washington, having established the first indigenous student education program there. Merculieff has served Unangan and other indigenous peoples over a forty-year career devoted to the environment, human rights, community wellness, economic development and cultural enhancement. He has held leadership positions with a wide range of organizations, including the Aleut Corporation, the Alaska Inter-Tribal Council, the Alaska Native Science Commission and the Alaska Department of Commerce and Economic Development. Organizations he co-founded and/or co-directed include the Indigenous Peoples’ Council for Marine Mammals, the Alaska Oceans Network, the International Bering Sea Forum, the Bering Sea Council of Elders and the Science Working Group for Snowchange. He is presently the director of the Global Center for Indigenous Leadership and Lifeways. www.gcill.org