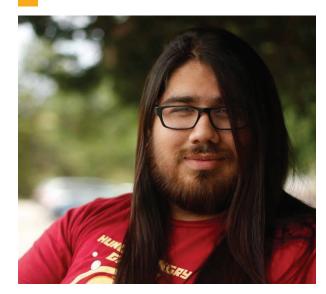
globalizing education

After studying international politics and human rights in San Francisco, New York and Japan, this year Maka Akan Najin Clifford '05 has returned to Red Cloud to teach Lakota Studies. Red Cloud Country sat down with him to discuss his journey, and what he hopes to share with his students.

"Red Cloud challenges you to succeed, no matter what."



A Q&A WITH ALUM AND TEACHER MAKA CLIFFORD

Red Cloud Country: Welcome home, Maka! What brought you back to Red Cloud? Maka Clifford: There are obvious challenges that students face on the reservation. I was no exception. But Red Cloud encourages success despite those obstacles in students' lives. Through the Spiritual Formation department, we were challenged to consider values and ethics, and to think critically about the world. That ability to think critically is what really helped me succeed in college.

RCC: Something has really sparked your interest in global affairs and education! MC: During my time at the University of San Francisco, another Jesuit institution, I was able to study abroad in Japan. It was the year the United Nations passed its Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the Japanese government formally recognized the Ainu as the country's indigenous population after years of denying them basic rights. There was a huge conference held to celebrate, bringing together indigenous peoples from all over the world. I had the chance to participate in conversations about the future of indigenous populations and even signed the declaration on Ainu rights. I realized this was my calling-to be involved in indigenous studies and human rights. I applied to Teachers College at Columbia University and worked toward my Masters in Peace & Human Rights Education.

RCC: And to return as a teacher? What is it like to be teaching at your alma mater? MC: I love being here—the reservation will always be my home and Red Cloud will always be a part of my life. And soon I'll have the chance to bring my passion into the classroom by teaching an elective on the world's indigenous peoples. I'm so excited to bring Lakota people into the international conversation. And while I do plan to pursue a PhD, my ultimate goal is to come back and help globalize education on the reservation. It's important that Lakota students learn their culture and history, but it's also important for them to branch out and know the world.

Read more of the interview at www.redcloudschool.org/people

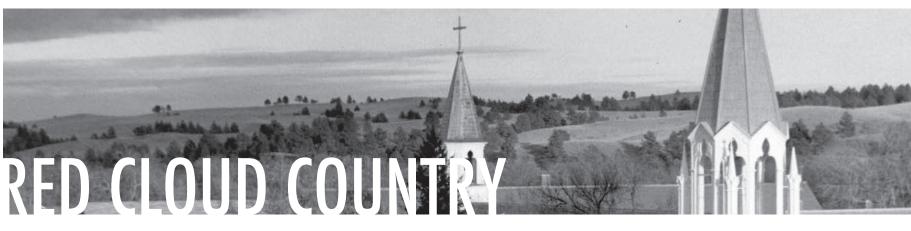
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Sharing the stories of Red Cloud Indian School

www.redcloudschool.org

Volume 5, Issue 2

Just a few weeks ago, the entire Red Cloud community came together to celebrate our 125th anniversary. Campus buzzed throughout day as students led tours, visitors attended workshops and dancers and drummers gathered in the fieldhouse for a celebration *wacipi*. And it seems each of us has our own moment that struck us particularly. For me, there's one image from the day I know I won't soon forget.



During the celebration, some of our high school students took the reins and taught Lakota language lessons to their parents, grandparents, friends and visitors from across the country, including some who had never heard the Lakota language spoken before. In a classroom packed with people, I watched as our students expertly guided workshop participants through introducing themselves with new phrases like, "*Čhantéwašteya* wanhiyankelo" or "I'm happy to have met you!" For many years, our language has balanced on the edge of extinction. It is estimated that

only 6,000 fluent Lakota speakers remain in the world today. But as Red Cloud Indian School turns 125, we are working across our campuses to reverse that cultural loss and to reclaim the Lakota language as a core part of our identity and heritage A new generation of Lakota speakers is emerging right in our classrooms, and beginning to share their knowledge of Lakota language with the world. Listening to our students

speak and teach in Lakota, I was reminded with striking clarity



Fall 2013

There's a new teacher on Red Cloud's campus this academic year-but she doesn't teach science, English or even math classes. Red Dawn Foster, who is both Lakota and Navajo, earned her Masters in Business Administration at Notre Dame and arrived at Red Cloud this fall to teach the high school's newest classes in leadership, economics and entrepreneurship.

As part of the Economic Development Initiative (EDI), the latest innovative project at Red Cloud, Foster is helping students gain the skills and confidence necessary to launch their own Native-owned businesses.

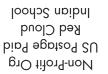
Created to combat poverty and increase financial security on the reservation, Red Cloud's EDI supports students, alumni and other community members who want to make their business idea a reality.

"By starting businesses, our students can fuel the economic growth we need here on Pine Ridge," says Foster. "They have the power to reshape economic realities in their communities."

In addition to Foster's rigorous business classes, the EDI has also launched a unique on-campus business incubator called the 7 Gen Business Center. Participants who are accepted into the Center receive intensive, real world training through an entrepreneurial "boot camp," mentoring from business, accounting and marketing experts and a small start-up grant to launch and build their company. "There's no doubt this program can help expand

participants' earning power," says EDI Executive Director Mitchell Bennett. "But our real focus is supporting Nativeowned businesses that will strengthen and support communities here on Pine Ridge for generations to come. Our model isn't just about profit; it's about community stability, sustainability and empowerment."

Today the 7 Gen Business Center is filled with all the tools and technology new businesses need: cubicles set up with independent phone lines, computers with highspeed Internet access and workspace for planning and strategy sessions. But the most meaningful resource the Center provides, says 7 Gen participant Sharice Davids, is exceptionally strong support and encouragement. Sharice is the owner of Hoka! Coffee-the first company to be accepted into the incubator. Currently Hoka! sells organic beans roasted by a larger company in Boulder, Colorado that supports fair-trade practices. But Sharice says her real goal is to create a roasting facility on Pine Ridge that would create jobs in Lakota communities and support indigenous coffee growers. "Hoka! is all about being 'indigenous from the ground to the cup.' I want to do everything I can to create jobs in Native communities, starting right here on Pine Ridge."



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Red Cloud's yearlong 125th anniversary celebration has just begun! Visit us online at

www.redcloudschool.org/125 for more on Red Cloud's history, our evolution and our plans

605/867-1105 ext. 300

For more information on Red Cloud's Economic Devel-

opment Initiative, visit www.redcloudschool.org/EDI.

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what is so powerful about being at Red Cloud today. Among our students and in our communities, we are working to deepen understanding of Lakota culture and identity in ways that both educate and empower.

Hope. Alive.

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As a result, our young people are already becoming leaders not just here on Pine Ridge, but also

for using your stamp

across the country and around the world. I believe that was Chief Red Cloud's dream. And supporters like you have made it possible to realize that dream fully. As we embark upon the next 125 years, I say from all of us "Wóphila ťháŋka!"

for the future.

Thanks



the Lakota people.

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The shop also carries Red Cloud's beloved annual calendar

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AROUND THE REZ RED CLOUD BRIEFS

The Heritage Center Launches Youth Writers Society

The Heritage Center recently launched Théča Wówapi Káğa Okhólakičhiye, or TWKO, a writer's society for Native youth across the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Reservations. Participants come together through monthly workshops to be mentored by local artists and writers and share their narratives at open mic nights and poetry "slams." Though the program is still in its initial phase, Museum Educator Brandie Macdonald says interest across the reservations has been overwhelming. "This project is all about encouraging Lakota youth to unite and have their voices heard locally and nationally. It's been inspiring to watch these kids share their stories so openly and bravely."

Lakota Language Project Presented at **National Native Education Conference**

The strength of Red Cloud's Lakota Language Project (LLP) was on full display at the National Indian Education Association's (NIEA) 44th Annual Convention and Trade Show on October 31. NIEA, the premier national advocacy organization advancing Native education, brought together Native leaders from across the country to find solutions to the challenges facing Native students today. Program staff and teachers presented to a packed audience in Rapid City's Civic Center on how the LLP-the only comprehensive K-12 Lakota language curriculum in the country-is increasing students' academic engagement and success across all subjects, from biology and English to math and spiritual formation

Parishes Host a Moving Mass Blending Lakota and Catholic Traditions

To celebrate Red Cloud's 125th anniversary, pastoral team leaders prepared a stunning, incultur ated liturgy, filling the curved pews of Holy Rosary Church with students, faculty, alumni and visitors from across the country. Led by Fr. Rick Abert, S.J. and Sr. Connie Schmidt, SSND, the pastoral team selected a series of readings and songs emphasizing shared values in Catholic and Lakota spirituality. A choir sang hymns selected especially for the occasion and a local drum group, The Sons of the Oglala, played stirring traditional drum songs throughout the service. For more photos of our special Mass, visit www.redcloudschool.org/125.



Thiyóšpaye: [tee-YO-shpa-yay] (n.) extended family

We regard our honor roll of donors as our family, or thiyóšpaye. In sharing your prayers and recources we know we have a support system that extends far beyond reservation land

dear friends, A respected Lakota artist who sits on Red Cloud's Board of Directors recently explained to me that, among the Lakota people, there is a strong belief in "being a good relative." He said sharing and giving generously, and putting the needs of our thiyospaye-our extended family

or community-above our individual needs is considered a high honor. Among Jesuits, too, there is a shared belief that giving back to our community is not just a responsibility but also a gift.

The importance of giving back is at the root of everything we do here at Red Cloud. In fact, if you look up as you walk into Red Cloud High School, you'll see the words "In Service to Others" painted above the entryway as a reminder to our students-and to all of us-of what we must strive to be. That is why we are so proud of the many Red Cloud graduates who have gone on to serve their communities through their careers. Graduates like Maisie Herman '00, who earned her Master of Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis and now advocates for Native children and families in Denver, personify the true meaning of "being a good relative."

And you, too, know what it means to be a good relative to our community here at Red Cloud. Your spiritual and financial support over the years has allowed us to reach a tremendous moment in our history—our 125th anniversary. The list on the following page is just a small representation of our thiyóšpaye, including supporters like you, that allows us to offer education and create opportunity here on Pine Ridge.

As you will see in these pages, there are a number of ways you can give to Red Cloud, including becoming a member of our Circle of *Éunkignakpi* through a will gift (*éunkignakpi* means "to lay down" or "set aside"). If you are updating your will to include Red Cloud, here are two examples of bequests in wills, as well as sample language you might use:

1. Outright gift of a sum of money: "I give to Red Cloud Indian School, Inc. the sum of \$______ 2. Outright gift of a share of residuary estate: "I give, devise and bequeath to Red Cloud Indian School,

Inc. all (or a percentage) of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate."

Whether it is a specific sum or a percentage of the residual, all are a great help to us. Your legal advisor may need some of the following information: Our legal name is Red Cloud Indian School, Inc. and our address is 100 Mission Drive, Pine Ridge, South Dakota 57770-2100. Should it be needed, our Tax ID # is 46-0275071. Red Cloud is a recognized tax-exempt non-profit, religious, educational institution.

I am deeply grateful and humbled by your commitment to the work we do here at Red Cloud. You are a part of our family. I hope you will continue to walk with us as we embark upon the next 125 years of our journey together.



My most sincere blessings this season, Fr. George Winzenburg, S.J., President

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If your name Perry Jones Mr. & Mrs. Mark Stinski Mr. & Mrs. Charles & Fo , Warren F. Kam Pauline Kaus isted incorrectly, we apologize Louise A. Keck Please contact Red Cloud with Mr. Vernon J. Stoeh Mr. Jack Stoke:

Thank you for helping to provide a quality education for the boys and girls at Red Cloud. These circles were set up to honor and, in a small way, thank the members of our Circle of Family whose gifts were received from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

(detach here, moisten glue strip and seal)

Among the Lakota people, gratitude is one of the seven basic virtues. Another is generosity Red Cloud is humbly grateful for your generous prayers and gifts that provided:



Future college graduates. Last year's Red Cloud seniors have begun their college careers at Stanford, Creighton and many more universities around the country. Because of your support, more than 95% of Red Cloud araduates go on to college or post-secondary training. Wóphila!

Healthy Meals. Our students are able to focus on their studies because they are not focused on their stomachs. Your support helps us provide a complete breakfast, a healthy lunch and an after-school snack. Wóphila!

Economic Impact. The Heritage Center adds over \$1 million into the local reservation economy by purchasing items from local artists and selling them through our internationally recognized gift shop. By purchasing items from our gift shop and online store, you allow us to foster and encourage Lakota artists. Wóphila!

Talented teachers and aides. This year, 24 full-time volunteers have engaged in our spirit of service and joined Red Cloud to ensure Lakota children gain stronger reading, writing and math skills. Your support provides food, housing and small travel stipends for these volunteers from across the country. Wóphila!

Merry Christmas to the kids!

The thiyospaye is a central part of the Lakota culture, making Christmas a special time on the reservation. By this time this newsletter reaches you, the holiday season will be in full swing! If you have a message of hope for our students, please share it by filling out this form and mailing it in the self-addressed envelope attached to this newsletter.

