2008 Lake Champlain Quadricentennial Implementation Grants

Native Ways and Franco American Days in the Champlain Islands



Organization: Island Arts

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Project Summary

Through a 2008 Lake Champlain Quadricentennial Implementation grant from the CVNHP/LCBP, Island Arts celebrated the 400th anniversary of Samuel de Champlain's 1609 exploration of the lake with a week long program in 2009 featuring native people's dancing, drumming, singing, story telling and crafts, a celebration of our Franco American culture past and present day. The program also included an exploration of the night sky as Samuel de Champlain and his native guides would have experienced it.

The work of Jack Sabon and other native artists was showcased at an Island Arts Gallery and there was a lecture on the presence and evolution of 400 years of watercraft at a lakeside location. An introduction to French Canadian instrumental music was taught at the local elementary schools to prepare students for the fun of the summer Quadricentennial events.

NEIWPCC Code L-2008-010

Date Complete: Oct. 10, 2009

Grant Amount: \$5,000

Non-federal Match: \$1,825

Total Amount: \$6,825