



Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership



2014 CVNHP Local Heritage Grant

Abenaki Cultural Enrichment: Nulhegan Youth Drumming

Project Summary

Through a \$2500 CVNHP Local Heritage Grant, Native American students learned about their Abenaki culture. The preconceived notions of Native Abenakis being gone, or living in the old ways was replaced with the facts that Native Abenaki are here today and live as everyone else and are well-established in society. The students learned Abenaki songs handed down through the generations. One of the highlights of the grant activities was meeting for an educational day with the Swanton Missisquoi Tribal youth group: The Circle of Courage. The children learned many dances which are still performed today and received exposure to new Native songs. The students performed for several venues: with the Circle of Courage, Shelburne Farms, the radio program Moccasin Tracks, Holland Elementary School, Carolyn’s Red Balloon Enrichment Center, Derby Line Days and various other programs. The students involved designed their regalia and took great pride in the project. The purchase of a ceremonial drum was a key investment for the children as they performed sacred rites to “open” and “close” activities using the instrument.

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The purchase of a ceremonial drum was integral to the success of the project.

NEIWPC Code	L-2014-054
Date Complete:	4/14/2015
Grant Amount:	\$2,500
Non-federal Match:	\$0
Total Amount:	\$2,500