

Archbishop Murphy High School announces The Healing Pole Ceremony on May 15 at 10am created with Artist-in-Residence James Madison, Tulalip Tribal Member and master woodcarver

As an extension of hands-on and experiential learning efforts, students and staff of Archbishop Murphy High School spent the past year carving The Healing Pole, complete with a wildcat (the school mascot) in the design.

EVERETT, April 18, 2024 – Archbishop Murphy High School, located across the street from The Farm at Mill Creek, announces a ceremony on campus **May 15 at 10 am**. The ceremony is a celebration of a community-wide carving project spearheaded by master woodcarver and Tulalip Tribal Member, James Madison. In Fall 2021, the school began fundraising efforts to support the expansion of hands-on and experiential learning opportunities. As an extension of these efforts, AMHS started an Artist-in-Residence program with inaugural artist James Madison joining the school nearly one year ago. AMHS students and staff worked alongside James Madison, getting directly involved in carving, while learning a little more about Coast Salish artwork and Tulalip culture.

“This project gave our community the opportunity to create something beautiful with the hope of building a cultural bridge that promotes deeper understanding,” commented Principal Alicia Mitchell.

AMHS Artist-in-Residence – The Healing Pole Celebration:

- AMHS is celebrating installation of The Healing Pole with a ceremony on **May 15 at 10 am**.
- Under James Madison’s leadership, AMHS began carving on Friday, May 5, 2023.
- The goal of the project was to build community through the arts by giving students and staff a creative outlet that serves as a source of healing from the impact of the pandemic.
- Watch the [AMHS Experiential Learning video](#) from Fall 2021 that tells the story.

About Archbishop Murphy High School

[Archbishop Murphy High School](#) is a private Catholic, college preparatory school that welcomes students of all faiths and values diversity. In recent years, as part of the professional development efforts, school leadership coordinated faculty and staff visits to the Tulalip Hilibulb Cultural Center and hosted Dr. Stephanie Freyberg as a keynote speaker. These experiences inform the lens faculty and staff bring to AMHS. School leadership wanted to go deeper by bringing experiential learning to the entire school community through the arts and embarked on The Healing Pole project. AMHS expresses tremendous appreciation for those who made this project possible, including the generosity of the AMHS community and the Snohomish County Arts commission, who awarded the school an Arts & Culture Grant.

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