

Archbishop Murphy High School announces launch of major carving project with Artist-in-Residence James Madison, Tulalip Tribal Member and master woodcarver

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

EVERETT, April 28, 2023 – Archbishop Murphy High School, located across the street from The Farm at Mill Creek, announces launch of a community wide carving project with 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 is starting an Artist-in-Residence program with inaugural artist James Madison joining the school starting next week. AMHS students and staff will work alongside James Madison, and directly get involved in carving, while learning about Coast Salish artwork and Tulalip culture.

“Not only will our students and staff create something beautiful together as a school community, but we hope to build a cultural bridge that promotes deeper understanding and appreciation for Native American traditions and communities,” commented Principal Alicia Mitchell.

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

- Under James Madison’s leadership, AMHS will begin carving on Friday, May 5, 2023.
- The goal of the project is to build community and give students and staff a creative outlet that serves as a source of healing from the impact of the pandemic.
- AMHS will install the completed project on campus in May 2024.
- 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. Over the past two years, as part of Archbishop Murphy High School’s professional development, school leadership has coordinated faculty and staff visits to the Tulalip Hibulb Cultural Center and hosted Dr. Stephanie Freyberg as a keynote speaker. These experiences inform the lens faculty and staff bring to their work at AMHS. As a result, school leadership wanted to go deeper by bringing this experiential learning to the entire school community through the arts. This project is made possible through the generosity of the AMHS community and the Snohomish County Arts commission, who awarded AMHS an Arts & Culture Grant.

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