



## 2018 Washington Stories Fund Grants Awarded

**Confluence** (Vancouver)

***Confluence Story Gathering***

“Confluence Story Gatherings” were designed to collect and archive first-person narratives of indigenous Columbia River peoples, as a way to deepen public understanding of the cultural and historical context surrounding Confluence’s art/landscape installations. Confluence will organize a public forum at the Washington State University campus in Vancouver, WA, to bring together people who are connected to the Columbia River, including students, residents, tribal members, educators, and scholars, to learn about and participate in the Confluence Oral History Project. As a catalyst for discovery, Confluence’s goal is to create spaces that promote moments of insight about the confluence of history, culture, and ecology throughout the Columbia River system. The task is to create a welcoming forum that features the stories of Native elders, told in their own voices, in a culturally sensitive context. Only through the words of those connected to the river can Confluence attempt to understand and open a dialogue with the broader community about how Native people view their homelands as part of an ongoing continuum. Ultimately, the moments of insight captured at this gathering will be used for Confluence Online, a digital resource library that connects the six Confluence sites along the Columbia River for visitors and teachers.

**Living with Conviction** (with Blue Earth Alliance; Seattle)

***Living with Conviction: Sentenced to Debt for Life in Washington State***

“Living with Conviction: Sentenced to Debt for Life in Washington State” is a multi-media storytelling and civic engagement project about how legal sentencing results not just in prison, but in a lifetime of debt. In partnership with formerly incarcerated individuals, Living with Conviction will document and share the struggles of Washington State’s Latino community as they struggle to survive and thrive under legal financial obligations (LFOs)—that is: fines, fees, costs and victim restitution that courts impose on criminal defendants at the time of sentencing. The project will include first-person narratives presented online and alongside photography exhibits, as well as community conversations.

**Nordic Museum** (Seattle)

***Interwoven: The Blended Heritage of Nordics and Native Peoples***

Interwoven is a cooperative oral history project developed to record, preserve, and present personal stories and histories of individuals in Washington State with blended Nordic and Indigenous cultural identities. The Interwoven project will include recording interviews of individuals, and public symposia, held with support from several cultural institutions including the Suquamish Foundation, Tulalip Tribes, and the Washington State Historical Society. Through this project the Nordic Museum will create a more open and cooperative dialogue about, and raise awareness of, the diverse cultural identities of Washington State residents.

**Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience (Seattle)**

***Stories across Generations: Burmese Americans in Western Washington***

Stories of Burmese American immigrants and refugees in Western Washington will be collected as digital audio recordings and video interviews. Transcriptions/translations will be made of non-English interviews. Significant objects that accompany the stories will be photographed in digital format. Audio and video recordings and photographs will be archived and will be freely available in The Wing's Library and in the Museum's online database (<http://db.wingluke.org/>). A public exhibition at the Wing Luke Museum, December 6, 2019 - November 8, 2020, will display the stories, including translations and objects collected. Public programming will also accompany the exhibition.