

GrandMother Drum International Peace Project

"RING OF FIRE" WORLD TOUR

White Eagle Medicine Woman, Director and DrumKeeper

The Whirling Rainbow Foundation

P.O. Box 2822

Palmer, Alaska 99645

907-745-5636

907-715-4433 Tour Cell

thewhirlingrainbowfoundation@gmail.com

<http://www.whirlingrainbow.com>

From a vision of indigenous grandmothers and many hands of the multicultural Alaskan community, the large, seven-foot diameter, crystal inlaid, GrandMother Drum was built in 2000. The GrandMother Drum is traveling the world as an international symbol of the Universal Heart that connects all races and all cultures of the human family. Immediately after her birth in 2001, GrandMother Drum was invited to be the very heartbeat of Alaska's largest human rights march, the "We the People" Alaska Native Subsistence March gathering over five thousand people. Within six months, the worldwide request for her community healing work spread like a wildfire. The project then launched two "Ring of Fire" World Tours in Australia, traveling over twenty thousand miles throughout the country in 2002 and 2003 sharing culture, promoting cross-cultural awareness, healing and reconciliation. The project worked intimately with the Aboriginal communities in countless reconciliation gatherings with Australia's "Stolen Generation" premiered in the movie, "Rabbit Proof Fence." The project also worked directly with Aboriginal Elder Eileen Brown and the Kungka Juta grandmothers in their plight to keep a nuclear waste dump from their tribal lands.

The GrandMother Drum is a living, beating symbol from the hearts of the grandmothers that we are all one people, that Mother Earth is our one country, that love is stronger than fear and that peace and freedom are the birthrights of all humanity. The drum is the centerpiece of creating celebrations that honor the unique gifts and spiritual traditions of the diverse cultures of the human family with the theme: The Heartbeat of One Family, One Earth. The dynamic multicultural performances share an explosive mix of thundering primal rhythms, irresistible music and dance.

The largest drum of its kind in the world, the GrandMother Drum took over a year to construct, and has over 1300 strips of wood, two hundred crystals inlaid in its kettle base and is covered by one giant buffalo hide. All this combined produces a phenomenal sound that not only stirs the soul, but has a tremendous healing effect on the body.

"When people of diverse cultures are beating together around a thundering seven-foot heartbeat, they get it," says drum keeper White Eagle, "They remember who they are and what is really important-

caring, sharing and respecting one another. GrandMother Drum is electrifying-she is absolutely contagious!"

The "Ring of Fire" World Tours involve interactive performance concerts, personal and community healing ceremonies, drum making workshops, children's storytelling, dance, ritual art, and earth healings that focus on the activation of what the grandmothers refer to as the "Ring of Fire." This ring is a key site in the healing taking place for earth's people over the next ten years. The project conducts special land activation's and healings in caves, hot springs and volcanic areas throughout the earth's "Ring of Fire".

Early in 2001, GrandMother Drum gave birth to the Baby Drum Project. Baby Drums are replicas of the giant seven-foot drum made in workshops throughout the tour. They allow people around the world to get personally involved in the project's ongoing worldwide drumming vigils for peace. "We know our collective thought makes a difference and we want to gather a Million Drums for Peace," says drum keeper White Eagle, "and connect our global family heartbeat to heartbeat." Over three thousand Baby Drums have been made and sold with proceeds supporting the international travels of the GrandMother Drum. The GrandMother Drum Project also builds large three- foot "Mother Drums" to seed drumming in communities as they tour.

In September 2004, the GrandMother Drum set the Guinness Book of World Records for the "Largest Drum Ensemble" connecting over four thousand drummers with another 150 cities in 50 countries with an intention for world peace.

After two world tours, the GrandMother Drum Project returned home to Alaska in 2004, releasing their debut CD, Journey of the Heart, at the Valentine's Day, Big Drum, Big Love multicultural concert. Just months later the CD's, "Traveling Song" won in the Inspirational category of the Alaska Public Radio's Song of the Year.

In January 2007, The GrandMother Drum International Peace Project launched its fourth "Ring of Fire" World Tour with its premiere DVD, GrandMother Drum: Awakening the Global Heart and the Soundtrack CD, Songlines of the Soul. The Project just returned from its fourth world tour traveling 18,000 miles from Alaska to Guatemala reuniting the people of the Americas in peace and reconciliation and planting original Mayan seed corn in communities to reclaim our earth and bring public awareness to the effects of genetically modified foods.

To book the GrandMother Drum International Peace Project in your area or at your events contact us at the above address.

Concertgoers are shaken to the core by GrandMother Drum's soulful thunder-her universal power in undeniable. Heather Resz- Anchorage Chronicle

"At a time when there are few good news stories around, the GrandMother Drum and its people represent a truly inspiring project to help build communities." - Ken Jacobs, World Music Promotions Gold Coast, Australia

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