



2004 HONOREES

CLARENCE ALEXANDER is the recipient of the 2004 Buffett Award for Indigenous leadership for his many years of work advocating for environmental justice, tribal rights and protection of the Yukon River Watershed. He is a respected leader with indigenous values, strong coalition building skills and extraordinary vision. As former Grand Chief, Clarence's contribution is significant throughout much of the development and conservation in the Yukon Flats and the North over the last 30 years. He is currently working on a Gwich'in Athabaskan-English dictionary with his wife, Virginia.

IVAN JACKSON, SR. maintains, teaches, and shares with the public cultural traditions of the Klamath Modoc people. He makes traditional tools, clothing, weapons, shelters, and basketry for use in demonstrations and interpretive displays. Jackson's creative technical applications of traditional knowledge provide the Tribes a culturally grounded presence for their restoration process.

SARAH JAMES is a national and international spokesperson on indigenous rights, environmental issues and human rights. As a spokesperson for the Gwich'in Steering Committee, James has made important contributions to the preservation of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. She serves as an advisor to the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council. James also serves on the EPA National Environmental Justice Advisory Council, Indigenous Peoples Subcommittee.

TERI ROFKAR works to preserve the Tlingit's ancient art of weaving and basketry. Her artwork serves as a link in sustaining indigenous culture in a modern context. She is an artist-in residence at the Southeast Alaska Indian Cultural Center. In 2003, Rofkar traveled to east coast museums as part of a National Museum of the American Indian fellowship. She teaches weaving and traditional material care and harvest.

TERRY WILLIAMS is a recognized and respected leader in natural resource and environmental management. Williams serves as a Fisheries and Natural Resources Commissioner for the Tulalip Tribes, and the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission. In 1997, the Secretary for Policy and International Affairs Office of the Department of the Interior appointed Williams to represent indigenous peoples on the U.S. delegation to the United Nations Conference on Biodiversity. From 1995 to 1996, Williams was director of the U.S.'s E.P.A. American Indian Environmental Office.