

WABC-TV
congratulates
the Honorees

Tom Porter

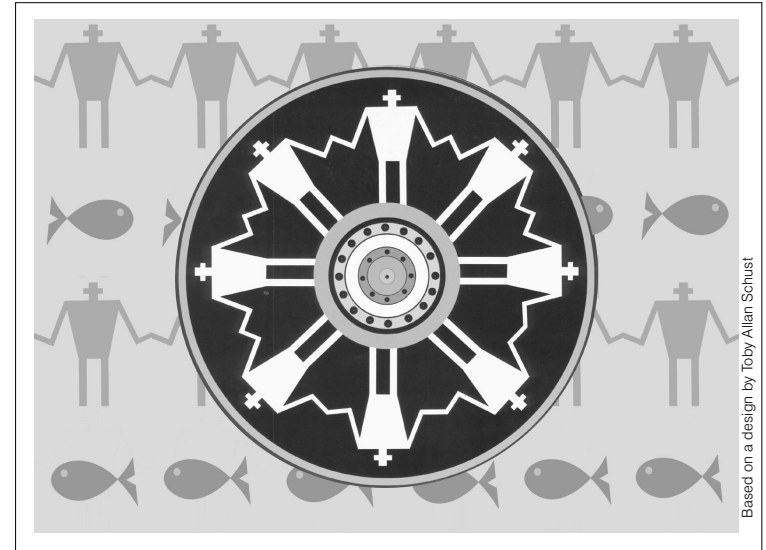
&

Laura Turner Seydel

for their outstanding contributions
to Humanitarian Causes
and Environmental Stewardship
at the Seventh Annual
Drums Along the Hudson.



DRUMS ALONG THE HUDSON[®] A Native American Festival



Honoring

Tom Porter, Mohawk Elder, Humanitarian and Author
Laura Turner Seydel, Environmentalist and Chairperson of
The Captain Planet Foundation
with Featured Guests from New Zealand:
Kahurangi Maori Dance Theatre
and special appearance by Captain Planet

Hosted by **Sandra Bookman** - Weekend Anch or Eyewitness News WABC-TV

Sunday, May 17th, 2009 Inwood Hill Park 11 am to 6 pm

215th Street & Indian Rd. 4 blocks west of B'way, at the north tip of Manhattan



A free event presented by Lotus Music & Dance,
New York City Department of Parks & Recreation,
New York City Department of Cultural Affairs,
JP Morgan Chase, and WABC-TV.



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www.drumsalongthehudson.org • dah@lotusmusicanddance.org
 telephone 212-627-1076x18

Lotus Music & Dance, a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, was founded in 1989 by master Bharata Natyam dancer Kamala Cesar. It is a performance space, sanctuary, and center of education for traditional and indigenous performing arts forms. The mission is to keep alive and accessible the music and dance traditions of all world cultures. Lotus Music & Dance remains the only institution of its kind in New York City where master artists from India, Korea, Burma, the South Pacific, Middle East, the Mohawk Nation, WestAfrica, and Spain collectively call home.

Aside from our varied schedule of unique, multicultural performances, we offer instruction in traditional ethnic forms of dance and music as well as Arts-In-Education programs to schools throughout the tri-state area. Lotus Music & Dance also presents Manhattan's only open air pow wow, the annual Drums Along the Hudson®: A Native American Festival, now in its seventh year.



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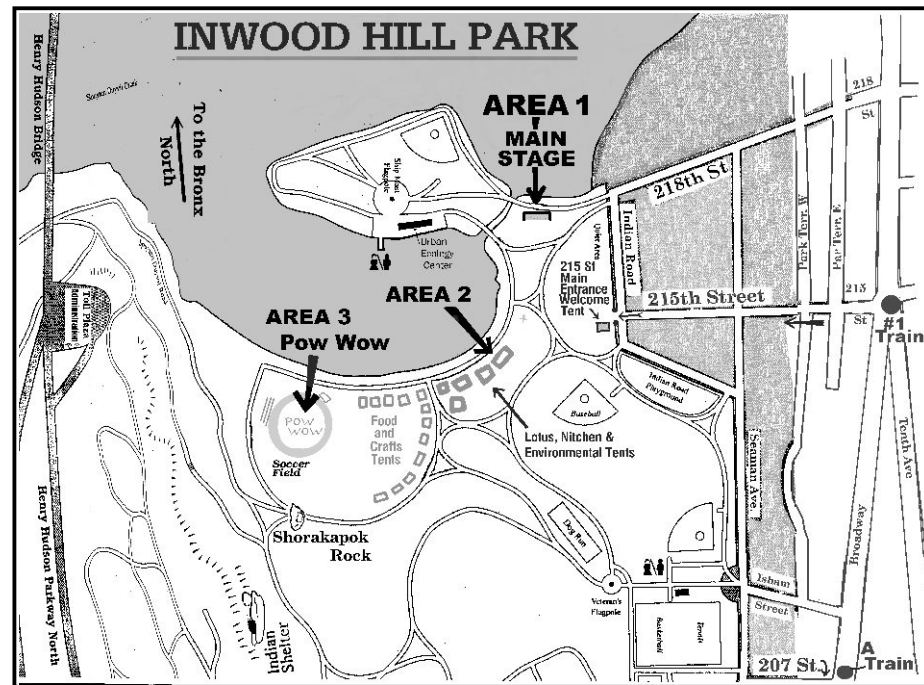
Drums Along the Hudson® Inwood Hill Park - 2009

In Inwood Hill Park, we find the only remaining old-growth forest and natural salt marsh in Manhattan. As long as 3,000 years ago, it served as a bountiful place for hunting and gathering. Here, Drums Along the Hudson connects the past and the present – the ancient traditions of New York's first inhabitants and the richness of contemporary Native American culture.



Kahurangi Maori Dance Theatre of New Zealand

Inwood Hill Park, called **Shorakapok** ("the edge of the river") by the Lenape people, is reputedly where Peter Minuit "purchased" Manhattan in 1626. A giant tulip tree marked the legendary spot of this transaction until 1938. In 1954, the Peter Minuit Post of the American Legion rededicated the site with a plaque at Shorakapok Rock.



Drums Along the Hudson – Program – May 17th, 2009

Program is subject to change.

11:00 A.M. _____ Area 1 – Main Stage

Opening Ceremony

Sandra Bookman - WABC-TV Weekend Anchor

Thanksgiving Address with Ioherase Ransom

**Mohawk Singers and Dancers, & Cacibajagua Taino Cultural Society
& All Native People in Regalia**

11:00 A.M. _____ Area 2 – Environmental Tent

Exhibition of Environmental Art supplied by Casa Frela Gallery

All Day Long

11:00 A.M. _____ Area 2 – Storytelling Tent

Storytelling by Nitchen with Christina Bryant

All Day Long

11:30 A.M. _____ Area 2 – Storytelling Tent

Appearance by: Parrots for Peace

11:40 A.M. _____ Area 1 – Main Stage

Seema Iyer's Bollywood Dancers & Drummers

12:00 P.M. _____ Area 2 – Storytelling Tent

Corn Husk Doll Making by Nitchen with Ann Mullins

& Appearance by: Captain Planet

12:15 P.M. _____ Area 2 – Storytelling Tent

Appearance by: Parrots for Peace

12:20 P.M. _____ Area 1 – Main Stage

Kahurangi Maori Dance Theatre

(Indigenous Performers from New Zealand)

12:45 P.M. _____ Area 1 – Main Stage

Introduction of elected officials by Sandra Bookman

Honoring: Tom Porter, Mohawk Elder, Humanitarian & Author

and Laura Turner Seydel, Environmentalist &

Chairman of the Captain Planet Foundation.

and Appearance by: Captain Planet

1:15 P.M. _____ Area 1 – Main Stage

Planting of the White Pine ❖ Native Ceremony of Peace

Tom Porter – Mohawk Elder, Humanitarian & Author

Kamala Cesar – Artistic Director/Founder of Lotus Music & Dance,

Laura Turner Seydel – Environmentalist &

Chairperson of Captain Planet Foundation

Jennifer Hoppa – Director, North Manhattan Parks & Recreation

Sandra Bookman – Weekend Anchor, WABC-TV

Carl Nelson – Producer, Drums Along the Hudson



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Seema Iyer
Bollywood Dance



Songhee Lee
Korean Dancers & Drummers



"Parrots for Peace"



Captain Planet

Lotus Music & Dance is grateful for the support from:

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1:30 P.M.

Area 3 – Field

Pow Wow

Introduction of Honorees by Pow Wow Emcee Louis Mofsie
Honorees: Tom Porter, Mohawk Elder, Humanitarian & Author
Laura Turner Seydel, Environmentalist & Chairperson of Captain Planet Foundation

Pow Wow Dancing, Drumming and Singing with the Thunderbird American Indian Dancers, Native Performers and Audience Participation

2:00 P.M.

Area 2 – Storytelling Tent

Maori traditions and customs demonstrated and explained by John Bailey

3:20 P.M.

Area 2 – Storytelling Tent

Corn Husk Doll Making & Storytelling by Nitchen with Ann Mullins & Christina Bryant

4:15 P.M.

Area 1 – Main Stage

Welcome back to the Main Stage by Patrick Riley & Tetiana Anderson
Appearance by: Parrots for Peace & Captain Planet

4:30 P.M.

Area 1 – Main Stage

Peruincfolk Music & Dance Project
Native Performers from Peru

5:10 P.M.

Area 1 – Main Stage

Songhee Lee – Traditional Korean Dancers & Drummers

5:50 P.M.

Area 1 – Main Stage

Closing Remarks

5:55 P.M.

Area 1 – Main Stage

Drummers, Dancers and All are invited for the Unity Stomp & Closing Ceremony



Peruvian Dance



Pow Wow Drumming & Singing



Maori Dance Theatre

Biographies



John Arama Bailey (nickname: Hone) is of Maori descent and comes from the Ngaati Tuwharetoa tribe of the Taupo area of New Zealand. He grew up in the Waikato region and from a young age was immersed in the ways of his people. Teaching Kapahaka (Maori Performing Arts) and sharing his culture with people from all walks of life has proven to be an enriching experience for John and his students. His desire is to give others the opportunity to peer through a small window into the Maori world and gain a deeper knowledge of its history, people, language and arts. John will be teaching a **Maori Dance Workshop at Lotus Music & Dance** in July of 2009.

Sandra Bookman joined Eyewitness News in 1998 as a reporter and shortly after was named as a weekend anchor of Eyewitness News. Previously, she worked at WSB-TV in Atlanta, another dominant ABC affiliate, where she worked for nine years and served as the weekend anchor. Prior to WSB-TV in Atlanta, she worked as a weekend anchor at both WRAL-TV in Raleigh, North Carolina and KFDM-TV in Beaumont, Texas. Sandra served as an Olympic Reporter for seven years. She was the only local TV reporter to cover the games before Atlanta won the bid, until the Olympic bombing in 1996. Sandra covered the '92 games in Barcelona, Spain as well. She has also reported internationally, including a series of reports from South Africa following the release of Nelson Mandela from a South African prison in 1990. Sandra has been honored with three local Emmys including statues for her Olympic coverage and reporting in the aftermath of the fatal Valuejet Airlines crash in the Everglades. Sandra has been the host of Drums Along the Hudson for the last seven years.

The Cacibajagua Taino Cultural Society is dedicated to the promotion of the music, song, dance, stories and art of the Indigenous Taino People of the Caribbean. The Society's name, CACIBAJAGUA, derives from part of an ancient Taino creation story. In the language of the Taino, Cacibajagua means, "cave of the jagua" or the "black cave" and it represents the womb of ATTABEIRA - the Earth Mother.

Rosa Carhuallanqui is a researcher, writer and specialist in Peruvian Folklore. She was born in Peru and is the descendant of the Incas and Huancas family. In 1986 she studied anthropology at the National University of Central Peru and in 1996, with her thesis project "the Dances of the Llamichos and its historical and Pedagogical Implications," Rosa obtained her teaching degree specializing in Folkloric Dances from the National School of Folklore "Jose Maria Arguedas." In 1998, Rosa published her book "Pastores de Altura, Magia, Ritos y Danzas." Invited by Rutgers University, Rosa traveled to the USA in 1999. She was recognized in 2005 by El Diario La Prensa of New York as one of its Outstanding Latino Women of Year for her work on behalf of education. Rosa is the founder of **Peruincfolk**, which presents the dances of Peru's coast, mountains and Amazon.



Rosa Carhuallanqui

Kamala Cesar is the Founder and Artistic Director of Lotus Fine Arts Productions, Inc. and Lotus Music & Dance Studios, a center for multicultural traditional performing arts. She is one of the few specialists of T. Balaraswati's style of Bharata Natyam dance in this country and has been teaching since 1978. She has performed in Europe, India, the Philippines and the U.S. Ms. Cesar is Filipino and Mohawk Indian and resides in New York City where she guides Lotus Music & Dance's efforts to promote multicultural programs through classes at Lotus, Lotus-sponsored performances and events (such as Drums Along the Hudson). In 2002, Kamala was honored as Thunderbird American Indian of the Year. In addition to her tireless activities in promoting and organizing Native American dance and cultural events, she has participated in the Mohawk Language Immersion Program at Kanatsiohareke in Fonda, NY. from 1999 to 2005.

Seema Iyer, a disciple of film actress/dancer Ambika Sukumaran, has been trained in various forms of classical Indian Dance, such as Bharatha Natyam, Kuchipudi and Mohinattam, since the age of four. Seema has performed all over the United States, Canada, Asia and Europe as a solo artist and in starring roles with renowned film actress/dancer Padmini's dance troupe. In addition to performing and choreographing professionally, Seema Iyer is an attorney with her own law firm specializing in criminal defense here in New York City.

Rahcyne Hill
congratulates
Mohawk Elder and author, *Tom Porter*.

&
Laura Turner Seydel

Environmentalist &
Chairman of Captain Planet Foundation

*for their contribution to Native peoples
and their environmental stewardship*



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Biographies continued



Songhee Lee was born in Pusan, Korea. She began training in modern dance at age 12, and won several major competitions while still in high school. In 1979, while majoring in modern dance at Pusan Women's College, she joined the Pusan Metropolitan Dance Company as an intern dancer. There, she became interested in traditional Korean dance and studied with a number of Korean dance masters, each of whom practiced specific traditions, such as Sung Mu (Buddhist Monk Dances) and Salp'uri (Shaman Dances). Among her teachers were a number of designated National Treasures. She currently teaches traditional Korean dance at Lotus Music & Dance Studios.

Jerry Thundercloud McDonald is a traditional performing artist of the Mohawk Nation and Six Nations Iroquois Confederacy. He is a storyteller, singer, dancer, choreographer, and actor. He is the founder of the traditional singing society, Peacemakers Drum, and has performed with the Mohawk Singers and Dancers throughout the United States and Canada. In film, he has choreographed dances for major productions by directors Francis Ford Coppola and Richard Attenborough. Thundercloud instructed actor Pierce Brosnan in Native American dance for Attenborough's film, Grey Owl.

Jeannie KarayaNi (Moonlight on Water) McDonald is a Native American performing artist of the Taino Nation and belongs to the Turtle Clan. On stage, she danced in Eagle Spirit-a Tribute to Mohawk Ironworkers, and also in Peacemaker's Journey, performed in the US and Canada. KarayaNi has presented native culture to many audiences including museums, elementary and high schools, as well as college and university students.

Kahurangi Maori Dance Theater of New Zealand is the only full-time professional caliber Maori dance company to maintain a consistent presence in North America for the past fifteen years. Kahurangi was formed in 1983 to provide cultural, recreational, educational and employment opportunities for graduates of Takitimu Performing Arts School, based in Hastings, New Zealand. It established itself as a pioneer in the field of Maori Performing Arts. Since 1985, they have presented over 2000 performances in New Zealand, Australia, China, Singapore, Mexico, India and Malaysia, the United States and Canada. They appear at festivals, conferences, public and private schools, presenting unique cultural performances, demonstrations, lectures and workshops relating to Maori and Polynesian cultures and ways of life. They bring the *ihī* or life force of the Maori through their songs and dances that are a part of the history and fabric of Maori life. They bridge the past and the present with genealogical chants, martial arts, songs and pride in being Maori.

Louis Mofsie is the Director of the Thunderbird American Indian Dancers and is a member of the Hopi and Winnebago tribes. He has led many Native American organizations including the American Indian Counseling Center and the Indian League of the Americas. He has been the curator for exhibitions at both the Whitney Museum of American Art and the County Historical Society Museum in Bonneville, New York. Additionally, Mr. Mofsie is an illustrator for several books, has made several musical recordings and has lectured at various universities, colleges and venues around the nation.

Carl Nelson is pleased to have produced Drums Along the Hudson for the seventh year. Carl's expertise for creating synergies that reflect humanity and the arts is well-known in society and entertainment circles the world over. From intimate book-signings to full-scale performances, he is known for producing quality events that have heart. He has produced events nationally for the Southern Christian Leadership Council, The Congressional Black Caucus, The Dance Theater of Harlem, The Hair Fashion Group Against Domestic Violence, and for Lotus Music and Dance. He recently produced his first Off Broadway play, "Miracle Rwanda," which is now on a world tour. Carl is currently in production with a new play, which will be presented in late Summer.



Carl Nelson

Nitchen, Inc. is a community based, non-profit corporation comprised of Native American parents from North, Central, South America & the Caribbean whose goal is to ensure that youth grow up strong, healthy and proud as American Indians. Nitchen serves Native American families who need assistance in a variety of areas including health, education and cultural enrichment. Representing Nitchen at Drums Along the Hudson 2008 will be Ann Mullins - Cherokee and Christina Bryant - Skinnecock/Cherokee.



Thomas R. Porter (Sakokweni'ónkwas or "the one who wins"), is a member of the Bear Clan of the Mohawk Nation at Akwesasne, an Iroquois territory located on the St. Lawrence River. He is married to Alice Joe Porter who is Choctaw. He has six children and eleven grandchildren. Mr. Porter was acting Bear Clan Chief in the traditional longhouse movement, opposite the state-sanctioned Tribal Council and has served numerous positions on the Mohawk Nation of Chiefs Council for over 25 years.

Tom Porter is one of the last generation of his people to be raised as a Mohawk speaker from birth.



Tom Porter

Like his ancestors, who listened to traditional stories during the long winter months by the fire, Tom was weaned on the teachings of his great-grandparents' and his grandparents' generation. This unique background paved the way for him to become a champion for the revitalization of First Nations languages and traditions. Now a respected elder, he has devoted his life to educating both Native and non-Native people about the true history, culture and spirituality of the Iroquois or, as they prefer to call themselves, the Haudenosaunee. In the words of his cousin, author and award-winning journalist Doug George Kanentiiio, "He has, over the past four decades, become one of the most respected cultural teachers among the Iroquois, a spiritual leader welcome across the continent for his sincerity, wit and knowledge."

Mr. Porter has been a nationally recognized figure in Indian Country since the 1960s when he co-founded the **White Roots of Peace**, a group of Iroquois Elders who toured the country sharing traditional teachings and encouraging Indians to embrace their respective Native traditions. Recognizing that Mohawk language and culture were dying out, he also co-founded the **Akwesasne Freedom School** for grades K-8, with a curriculum entirely in Mohawk.

Since 1993, Tom has been the founder, director and spiritual leader of the traditional Mohawk Community of **Kanatsioharèke**, located in the homeland of his ancestors, near Albany, New York. For the story of that community and how it came to be, see his previous book, Tom Sakokwenionk was Porter: *Kanatsiohareke: Traditional Mohawk Indians Return to Their Ancestral Homeland*.

In 2008, Tom Porter published the book *And Grandma Said... Iroquois Teachings*, in which we get to see in print a lifetime of teachings and memories, in words direct from the heart of, in Doug George's words, "a person who has devoted his life to preserving the heritage of his Nation." For information, please visit: <http://tomporter.net>.

Ioherase Ransom is well versed in Haudenosaunee culture and the Mohawk language. His name means "new corn stalks." He is a graduate of the Akwesasne Freedom School. He walks a good path, free of drugs, alcohol and tobacco and is currently in 10th grade at Salmon River Central School, where he has been on the honor role several times. Ioherase is from the Bear Clan and represents them well in ceremonies. He continues to learn the ceremonial songs and speeches from tribal wisdomkeepers. He admires our elders such as his great uncle, Tom Porter. Ioherase is naturally gifted with medicines and doesn't hesitate to share his knowledge of medicine when someone in the family falls sick. He aspires to continue his education and to pursue a health related field. He makes us proud and hopeful for the future.

Laura Turner Seydel. Eco-awareness is a way of life for Laura Turner Seydel. Years of earth-friendly living and community involvement have fueled her desire to "live green." As a national environmental activist, speaker and eco-living expert, Laura's mission is to educate families, youth and individuals alike about the opportunities and benefits of earth-friendly living.

Her many leadership responsibilities include: National eco-living speaker and green product advocate for Laura Turner Seydel, LLC, **Chairman of the Captain Planet Foundation**, which provides grants to groups conducting environmental projects with elementary, middle, and high school students, **Co-founder of Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper**, an environmental advocacy group that works to raise public awareness of issues related to the Chattahoochee River and secure measurable improvements in its health, and **Co-founder of Mothers & Others for Clean Air**, an organization that raises awareness about the link between asthma and air pollution.



As an extension of her environmental dedication, Laura and her husband Rutherford built EcoManor, the first Gold Certified LEED Home (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) in the Southeast. EcoManor illustrates the opportunities and benefits of eco-friendly building and energy-efficient living through a mix of progressive new products, including solar energy, geothermal heating and cooling, rainwater reclamation, and in-home gray water system. Serving as an educational tool, EcoManor has reached builders, architects, designers, landscapers, vendors, educators and homeowners to promote green living, conservation, and improved residential building practices.

Laura resides in Atlanta with her husband, Rutherford and their three children, John R, 15, Vasser, 13 and Laura Elizabeth, 11. For more information about Laura visit: www.lauraseydel.com



Laura Turner Seydel

The Thunderbird American Indian Dancers Established in 1963, the Thunderbird American Indian Dancers are the longest running resident New York City Native American Dance Company. Their performances feature a diversity of dance forms that reflect the group's multicultural tribal membership. Their mission is to preserve and perpetuate American Indian cultures and promote a more realistic understanding of Native American cultures through their performances and other activities. The Thunderbird American Indian Dancers have performed around the world. All of the money raised by the Thunderbird Dancers goes to a scholarship fund for Native American youth. To date, they have assisted over 200 Indian youth with their educational expenses. The Thunderbird American Indian Dancers conduct pow wows across the country during the summer season, a monthly pow wow at the McBurney YMCA during the winter and perform an annual benefit at New York's Theater for the New City.



Participants gather for the Pow Wow



Jerry & Jeanie MacDonald performing the Eagle Dance



Kamala Cesar



Sandra Bookman