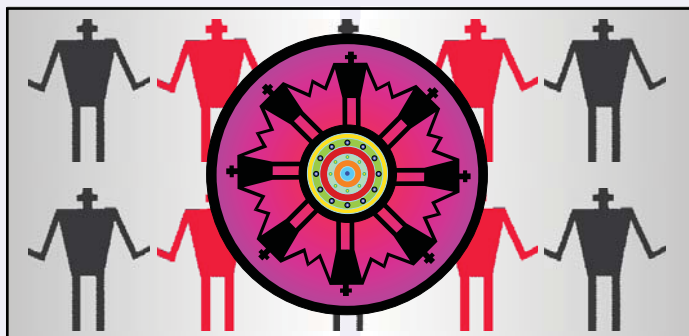


The 21st Annual
**DRUMS ALONG
THE HUDSON**[®]

A Native American and Multicultural Celebration



Based on a design by Toby Alan Schust

Sunday, June 4th, 2023

FREE Admission 11 AM to 6 PM Rain or Shine

At Inwood Hill Park - 218th Street & Indian Rd, 4 Blocks West of Broadway (#1 and A trains)

**Drummers and Dancers from Around the World,
Pow Wow, Special Guests, Native Arts & Crafts,
Environmental Tent, Storytelling, International Foods**

Honoring:

Loida Nicolas Lewis, Philanthopist, Author

and

**George W. Faison, Tony Award winning producer, writer,
composer, director, choreographer and dancer**

Featured Performers:

The Sri Lankan Dance Academy of NY,

Cobu all female Japanese Taiko Drum Group,

Project Convergence: Bharata Natyam and Tap Dance,

Fusha Dance Company

Plus:

Mohawk Elder Tom Porter, Louis Mofsie, Thunderbird American Indian Dancers,
Kalpulli Huehuethlatholi Aztec Dancers and Drummers, and much more...

This event will be live streamed on www.lotusmusicdance.org/live

Lotus
Music
& Dance



E5



NYC Parks

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

212.627.1076

WQXR | 105.9 fm
wqxr.org

www.drumsalongthehudson.org



**NYC Cultural
Affairs**

Drums Along the Hudson Program – June 4, 2023

(Program Subject To Change)

11:00 A.M.

Area 1 – Main Stage

Opening Ceremony

Sandra Bookman, WABC-TV News anchor and host of *Here and Now*,

Welcomes everyone to the 21st Annual Drums Along the Hudson.

Opening Blessings by **Tom Porter**, Elder & Spiritual Leader of the Mohawk
Community of Kanatsiohareke
All Native People in Regalia on Stage

11:15 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Area 4 – Environmental Tent

Coalition for Healthy School Food, NYC Fire Department,
Shumei America NY Center, Trinity Church Environmental Justice,
American Indian Community House, Shorakapok Earthkeepers, Garden of
Crystals, Urban Indigenous Collective, Plant Powered NY – **All Day Long**

11:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Area 5 – Storytelling Tent

Storytelling and Crafts by Nitchen Children's Museum of Native America
S.I.C Film School X Native film Festival: Screening Tent
— All Day Long —

11:25 A.M.

Area 1— Main Stage

Kalpulli Huehuetlatolli Aztec Drummers and Dancers

11:55 A.M

Area 1 - Main Stage

Sri Lankan Dance Academy

12:20 P.M.

Area 1 – Main Stage

Sandra Bookman introduces Co-Creators & Co-Producers of
Drums Along The Hudson: **Carl Nelson & Kamala Cesar**
Introduction of Elected Officials and Announcements

Sandra Bookman introduces

George Faison, *Tony Award Winner for Choreography of The Wiz*
and **Loida Nicolas Lewis**, Philanthropist & Author

12:30 P.M.

Tree Planting Location

Planting of the White Pine Tree, Iroquois Symbol of Peace
Tom Porter, *Mohawk Elder*, leads processional from mainstage to the
Tree Planting location.
with Honorees: **George Faison** and **Loida Nicolas Lewis**
Kamala Cesar, **Carl Nelson** and **Sandra Bookman**
and **Elected Officials**

(continued on next page)

----- **P O W - W O W** -----

1:00 P.M.

Area 3 – Pow Wow

Grand Entrance of Native People in Regalia into Pow Wow Area
Presentation of Ceremonial Blankets to George Faison & Loida Nicolas Lewis
The Honor Dance
Singing, Dancing and Drumming with the Thunderbird
American Indian Dancers
All Native People in Regalia
The Pow Wow will continue throughout the afternoon
(note: Program Subject To Change)

ALL DAY :

VISIT the Crafts vendors in Areas 2, 3 & 4
VISIT the Food vendors
VISIT the Environmental Tent, Informational Tents and
The Lotus Tents in Area 4.

SPECIAL EVENTS

2:00 PM-3:00 PM Meet & Greet our Honorees Area 4
Book Signing by Loida Nicolas Lewis her new book
"Why should Guys Have All The Fun" in the Lotus Tent
11 AM - 6 PM Healing Drumming Circle with Patrice C. Queen
(Location: near the Soccer Field)

SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

4:00 PM Area 1 – Main Stage
Welcome back to the Main Stage with
Patrick Riley - Pop Culture Expert/ Blogger

4:05 PM Area 1 – Main Stage
Cobu Japanese Taiko Drummers, *Artistic Director: Yako Miyamoto*

4:30PM Area 1 – Main Stage
Project Convergence: Bharata Natyam and Tap Dance *with Vikas Arun*

4:55PM Area 1 – Main Stage
Fusha Congolese Dancers & Drummers *with Funmilayo Chesney*

5:35 PM Area 1–Main Stage
Closing Remarks
The Announcement of S.I.C Film School X Native Festival Winner
and performance by
Kalpulli Huehuetlahtolli, Aztec Dancers and Drummers
All Drummers, Dancers and Everyone are invited to join in.



Drums Along the Hudson® Inwood Hill Park - 2023

The Drums Along the Hudson Festival continues a centuries-old tradition of the northern tip of Manhattan being a key gathering place for Native peoples and their guests in Inwood Park. Called Shorakapok (edge of the river) in Lenape, Inwood was the site of the first oyster bar in the country and Lenape served up the tasty mollusks to customers of all backgrounds. The oysters themselves were the foundation of a valuable ecosystem that cleaned the waters and provided habitats for other marine creatures; they are almost extinct, but environmental activists struggle to bring them back.

Jumping ahead a few centuries, Shorakapok was the spot where the first American Indian Day was observed. Episcopal Reverend Sherman Coolidge (1862-1932) was an Arapahoe activist, who joined with others in a push for a pan-Indian organization to both represent and celebrate Native peoples. He founded the Society of American Indians (1911-1923), forerunner of the National Congress of American Indians and on September 28, 1915, he issued a proclamation designating the second Saturday of each May as American Indian Day (AID) and urged Indians to observe it as a memorial to their "race." The first celebration took place in Inwood Park under the great

tulip tree, which became iconic of Indian New York. Over the decades, Native New Yorkers turned the annual serious event into a festive occasion, which for the past several years has been sponsored by Lotus Music and Dance.

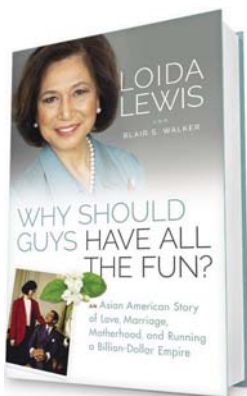
Historian Reginald Pelham Bolton and Oklahoma Cherokee Marie Noemi Boulerease Constantine Kennedy, better known as Princess Naomi, collaborated on developing an Indian Village on this site to preserve Indigenous cultures. In 1926, Princess Naomi and other Native people moved into the village; it was advertised as a subway destination and became extremely popular. She helped improve the economic health of Native folks by developing an outlet for them to sell traditional arts in the onsite museum. Sadly, Parks Commissioner Robert Moses came along a decade later with a new design, which eliminated any Native presence. Although the Princess and almost a thousand Indians launched a protest and petitioned to convert the park to official Indian lands, they were evicted and the village was destroyed.

Today, Drums Along the Hudson preserves and celebrates the past, present and future of Native New Yorkers and the legacy of Shorakapok.

-Yvonne Wakim Dennis



2023 Drums Along the Hudson Honorees



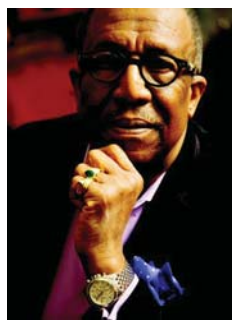
Loida Nicolas Lewis, Philanthropist/Author, was born and raised in Sorsogon, the daughter of Francisco Nicolas and Magdalena Mañalac.

She earned her B.A. in Humanities from St. Theresa's College Manila, and her Bachelor of Laws (LL. B.) from the University of the Philippines - Diliman. She placed 7th in the bar exams conducted in 1968.

Loida Lewis is Chair and CEO of TLC Beatrice, LLC, a family investment firm, and Chair of The Reginald F. Lewis Foundation. A lawyer by profession, she is admitted to practice in the Philippines and New York, being the first Filipino and Asian American woman to pass the New York bar without having studied law in the United States. After

serving 10 years as General Attorney in the US Immigration and Naturalization Service (currently U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services), and having won her discrimination case against INS in 1979,

Mrs. Lewis coauthored the best-selling guidebook for immigrants, "How to Get A Green Card", now on its 14th edition. Mrs. Lewis loves giving back to the community, but the role she loves most is that of being "Grandma" to her five grandchildren.



George W. Faison, DFA, University of Massachusetts and award winning, internationally celebrated producer, writer, essayist, composer, director, choreographer and dancer, made history in 1975 when he became the first African American to win a Tony Award of best choreography for *The Wiz*!

Dr. Faison began his career as a principle dancer with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. His Broadway career began with the musical *Purlie*. He eventually formed his own company, the George Faison Universal Dance Experience

and went on to create several American dance classics of his own and has authored several musicals. He has choreographed and staged concerts for many musical greats.

In 2000, Dr. Faison, along with co-founder Tad Schnugg, established The Faison Firehouse Theater in a decommissioned Firehouse in Harlem which was branded "Hollywood in Harlem" by the media. The Faison Firehouse Theater is a 130 seat venue which "is a full service, digitally advanced performing arts and cultural center complete with a fine arts gallery, rehearsal facilities and a cabaret theater. He is a co-producer/artistic director of the critically acclaimed City-Wide Summerstage Harlem Dance Caravan at the Richard Rodgers Amphitheater in Marcus Garvey Park. In 1999, he created The Firehouse Respect Project, a youth empowerment troupe for community outreach which continues today. His special creative works are never-ending and will continue into the future.

www.faisonfirehouse.org

Cobu

Cobu all female Japanese Taiko Drum Group

Cobu was created in 2000 in NY. Yako Miyamoto, the founder of Cobu, was a veteran member of the off-broadway-hit STOMP. COBU performed for NBA halftime show @ Madison Square



Garden, Shakespeare in the park @ The Delacorte Theater, We the Peoples @ United Nations Headquarters. Cobu was the winner of Wella International Trend Talent Award, won the Audience Favorite Award at Fringe Festival and listed as one of the 30 shows to see by Time Out. Furthermore, Hollywood movie director, Mr. Duane Adler, developed a 3D film based on Yako Miyamoto called "Make Your Move" which was released in USA in 2014. The film "Musica" (Amazon studios) in which she participated will be released in 2023. Cobu continues to express the splendor, beauty, and strength of Japan.

Project Convergence

Project Convergence: Bharata Natyam and Tap Dance, is a dance company that is home to the union of Bharatanatyam and Tap Dance. The purpose of the company is to create a polyrhythm of cultures, thereby showing that two cultures can be united without having to erase the distinct identity of either. Conceived in 2019 by Vikas Arun and Ramita Ravi, the vocabulary draws on their unusually extensive training in both classic and modern Indian and Western dance. The company is the first non-western dance company to land a partnership with Capezio, and is proud to be the first company in residence at the American Tap Dance Foundation



dedicating to uniting tap dance with a non-western rhythmic art. Their performance credits include shows at Lincoln Center, performances for the President of the United States, and many more. The company has been featured in press across three continents and is proud to share their experiment with audiences across the world. *(Vikas Arun - Dancer, Choreographer, Teacher. www.vikasarun.com)*

Fusha Dance Co., Funmilayo Chesney

Funmilayo Chesney is a veteran quadruple threat performing artist who is a dancer, choreographer and Artistic Director of **Fusha Dance Company** located in New York City; a drummer who teaches ongoing classes in NYC; a singer in the process of releasing her first Album and an actress. She was a member of the only traditional Congolese dance company in New York City, Malaki Ma Congo and won the Ethnic Dance Award for best African dance Instructor in 1996.

Funmilayo has taught ongoing Congolese dance classes at the prestigious Alvin Ailey, Rod Rodgers, Charles Moore, Harlem School of the Arts, Cumbe, Lezly Dance and Skate, Fareta and Djoniba.

(continued...)

Drums Along the Hudson 2023 Biographies

Funmilayo and Fusha dance Company have graced the stages of Alvin Ailey, Harlem Stage, Brooklyn Museum, Apollo, United Nations, African Burial Ground, The Metropolitan Museum, Carnegie Hall, BAM, The African Street Festival, Brooklyn Public Library, Citibank and Symphony Space to name a few.

Funmilayo and Fusha Dance Company has toured World Wide with ongoing yearly tours to South America, Europe, Caribbean and Africa facilitating Congolese dance workshops for children and adults.

Aside from dancing Funmilayo is also an actress and has debut in the film "Keep it Clean." Produced and Directed by Jeanette Sena Muehlmann.

She is a Singer and in the process of releasing her first

music album; Funmi is also a Health Coach empowering participants on the knowledge of Healing ourselves from the kitchen and the founder of "Cook to Live Interactive Nutrition Workshops.

The ancient dance of the Congolese, combined with the genius creations of their descendants have shaped musical culture of many music and dance styles in the Diaspora and Africa: Afrobeats, Samba, Salsa, Hip Hop, Reggae, Calypso and Soca to name a few. This is our medicine dance of healing vibrations and pelvic rotations

You can catch Funmilayo in New York City working as an Artistic Director, Performance and Teaching Artist, teaching ongoing classes to all ages building confidence and cross cultural appreciation on a variety of platforms.



Sri Lankan Dance Academy

The Sri Lankan Dance Academy of NY (SLDA) is a Sri Lankan Kandyan dance school and performing ensemble. The organization aims to promote cultural harmony between communities of Sri Lankan heritage and to foster intercultural understanding between the individuals of the United States of America and those of Sri Lankan background through open dialog, heritage-based art education and cultural exchange. Through weekly classes in Kandyan dance and percussion the school seeks to preserve this ancient art form, along with its values and cultural practices that exist in contemporary Sri Lankan societies.



Founded in 1992, as the National Women's Dance Troupe of Sri Lanka by Mrs. Tanya DeSilva, the program is now led by Mrs. Dhammika K. Navinna (Administrative Director), internationally recognized professional Kandyan dancer Mr. Dilhan Pinnagoda, and drum master Mr. Uthpala Eroshan Jayakodi. In August 2014, SLDA presented "Pahim Path Mangalya," a debut and graduation ceremony for its 11 most senior dancers. This was the first time this ceremony and right of passage, common for advanced Kandyan dance students in Sri Lanka, was performed in the United States. The program was thoroughly engaging for SLDA's younger students, inspiring them to continue on to their own Pahim Path ceremonies. The program also resulted in significant student growth for the Staten Island based school, which since then, has accepted nearly 30 new members and opened branches in Queens and New Jersey. SLDA sustains its dance program via annual performances that showcase traditional arts and student achievement. Their professional company tours widely throughout the U.S.

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. In New York City, The Thunderbird American Indian Dancers have performed at the Museum of the American Indian, the American Museum of Natural History, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Brooklyn Museum, the New York World's Fair, Columbia University, New York University as well as at countless schools, churches and performance spaces. Internationally, they have toured Mexico, Canada, Israel, Europe and Japan. 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.



Louis Mofsie is a Native American from the Hopi and Winnebago tribes. His father is from Second Mesa, Arizona and his mother is from Winnebago, Nebraska. He is a retired art teacher and taught for 35 years at the Meadowbrook Elementary School located in East Meadow, New York. Louis is a founding member of the American Indian Community House and served as the chairman of the board for over 15 years. Louis is currently the Director of the **Thunderbird American Indian Dancers**, the Dance Company he helped originate in 1963.

Kalpulli Huehuetlahtolli

Kalpulli Huehuetlahtolli (K.H.) was formed on October 24, 2010. During their first year they worked at attaining traditional recognition from elders with in the Aztec dance tradition which has its roots in Mexico. They are representatives of Aztec/Conchero/Mexica dance in the North Eastern USA. The group has worked to preserve and to teach these dance and indigenous traditions.

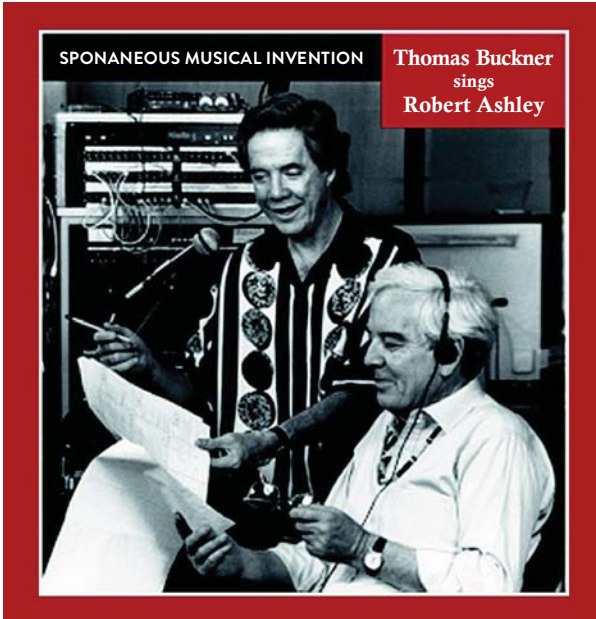


Along with having participated in various workshops, presentations and symposiums with Rutgers University, Red Hawk Arts Council and many other organizations, K.H. hosts an annual ceremony every June since 2011 which brings brings together many leaders and members of various dance groups from across Mexico and the USA.

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

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 **Kanatsiohareke**, located in the homeland of his ancestors, near Albany, New York. 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.” www.mohawkcommunity.org

Sandra Bookman

joined Eyewitness News in 1998 as a reporter and shortly after was named as a weekend anchor of Eyewitness News. She also hosts the WABC show HERE AND NOW on Sundays at 12:00 noon. 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 for her coverage and reporting. Sandra has been the host of Drums Along the Hudson since the beginning.

Patrick Riley

Born in Tokyo, Japan and raised in Savannah, Georgia, Patrick graduated Atlanta's illustrious Morehouse College cum laude with a degree in Broadcast Journalism. He is currently based in New York City as an



independent producer, personality, and writer – recurring clients including HARPO PRODUCTIONS, OWN, CNN.COM, NBC, BET, "Motown: The Musical", "The Wendy Williams Show", REMY MARTIN, etc.

He has been honored by the New York Association of Black Journalists' with its Trailblazer Award. To find out more about Patrick, please check out his blog website “A Day in the Life of Riley: pop culture & possibilities”: <http://thelifeofriley.squarespace.com/rilys-blog>.

Drums Along the Hudson 2023 Biographies



Kamala Cesar is the Founder and Artistic Director of Lotus Music & Dance, a center for multicultural, traditional performing arts. She is one of the few specialists of T. Balasaraswati'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 teaches Bharata Natyam and directs Lotus Music & Dance's efforts to produce and promote multicultural programs such as Drums Along the Hudson. In 2002, Kamala was honored as Thunderbird American Indian of the Year.

Her multicultural programs and productions include *Mohawk Heartsong: Journey Through the Longhouse*, *Eagle Spirit: A Tribute to the Mohawk High Steelworkers*, *The New York Ramayana*, *Asian Dialogue*, *Along the Caravan Route*, *Message of Peace*, *World in the City*, *Dancing Across Cultural Borders* and *World Dance Festival 2015*. Her most recent collaboration with George Faison's *Universal Dance Experience: Erasing Boundaries* is being developed for a full length production.

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.

Carl Nelson is pleased to have co-created and co-produced Drums Along the Hudson for the last twenty years. 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 & Dance. He produced his first Off Broadway play, "Miracle Rwanda," which toured the world. He also produced the Play "*Incognito*" which was first presented at the NBTf in Winston-Salem, NC. He also co-produced a short film called *Asian Mob* and co-created *African Odyssey* in Johannesburg, South Africa. (www.carlmmelson.com)



Nitchen, Inc. - The Children's Cultural Center of Native America is part of Nitchen, a nonprofit devoted to education and social support for Native Americans in the New York metro area. They help foster intercultural understanding between Native peoples and nonnatives by providing accurate historical, cultural and contemporary programming to children, parents and teachers. Through workshops, classes, exhibits and performances presented by Indigenous peoples, participants gain a fair and balanced understanding of First Nations Peoples of the Americas.

Director **Irma LaGuerre** was born in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, and is of Aztec, Tarasco and Taino heritage. She is an accomplished actress and singer having appeared in lead roles on the Broadway stage, as well as in off-Broadway and regional theater houses. She graduated from the Manhattan School of Music with a Masters of Music degree. She is a past director and cofounder of FAN (Family Awareness network). Ms. Laguerre conducts workshops in making Story Teller bags and Native American storytelling throughout the NY metropolitan area for schools, parks departments and at Pow Wows.



Patrice C. Queen - Facilitator of Healing Drumming Circle.

With a seat at the drum circle, you can be at peace with the whole world. This group experience allows you to experience you in the present. It is a stress relief, an unpacking that is done where it is almost effortless. We have fun. Laughter is brought back as a part of how we honor ourselves and our experience.



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Congratulations to 2023 Drums Along the Hudson honorees Loida Nicolas Lewis and George W. Faison

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DRUMS ALONG THE HUDSON HONOREES 2004 — 2023



2004
Winona LaDuke
Program Director of Honor the Earth and Founding Director of White Earth Land Recovery Project



2005
Elizabeth Sackler, Ph.D.
founded the American Indian Ritual Object Repatriation Foundation



2006
Rosemary Richmond
Executive Director of the American Indian Community House



2007
John Lewis
Civil Rights Leader and US Congressman



2007
Oren Lyons
Onondaga Faithkeeper



2008
Jake Swamp
Mohawk Chief, Founder of the Tree of Peace Society



2008
Xernona Clayton
Pres. and CEO of the Trumpet Awards Foundation



2009
Tom Porter
Mohawk Elder, Humanitarian and Author



2009
Laura Turner Seydel
Environmentalist and Chairperson of The Captain Planet Foundation



2010
Louis Mofsie
(Hopi/Winnabago)
Director of the Thunderbird American Indian Dancers



2010
Tom Chapin
Grammy Award winner and multiple charitable and environmental organizations



2010
Melky Jean
The Carma Foundation for Haitian women and children



2011
Elizabeth Jordan
Philanthropist and International Photographer



2012
Jane Schacht
Former N. Manhattan Parks Dept. Administrator



2012
La Donna Harris
President of Americans for Indian Opportunity



2013
Joanne Shenandoah
(Oneida)
Grammy Award Winner, Singer/Songwriter



2013
Doug George
(Mohawk)
Author



2013
Deborah Harvey-Koenigsberger
Founder / President of Hearts of Gold



2014
David N. Dinkins
106th Mayor of NYC



2014
Tonya Gonnella Fricrner, Esq.
(Onondaga)
President and Founder of the American Indian Law Alliance



2015
Tichina Arnold
Award Winning Actress/Singer & Philanthropist



2015
Kaydor Auktasang
representing His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama on his birthday



2016
Miko Branch
CEO & Co-Founder, Miss Jessie's



2016
Cheryl Crazy Bull
President of The American Indian College Fund



2017
Rhonda Ross
Singer, Songwriter, Philanthropist



2017
Irma LaGuerre

2017
The Children's Cultural Center of Native America



Yvonne Wakim Dennis



2018
Ydanis Rodriguez
New York City Councilman



2019
Recognized the contributions of Kamala Cesar and Tom Buckner to the Arts



2020
Joy Harjo
US Poet Laureate, Writer, Musician



2021
Stephanie Dabney
Prima-Ballerina



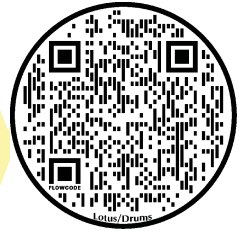
2022
Katsitsionni Fox
Akwesasne Mohawk Artist, Filmmaker and Educator



2022
Hezues R
Entrepreneur, founder of S.I.C. Film School & Creative Gods Agency

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This wonderful free event is only free if we the people support it!!! You can use this convenient QR code to go directly to the Lotus Donation page and become a patron of Drums. Any and all donation amounts are greatly appreciated!



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Lotus Music & Dance, Arts in Education Coordinator,
212.627.1076 ext.15 Visit our website: lotusmusicanddance.org



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on the
21st Edition of
Drums Along the Hudson

30th Anniversary

The FESTIVAL of JAPAN DRUMS + DANCE

Presented by The Japanese Folk Dance Institute of New York
with special guest SUKEROKU TAIKO from JAPAN

June 17, 2023 7:00PM | June 18, 2023 2:00PM
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The Japanese Folk Dance Institute of New York, Inc.
www.japanesefolkdance.org

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Special thanks to:

Sandra Bookman WABC-TV Carrot Top Pastries Domino Pizza
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Michele and Richard Turner Bruce Cesar Evon Cesar Simone Fattal
Patrick Riley Patsy Titley Tavia Fischer Disney Volunteers
John Cesar Bronx Science Key Club Stuyvesant High School Key Club

The tireless Lotus Music & Dance Staff and Board

...and to all the wonderful people who support Lotus all year round and the
volunteers who devoted their time and effort to make this day a success.

In September of 2002, with a generous grant from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, Lotus Music & Dance established **Drums Along the Hudson: A Native American Festival**. It began with a traditional Pow Wow to celebrate Native American heritage and culture and to commemorate the Lenape people who first inhabited Inwood Hill Park, or Shorakapak (“edge of the water”). This event takes place annually with something new added each year – including a Shad tasting, a White Pine tree planting (the Iroquois symbol of peace), international dancers and drummers, Native American Education Initiatives. The first festival had about 400 attendees, but recent festivals have had upwards of 8,000 attendees. In 2009, The Mayors Office of NYC issued a Proclamation declaring Drums Along the Hudson to be an Official NYC Event!

Environmental awareness has become a festival tradition where attendees can learn more about practical ways to implement green living. Participating organizations have included the Audubon Society, Clean Air NY, Lower East Side Ecology Center, Hudsonia, the Council on the Environment of NYC and the Captain Planet Foundation. **Attendees who ride their bikes to the park this year can have free bicycle valet parking.**



*Kamala Cesar, Artistic Director/Producer, Lotus Music & Dance
Carl Nelson, Co-Creator and Co-Producer, Drums Along the Hudson*

Lotus Music & Dance is grateful for the support from:



**New York State Council on the Arts
David & Sylvia Teitelbaum Fund
The Howard Bayne Fund**

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Kamala Cesar	Artistic Director
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Melinda Faylor	Office Manager
Connie Sanchez	Development Director
Marilyn Abalos	Administrative Consultant

Drums Along the Hudson Event Credits

Kamala Cesar, Carl Nelson Vernon Ross Obinna Nwaokoro	Co-Producers Stage Manager Assistant to the Producers
Matt Bonavita, Andrew McGill Richard Turner, Michele Turner	Sound Engineers, <i>Rhythm in Motion</i>
John Cesar, Emeline Lotherington Joseph Rodman	Videographers
Joan Logue, Marilyn Abalos Ron Greenfield, Forest Litho	Photographer Volunteer/Vendor Coordinators Graphic Design/Printing

PHOTOS: If you take any great photos at Drums, you can send them to the email below and we will keep them in our archive and maybe use them in the future.
(Sorry, there is no remuneration involved for photos. But we do appreciate them and keep them.)

dah@lotusmusicanddance.org

www.drumsalongthehudson.org • tel: 212-627-1076x10

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, China, Indonesia, the Mohawk Nation, West Africa, 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. Since 2002, Lotus Music & Dance also presents Manhattan's only annual open air Pow Wow, the annual Drums Along the Hudson®: A Native American Festival.



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