

X'unei · Du Aaní Kawdinook · K'eijáakw  
Lance Arron Twitchell

**Contact:** University of Alaska Southeast  
11120 Glacier Highway  
Juneau, AK 99801-8697

Whitehead 229 · (907) 796-6114  
latwitchell@alaska.edu  
lance@troubledraven.com

**Education:** · Ph.D, Hawaiian and Indigenous Language and Culture Revitalization (2018) —  
Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language, University of Hawai'i Hilo  
· MFA, Creative Writing (2010) —University of Alaska Fairbanks  
· BA, English; Minor American Indian Studies (2007) —University of Minnesota  
· Tlingit Immersion Camps—U of Alaska Southeast & Sealaska Heritage Institute  
· Certification, First Nations Futures Program—Stanford University  
· Certification, Village Management Institute—Sheldon Jackson College

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Professor of Alaska Native Languages, University of Alaska Southeast (2011–Current).**  
Coordinate the development of an Indigenous Studies Program, teach Tlingit language, language revitalization, and Alaska Native Studies courses.
- **Tlingit Language Consultant (2020–Current).**  
Language consultant translator for the Children of the Taku Society, working to help develop language teaching materials.
- **Tlingit Language Instructor & Curriculum Development Specialist, (2006–Current).**  
Work with Sealaska Heritage Institute, Goldbelt Heritage Foundation, Yakutat Tlingit Tribe, Carcross-Tagish First Nation, Teslin Tlingit Council, Taku River Tlingit First Nation, and Lingít Language Champions to teach community classes, coordinate language immersion camps in Alaska, Yukon, and British Columbia, and to evaluate Mentor-Apprentice Program participants.
- **Tlingit Language Instructor, Central Council of Tlingit & Haida (2019–2022).**  
Language consultant and teacher, and translator in the Haa Yoo X'atángi Kúdi (Tlingit Language Nest), working with children ages 3–8 in a full immersion environment.
- **Tlingit Language and Indigenous Studies Instructor, Outer Coast (2018–2021).**  
Developed and taught courses on Tlingit language, Indigenous Studies, and cross-cultural literature in a college preparatory summer program with students from around the world.
- **Northwest Coast Formline Design Instructor, Jinéit Art Academy (2013–2019).**  
Taught community workshops sponsored by the Sealaska Heritage Institute that cover the basic principles of Northwest Coast Formline Design. Taught in Juneau, Yakutat, Haines, and Angoon.
- **Assistant Professor of English, University of Alaska Fairbanks (2010 - 2011).**  
Taught ENGL111: Introduction to Academic Writing, ENGL213: Academic Writing about Natural & Social Sciences, ENGL271: Introduction to Creative Writing—Fiction, and ENGL314: Technical Writing.

## WRITING, EDITORIAL, & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- **Board Member**, *North Words Writers Symposium*, a writers' conference that is hosted annually in Skagway, Alaska.
- **Board Member**, *7000 Languages*, a non-profit that creates free online language-learning courses in partnership with Indigenous, minority, and refugee communities so they can keep their languages alive.
- **Fellow**, *WGBH Molly of Denali Scriptwriting Fellowship* (2018). Developed a script for the PBS animated series *Molly of Denali*.
- **Column Author**, *Juneau Empire* (2012–2014). Contributed a column on Alaska Native Languages & Studies, also developing a “Tlingit Word of the Week” series.
- **Tlingit Language & Culture Consultant, Musician**, *Dugout* (2011). Assisted with the development of the film *Dugout* by consulting on content, translating Tlingit, and soundscaping the film.

## PUBLICATIONS & CREATIVE WORKS

- *Gagaan X̣'usyee: Below the Foot of the Sun*, poetry book by the University of Alaska Press (2024).
- *Lingít Dictionary*, 2nd edition, published by Goldbelt Heritage Foundation (2024).
- *Lingít Themes*, 1st edition, published by Goldbelt Heritage Foundation (2024).
- *The Conjugator*, published by Goldbelt Heritage Foundation (2024).
- “Not a Mascot” episode for *Molly of Denali* (2024, Emmy nominated).
- “Raven the Trickster” episode for *Molly of Denali* (2022).
- “Nature Is Medicine” episode for *Molly of Denali* (2022).
- *Beginning Tlingit Workbook*, 2nd edition, published by the Sealaska Heritage Institute (2022).
- *Haa Wsineix̣ Haa Yoo X̣'atángi (Our Language Saved Us): A Guidebook for Learning the Tlingit Language*, 2nd edition, published by Goldbelt Heritage Foundation (2020).
- *Tlingit Reference Guide: Verbs, Grammar, Location & Direction, Concepts*, published by Goldbelt Heritage Foundation (2020).
- “Our Language Is Encoded In Us” art installation at the Penn Museum (2021).
- “Funny Face Contest” episode for *Molly of Denali* (2021).
- *Before the Land Eroded: I Was Once Here*, play co-authored with Ty Defoe, Marleah Makpiaq LaBelle, and Martha Kasaiuli, staged in Newtok, Alaska and also in Anchorage, Alaska (2019).
- “Tlingit Use of Marine Space Putting up Fish” in *The Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Marine Areas*, Edited by Stephen Allen, Nigel Bankes & Øyvind Ravna, Bloomsbury Publishing (2019).
- *Haa Dachxánx̣'i Sáani Kagéiyi Yís: Haa Yoo X̣'atángi Kei Naltseen: For Our Little Grandchildren: Language Revitalization Among The Tlingit*, dissertation (2018).

- Co-authored the poem “Shaawatke’s Birth,” published and made into a film by the *Alaska Quarterly Review* (2016).
- Debuted the film *Haa Yoo X’atangi Káx Kulagaawú—Language Warriors: The Life and Work of Nora and Richard Dauenhauer* (2016) during an Evening at Egan Event at UAS. The film was sponsored by the Rasmuson Foundation, Alaska Humanities Forum, Goldbelt Heritage Foundation, and UAS.
- “Alaska Native Language Revitalization: Transforming the Fabric of Our People,” published in the *Alaska Native Studies Journal* (2013).
- “When the Heart Skips a Beat,” and “Sable Voices” poems, published in *Ice Box* (2010).
- “Nanook Sweats,” “Release, Definition: Trickster,” “Ode to Tlingit, Yellow Hair Takes the Fat and We Lament His Seedy Departure,” and “Dark Skin and Betraying Uncle,” poems, published in *Yellow Medicine Review* (Spring, 2009).

#### SPEECHES AND PRESENTATIONS

- *Invited Speaker* (2024), “Intergenerational Transmission: From Time Immemorial to Eternity,” at *Indigenous Language Institute Symposium* (ILIS) in Albuquerque, NM.
- *Keynote Speaker* (2024), *American Indian Indigenous Teacher Education Conference* (AIITEC) in Flagstaff, AZ.
- *Keynote Speaker* (2024), *Alaska Society for Technology in Education* (ASTE) Conference in Anchorage, AK.
- *Keynote Speaker* (2023), *La Cosecha Conference* by by Dual Language Education of New Mexico in Albuquerque, NM.
- *Panelist* (2023), *North Star: Conversations on Boundlessness* conference at the University at the Lincoln Center in New York City, November 2023.
- *Panelist* (2023), *Digital Engagement with Endangered Languages and their Communities* at the University at Buffalo, November 2023.
- *Panelist* (2023), *American Indian Indigenous Teacher Education Conference. Returning to Our Languages and Ways of Knowing* at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, AZ.
- *Panelist* (2022), *Liberatory Letters: Language as Resistance*, The Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America (CSREA) at Brown University.
- *Invited Speaker* (2022), *Artist Conversation: Lance Twitchell and Nicholas Galanin*, hosted by the by the Native American and Indigenous Studies (NAISIP) Working Group Seminar Series and the Humanities Council at Princeton University.
- *Invited Speaker* (2020), “Haa Saax’ú Tóonáx Woosh Wutudzikóo: We Know Each Other Through Our Names” for the *What’s In a Name* series, hosted by the Fisher Center for the Study of Gender & Justice at the Hobart and William Smith Colleges.
- *Invited Speaker* (2020), “Shifting Value Systems: Indigenous Language Revitalization Strategies” at the Sealaska Heritage Institute Lecture Series, *Approaches to Indigenous Language Revitalization*.

- *Invited Speaker* (2019), “A Place We Can Succeed as Ourselves: The Future of Alaskan Education is Equity & Inclusion,” at the *5th Annual Alaska Can! Conference*.
- *Invited Speaker* (2019), “Haa Dachxánx'i Sáani Kagéiyi Yís: Haa Yoo X'atángi Kei Naltseen: For Our Little Grandchildren: Language Revitalization Among The Tlingit,” to the *Fieldwork Forum* (aka “FForum”) series, co-sponsored by the Berkeley Language Center, UC Berkeley.
- *Invited Speaker* (2017), “Creating a Tlingit Language Movement: Engineering Social Change for Language Revitalization” to American Indian Studies, Anthropology, and Linguistics faculty members, and “Haa Shuká: Language Loss and Revitalization Among the Tlingit” to students of American Indian Studies at Dartmouth College.
- *Invited Speaker* (2016), Founder’s Day Potlatch · HAAYK Foundation · Metlakatla, Alaska.
- *Invited Speaker* (2016), “ Official Languages, Tribal Schools, and New Media: Facilitating Structural Changes That Foster Language Revitalization in Alaska” · University of Alaska Fairbanks.
- *Poetry Reading* (2015), Invited poet reading at the Alaska Governor’s Mansion.
- *Keynote Speaker* (2015), Stabilizing Indigenous Language Conference · Wind River Indian Reservation, Wyoming.
- *Invited Speaker* (2014), Building Tribal Nations Symposium · University of Wyoming.
- *Keynote Speaker* (2013), Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska 78th Annual Tribal Assembly.
- *Closing Remarks* (2013), Alaska Federation of Natives Convention · Fairbanks, Alaska.

#### PROFESSIONAL AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS, GRANT AWARDS, & SERVICE

- *Emmy Nomination* (2022, 2024), for writing on *Molly of Denali*.
- *Governor’s Arts & Humanities Award Recipient* (2024), Alaska State Council on the Arts.
- *Constellations Language Awardee* (2023), Oakland, CA.
- *Sealaska Heritage Institute Distinguished Leadership Award*, 2023, presented during the sixth annual culturally responsive education conference.
- Chair of the *Alaska Native Language Preservation and Advisory Council*, appointed by Governor Walker (2017).
- *Up-and-Coming Podcast Creator* (2021), iHeartRadio’s NextUp! Program · Atlanta, GA.
- *Young Native Leader Award* (2020), First Alaskans Institute · Anchorage, AK.
- *Luce Indigenous Knowledge Fellowship* (2020), Henry Luce Foundation and First Nations Development Institute · Longmont, CO.
- *Cultural Capital Fellowship* (2020), First Peoples Fund · Rapid City, SD.
- *National Endowment of the Humanities Fellowship* (2020) · Modern Classics of Tlingit Oral Literature.

- *Art Apprentice* (2020), Native Arts & Cultures Foundation, Mentor Artist Fellowship · Vancouver, WA.
- Artist in Residence (2018), Headlands Center for the Arts · Sausalito, CA.
- Artist in Residence (2017), Alderworks Alaska Writers and Artists Retreat · Skagway, Alaska.
- *Contributions to Literacy in Alaska (CLIA) Awards*, Alaska Center for the Book (2017).
- *Judson L. Brown Leadership Award*, Sealaska Heritage Institute (2016).
- *Lawrence Matson Memorial Endowment*, the CIRI Foundation (2016).
- *Connie Boochever Fellowship* in the literary and performing arts (2013).
- *Top 40 Under 40*, The Alaska Journal of Commerce (2013).
- *Moment of Birth, giclée print*—entry, *Celebration Juried Art Show* (2012).
- Commissioned artist for Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indians of Alaska (2010-12).
- Commissioned artist for EPA Region 10 Tribal Leaders Summit (2010).
- *Raven and the Beauty of the Eagle Spirit, giclée print*—third place, *Celebration Juried Art Show* (2010).
- *Dennis Demmert Appreciation and Recognition Award* from Native Alaskan Business Leaders at the University of Alaska Fairbanks in acknowledgement of support for Alaskan Native and rural Alaskan students (2010).
- *Alaska Native Visionary Award* from the Alaska Native Heritage Month Committee in acknowledgement of artistic and cultural contributions to the Native community (2009).
- *Vine Deloria Jr. Memorial Scholarship* from the American Indian College Fund (2009).

## REFERENCES

- Dr. William “Pila” H. Wilson  
*Professor of Hawaiian Language, Hawaiian Studies, and Linguistics*  
Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke‘elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language University of Hawai‘i at Hilo
- Dr. Maria Williams, PhD  
*Director, Director, Alaska Native Studies*  
University of Alaska Anchorage
- Dr. Robin Walz  
*Professor of History (Retired)*  
University of Alaska Southeast
- Dr. Seth Cable  
*Associate Professor of Linguistics*  
University of Massachusetts Amherst