

Wells Fargo Customer Connection

Diversity Council update

WFCC diversity news

Mary Ann Hood delights with dance

Mary Ann Hood, WFCC on-line CSR in Concord, Calif. is a very proud full-blooded Native American, originally from Oklahoma. She is a member of the Caddo tribe and also an affiliate of the Cheyenne-Arapaho tribe. Mary Ann's culture is very important to her, and she has spent much of her life celebrating that culture.

When she was younger, Mary Ann participated in Pow-Wow's across the county. When she attended Seattle University, she was selected Princess for the Northwest Intertribal Club, and participated as a spokeswoman at public events around the Seattle area. As an adult in the San Francisco Bay area, she worked with San Jose's American Indian Alliance in the 90's. She now supports the Vallejo Inter-tribal Council to promote awareness of her culture through outreach and cultural activities. Mary Ann was recently appointed as an alternate board member to the Vallejo Inter-Tribal Council, and performs grant writing to assist with creating a much needed American Indian community center in the area. Last year, Mary Ann was selected as vice president of the Virtual Chapter for the Wells Fargo [Native Peoples TMN](#) (Team Member Network).

"The cultural beauty and rich history of my people are one of my favorite things to share," explains Mary Ann. "When I was given this great honor to help the TMN, I never dreamed that I would be the one receiving a major benefit!"

This past November, Mary Ann and the Native Peoples TMN Virtual Chapter decided to reach out to their community to celebrate National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month. After brainstorming many ideas, the team decided to reach out to young children in a local school. Through the teamwork of many, including the Wells Fargo Corporate Library and Native Peoples TMN, Mary Ann was prepared to go into the classroom with the book *Jingle Dancer* (to promote her love of dance in her culture), along with jingle bells attached to colorful cloth, and a coloring sheet of a girl dancer for each of the children.

Mary Ann also reached out to the [local diversity coordinator](#) for her location, WFCC administrative assistant **Amanda Tapac**, on any additional activities she could take with her that would tie in to Wells Fargo.

"Amanda is an awesome resource," shares Mary Ann. "Her enthusiasm for diversity initiatives is always infectious. We spoke briefly about what I would be doing in the classroom and she showed me where I could find a coloring activity book on banking, printed them off for me and I was able to share them with the kids. They loved them!"

The entire day was a success. The children loved the book and all of the goodies that they received along with it. And Mary Ann was able to share why dance was so important to her.

"I was extremely honored and humbled to have been part of this Wells Fargo Native Peoples Team Member event," shares Mary Ann. "I feel like my personal mission of sharing more about my culture was more than met, and I am so pleased that my company offered me the opportunity to do this for myself, my family and my community."

Together we'll go far



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WFCC Diversity Council members



Mary Ann Hood, left, and **Amanda Tapac** work together for their community