

OUR GRANDMOTHERS DRESS

REVIVING THE OJIBWE/WOODLAND STRAP DRESS



WORKSHOP OVERVIEW



THE STORY OF THE STRAP DRESS

STRAP DRESS ERAS & STYLES

PATTERN MAKING

THOSE TRICKY SLEEVES!

SEWING IT ALL TOGETHER

MATERIALS TO USE (AND WHICH TO AVOID)

ACCESSORIZING YOUR OJIBWE STRAP DRESS

HELPFUL RESOURCES

RECONNECTING AND RECLAIMING

CUSTOMIZED WORKSHOP FOR YOUR UNIQUE GROUP

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“We did not come from some place else.”

Those words given to us by Bawdwaywidun Banaise, Grand Chief of the Three Fires Midewiwin Lodge in Bad River, WI, are very fitting because *the Strap Dress*

is as original to Woodland people, as Woodland people are to this land. That powerful statement aside, many women of the Woodland tribes do not recognize the dress of their Grandmothers, and only a handful have made one or worn one. We'd like to change that!

In that we are learning our languages, picking up our bundles and rebuilding our Longhouses and Lodges, our desire is that the dress of our Grandmothers, becomes a part of the cultural resurgence taking place for Indigenous people all across this land.

Our goal is to help Woodland women understand the history, beauty and brilliance of the traditional Strap Dress — to know it's story and the cultural significance it carries, the various styles of Strap Dresses, where to find the proper materials and how to make a traditional Strap Dress. It is our greatest hope that each person who attends our Workshop shares what they have learned with their families and community, and that our women are strengthened for having this knowledge.

Workshops can be customized for your group or gathering, and are based on the amount of time available to work with Strap Dress Learners. For more information or to schedule a Workshop, please contact us at: zeegwun@ourgrandmothersdress.com.

ABOUT THE INSTRUCTORS

Neil Opendike

Master beadworker and maker of traditional Ojibwe regalia whose passion for Ojibwe clothing has fueled his life's work for well over sixty years. Beginning at the age of ten, Neil devoted himself to his craft; perfecting his beadwork and construction techniques. Neil is soon to be author, co-publishing a book on Ojibwe clothing.

Zeegwun Noodenese / Siobhan Marks

Migizi n'dodeym (eagle clan), descendant of Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe and Midekwe of the Three Fires Midewiwin Lodge in Bad River, WI. Dressmaker of Apikan-Majigoodenyan (Ojibwe Strap Dresses); student of Anishinabe culture and co-publisher of a book on Ojibwe clothing.

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