

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

*WHEREAS*, the state of Washington acknowledges the many contributions that Tribal Governments, Native peoples, and Native communities have had on the arts, education, health, economic development, and civic community of Washington State; and

*WHEREAS*, authentic Native American art and craftwork promotes economic opportunities for Native American artists and craftspeople, and enables Native communities to maintain their culture and pass on traditional knowledge and teachings to younger generations; and

*WHEREAS*, contemporary Native American brands and art confirm the energy and creativity within Native American communities to bring about positive change through self-determination; and

*WHEREAS*, imitation or so-called "Native-inspired" artwork and products damage Native communities and decrease business opportunities for Native artisans; and

*WHEREAS*, consumer awareness of how their patronage can support the work of Native artists and 100 percent Native-designed products is essential to support Native arts entrepreneurs;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim November 25-December 2, 2019, as

### *Native Arts Week*

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance by supporting Native artists and Native art entrepreneurs.



Signed this 25th day of November, 2019

Handwritten signature of Jay Inslee in blue ink.

Governor Jay Inslee