Lifetime
Achievement Award

Jenny L. Williams

Jenny Williams

- She is a member of the Omaha Tribe and is of Nez Perce decent.

- She was raised on the Nez Perce Reservation.

- She is named after her grandmother Jane Red Cloud who taught her how to bead, knit, crochet, cook, dig roots, fish, and how to process wild game.
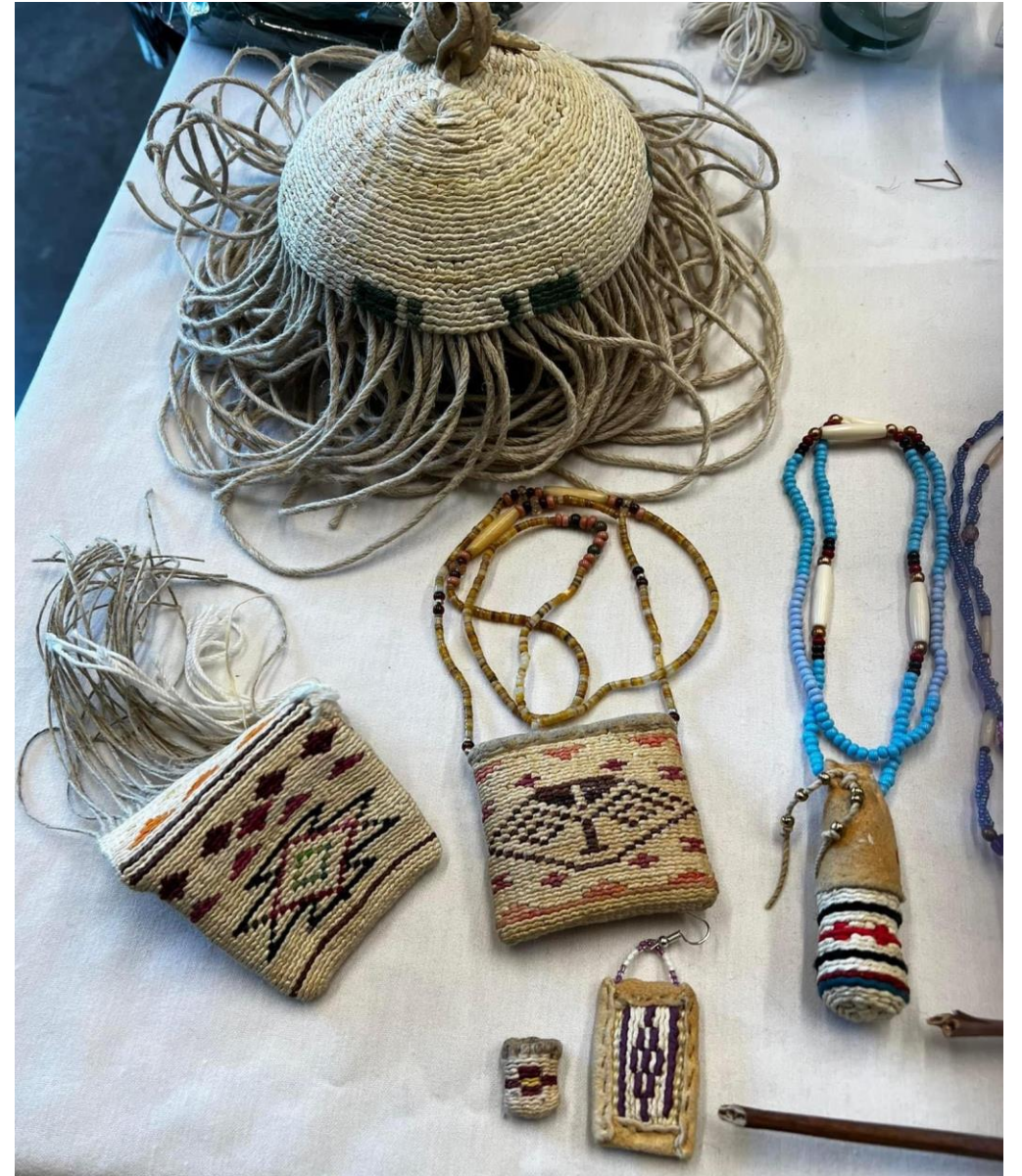
Cornhusk

- Jenny's passion for cornhusk weaving began when she visited the Nez Perce National Historical Park, where she seen many women's work on display.

- Few elders were willing to teach the art, so Jenny is a self-taught cornhusk weaver.

- She was in her late 30s when she started to learn and at that time it was almost a lost art form.

- She started with the basics and worked her way up

Cornhusk

- After she learned the basics, she started studying with master weavers from all around the Northwest.

- Her love for weaving grew exponentially and is something she strives to share and teach with students and apprentices.

- She had work in the Smithsonian National Museum magazine in 2003 and has a cornhusk hat in the permanent collection at the National Museum of the American Indian.

Family & Career

- She has two daughters and eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

- She has 43 years of service at Lapwai School District, and she currently serves as a Cultural Specialist with the Indian Education Department.

- She has taught many cultural classes from kindergarteners to high schoolers to adults.

Our Grandma Jenny

- She's taught students how to dig roots, weaving with different materials, beading, sewing, and more.

- She carries on her work everyday at Lapwai School district, passing down her knowledge to youth for generations.

- She has been a Grandmother to every student that's stepped through her door, whether you're related to her or not, we all know her as our Grandma Jenny.

2023 Lifetime Achievement Award

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Thank You for Your Life's Work and Dedication

Congratulations!