



## Traditional Canoe Carving at Lake Crescent

During the month of July 2026, artists from the Lower Elwha Klallam, Makah, and Quileute tribes will be carving traditional cedar dugout canoes on the NatureBridge Olympic campus, along the shoreline of Lake Crescent in Olympic National Park. This is the first canoe carving to take place at Lake Crescent in over 100 years!

Daily visitation of the carving site will be open to the public Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to ask questions and interact with the artists during those times. The carving site will be closed Friday through Sunday.

The public is also invited to attend the tribal blessing ceremonies on July 1 and July 30, which will be held on the NatureBridge campus.



## Schedule of Events

### July 1

- Opening ceremony and blessing

### July 2-29 (M-Th)

- Public visitation every Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Observe, ask questions, and interact with the carvers
- Closed to the public on Fridays and weekends

### July 30

- Blessing ceremony and canoe launch
- Culture sharing with communal meal, dances, and songs

**Location: NatureBridge Olympic Campus  
111 Barnes Point Road, Port Angeles, WA**

**For additional information, contact:**  
**Darrell Charles at [Darrell.charles@elwha.org](mailto:Darrell.charles@elwha.org)**  
**NatureBridge at [info@naturebridge.org](mailto:info@naturebridge.org)**



### **Darrell Charles, Jr.**

I am a member of the Elwha Klallam tribe, and I've been an artist since I was 17 years old. I started learning to forge tools, repair canoes, and carve rattles, masks, and paddles. My first instructor was tribal elder Chucky Mike, and since then I've participated in various apprenticeships in Canada and the U.S. I've carved ocean-going canoes, paddles for decoration plus personal use, and masks of various styles. I prefer to build functional cultural items—rattles, paddles, masks, and other ceremonial property. Contributing to the growth of myself and other artists is my main goal. Teaching and being taught helps boost creativity. Seeing how others teach helps me to be better instructor.



**Darrell Charles, Jr.**

### **Micah McCarty**

I am Michah McCarty, Makah Artist and Master Carver. With over 33 years of experience, I have made four dugout canoes (33ft, 20ft, and two 12ft canoes). Most of my art is made in community, for traditional teachings, education, and continuity of our culture. As a cultural ambassador, I live with the ethos of cross-cultural appreciation and respect of the natural world. As native artists we illustrate who we are and where we come from in the natural world.



**Micah McCarty**

### **Randy Eastman, Jr.**

My name is Randy Eastman, Jr. I am a Quileute tribal member and the Cultural Advocate for the Quileute Tribe. I was introduced to carving in the sixth grade at our tribal school. Some of my influences are individuals like Chris Morganroth, Danny Smith, Don Smith, Rob Taylor, and Sharra Woodruff. Only in the last two years have I started to carve full-time, facilitating our community carving shed through the New Beginnings program. I have partnered with the Quileute Tribal School, Quillayute Valley School District, Early Headstart, Quileute Human Services, and First Step, bringing cultural awareness and a hope for passing on traditional knowledge to our youth and community members. My goal for my career as artist is to simply remain teachable. I want to continue to partner with other tribes and artists which will strengthen ties and bonds between our neighboring villages. I want to rejuvenate and replenish our art at home on the Quileute reservation so that future generations have something to inspire and even reference.



**Randy Eastman, Jr.**