

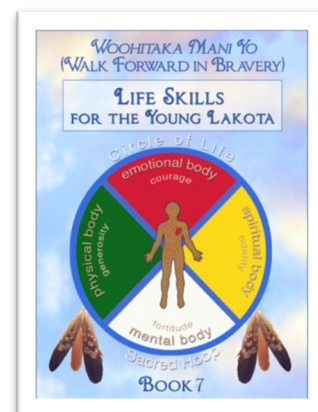


OCETI WAKAN NEWSLETTER

November, 2020

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Wow, 2020 has been quite a year! Along with its challenges, it has been full of opportunities too. We are happy to report that our curriculum “Life Skills for the Young Lakota” has reached close to 2,000 students this year by getting it into Oglala Lakota County Schools (OLCS) and Sitting Bull’s School up at Standing Rock in K to 8th grades. Many of the middle school and high school students are using it too. The challenge is that OLCS has had to deal with the difficulty of the teaching of it not being in the classroom but online! We have been working away striving to help our teacher’s create ways to teach it online since it was designed for the classroom. So, we have been busy! We are hoping next semester won’t be so challenging for them. We want to thank you for all that you have done to make this possible with your prayers and contributions.



Our goal was to see that every student has a book of their own as OLCS could only get the Teacher’s Manuals, Parent’s Handbooks, and a copy of one workbook per classroom. We felt it was imperative that each child have their own book! Because of **YOU**, Health for Humanity, and the Oglala Sioux Tribe, we have been able to get these students the books! The workbooks themselves are a place for students to journal, do lesson-related activities, a well-indexed place for students to search for lessons on challenges they’ll face in the future: dealing with trauma, addiction, depression, problem-solving, setting goals, standing up to bullying, conflict resolution, guides to healthy eating, wound care, importance of sleep, importance of preserving a culture, language and so many others. They are also an invaluable resource for how to seek help and support in the community. **But there are so many more students who need books!** Your donation can provide these.



Bringing Christmas toys and food to those who wouldn’t have any – We are now collecting funds for our **Annual Holiday Giving Program** for any of you who want to bring a bit of “light” to a child who desperately needs it. We ask the children in families who probably will not experience Christmas what they would like. Then we strive to make their heart’s desire come true! One year someone gave \$500 for bicycles. We were able to get 10 of them for thrilled children! **If you have a special interest you would like your donation to go towards, please let us know!**

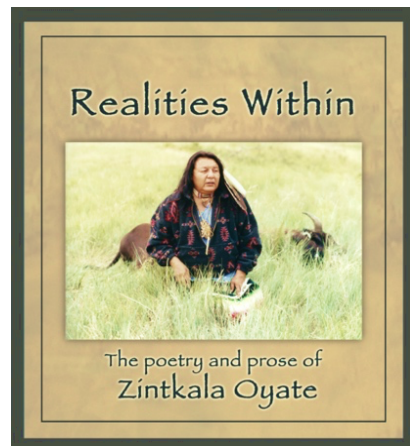


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Most often a child expects and asks for so little. We also strive to give out enough food and goodies for the whole family. Last year I believe it was well over 200 children that we were able to bring Christmas to. If you would like to be a part of this heart-warming endeavor, go to Our Website: www.ocetiwakan.org to the donate page and click on the Christmas option. You can also donate in someone's honor or memory. We thank each of you for the generosity that you show each year!

New Edition of Realities Within – Zintkala Oyate (Peter V. Catches), one of the founders of Oceti Wakan, passed in 2018. We wanted to honor him by recreating this collection of some of his poetry and prose that he wrote over the years of his spiritual journey, his struggles in life being Lakota, and his love. We have put this on our website for anyone of you that might be interested. Do you need a truly meaningful and unique holiday gift for someone on your list?

"The Sundance is not a rite of manhood or a display of crude brute courage. I, myself, am already known for my courage and fortitude within my bond of relatives and people. . ."



It's like magic! Giving Tuesday is coming up on December 1st!

Early morning starting 8 am EST PayPal Giving Fund will match any donation (until their \$7 million match is gone). But only the early birds will get to take advantage of it! If you donate \$1,000, it will come to us as \$2,000. All donations are tax deductible as we are a 501c3 organization. Go to:

paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1826159

You truly are making a difference in children's lives and futures when you donate to us! We wish you a safe and healthy holiday!

Wopila!

The Staff at Oceti Wakan