

Candy Solomon Cover Artwork: Qw'ch'enech (Killer Whale)

Candy Solomon is from the Lummi Nation, the daughter of Michael Solomon of Lummi and Dorothea Purser of Suquamish, Washington. She received her Associate of Arts and Sciences degree from Northwest Indian College (NWIC) and her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Art with a concentration in visual communications and production at Western Washington University.

Candy is currently the Communications Producer at Lummi Indian Business Council, where she is editor of the monthly tribal newspaper, and produces ads, brochures, posters, cards and other printed materials. Candy's artwork is inspired by Salish Coastal styles but also reflects her own contemporary style of design. Her artwork has been commissioned for community gatherings



and events, and by some state and national organizations.

This limited edition serigraph print is entitled Qw'ch'enech. Receiving her degree has allowed Candy to come full circle. It was her intent in achieving an education, to give back to her tribe. The killer whale (orca) has been a companion traveler with the Lummi people for many generations. "Qw'ch'enech" in a circle denotes the circle of time we travel and the path of Candy's life back to a place of beginning. ♣

For more information about Candy Solomon and her artwork, she can be reached by email at candaces@lummi-nsn.gov

RAELYNN BOCK – JULY'S EXTRAORDINARY EMPLOYEE



Raelynn Bock

Indian Gaming magazine has named Raelynn Bock Extraordinary Employee for the month of July 2007. Raelynn is a Human Resources Benefits Specialist at Yakama Legends Casino, located in Toppenish, WA. Raelynn oversees employee benefits, such as health care, 401K, and leave requests, for the casino's associates, who number over 600. "My favorite part of the job is working with the associates," she said. "I love being introduced to all of the associates and being able to help them."

Raelynn started at Yakama Legends in December of 2005, beginning in the property's finance department as an accountant. In April of 2006 she applied for, and received, the position of Benefits Specialist, and has since made the department more efficient and is constantly thinking of ways to improve it. "She works very hard in her position and is available at all times for our employees," said Alison Aranda, Assistant HR Director. "They truly love her because of her customer service. She is the type of person who takes the extra steps to satisfy the employees."

Part of her position includes presenting a portion of the orientation, which allows her to learn the name of every associate. "I love walking on the floor and knowing everyone out there by name," said Raelynn. In addition to her regular

responsibilities, Raelynn is also the Rodeo Committee President for the Annual Yakama Nation Legends Casino Rodeo. "This will be our fifth rodeo, with the rodeo, a pow wow and games all during the same weekend."

Raelynn's top-notch job performance earned her Yakama Legend's Associate of the Year award for 2006, which included a four-day, three-night vacation getaway. "That award was a very unexpected honor," she said. "I really thought it was very special." Raelynn credits her upbringing for her achievements at Yakama Legends, from her grandfather, who taught her to treat others as she wants to be treated, to her parents, who instilled in her a diligent work ethic. "I know that when I have problems I want them handled professionally and quickly. That's what I try to do for each and every person that comes through here."

Raelynn has had much success at Yakama Legends and she credits her coworkers for influencing her job performance. "Everyone at this property works so hard, from the custodians up to the general manager," she said. "It's amazing how much time people have to put in to make this casino operate. It's very inspiring." ♣

If you would like to nominate an employee or coworker, send an email to editor@indiangaming.com or fax us at (425) 883-7209. Be sure to describe your nominee and why you believe he or she should be chosen. The Extraordinary Employee of the Month will receive an engraved plaque in appreciation of their service to the industry.