



Darlene Gait

Darlene Gait Cover Artwork: *The Dancer*

Darlene Gait is a member of the Esquimalt Nation of Vancouver Island and began painting as a child. Darlene's paintings and poetry celebrate her love for her Coast Salish culture. Her images bring to life the rich traditions and oral history of the First People of Canada. Her art also reflects her passion for protecting the environment and wildlife, as well as her Baha'i beliefs in the oneness of humanity and the beauty of its diversity. Her work is unique in that it is created with emotions that allow the viewer to connect and relate to the stories told through her brush.

Darlene is recognized internationally, her art is exhibited and held in private and public collections worldwide. These include American Indian casinos such as the Pechanga Resort in California. Her art is published by Rizvan Fine Arts, Island Art as well as Orca Publishing. Darlene has completed many commissions as a book illustrator of Native stories for children, including 'The Secret of the Dance' which takes readers back to a time when the Potlatch was once banned in Canada.

Darlene's paintings are often inspired by her vivid dreams.

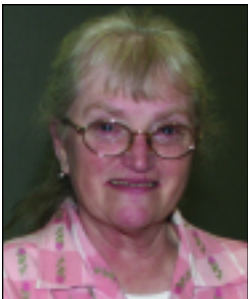
She believes her dreams must be captured by her brush and poetry and then shared. Darlene feels bound by the responsibility to depict all her images with scientific and historical accuracy, as she considers her art to be part of the oral history of her culture. She is self taught and has studied commercial illustration, graphic design and multimedia.

Darlene Gait has received many awards including The Book Illustrator of the Year Award, Verse and Vision Peoples Choice Award, and The Aboriginal Achievement Foundation Award, to name a few. Her exhibitions have received wide press and television coverage.

Darlene Gait lives on Vancouver Island, British Columbia with her family. She supports many non-profit organizations through volunteering and through her donations of art. She is an active member of the Board of Art for Development Foundation as well as Partners For Prosperity. ♣

Darlene Gait can be emailed at darlene@darlenegait.com. Her artwork can be viewed at her website, www.darlenegait.com. Darlene's original art is exhibited at Rizvan Gallery in B.C. Canada, phone (800) 519-1222, and at the other galleries listed on her website.

MARILYN CHILDS – OCTOBER'S EXTRAORDINARY EMPLOYEE



Marilyn Childs

Indian Gaming magazine has named Marilyn Childs Extraordinary Employee for the month of October 2006. Marilyn is a Deli Cashier at Chinook Winds Casino Resort in Lincoln City, Oregon, where she has been employed for over four years. Constantly demonstrating a positive attitude, Marilyn was selected for this award because of the numerous praises she has received from casino guests.

Marilyn's role in Chinook Winds' Food and Beverage department allows her to interact with many of the casino's customers, often developing friendly relationships with repeat guests. "I enjoy taking care of our guests and seeing many of them over and over," she said. "Many of them come by just to say hi." When asked about her outstanding guest service skills, Marilyn said she likes to treat customers the way she would like to be treated. "I want our guests to leave the deli happy."

The comments Marilyn's customers have submitted illustrate what a tremendous job she does at Chinook Winds. One customer wrote that Marilyn "assists customers beyond her duty." Another wrote that she helped "me and my friends enjoy our meal. We all said the food tasted better because of her good attitude and service." One customer comment card

stated that Marilyn "shows other employees how to serve with a happy heart. We very seldom find this anymore, anywhere!"

Marilyn really enjoys the people she works with at Chinook Winds and appreciates the family-type atmosphere in her department. The mother of four sons, Marilyn is very dedicated to her role at Chinook Winds. One of her inspirations for her level of commitment was her high school band director. "He was an ex-military sergeant," she said. "He expected the best out of us, but was really good to us. We spent long hours in band, but we won state championships every year."

In recognition for her outstanding level of service, Chinook Winds named Marilyn its Superstar Employee for the first quarter of 2006. For this honor, which is awarded to a different employee every quarter, Marilyn received \$1,000 and a marble plaque engraved with her name will be displayed at the casino's front entrance. "Being honored as the first quarter Superstar has been one of my most enjoyable experiences at the casino," she said. "It was so sweet that our guests sent in such nice comments about me." ♣

If you would like to nominate an employee or co-worker, 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.