DAY 1: Boozhoo Giinawaa

Anangookwe indizhinikaaz! My name is Anangookwe and I am an Ojibwe, Assiniboine and Dakota interdisciplinary artist currently residing on the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe reservation. I am also a MA student in the Critical Craft Studies program @warrenwilsoncollege

Much of my work centers around current and past familial and cultural narratives

I also have little respect for the English language and am a part of the Ojibwe language revitalization that is happening in many Ojibwe communities within the so called United States and Canada. Nonetheless, I will try and be as eloquent as possible ♡

This week I will be giving y'all insight into my artistic process, as well as current afflictions that my communities are facing, that will in turn be effecting much of you *cough* LINE 3

See y'all tomorrow ❤ Weweni
DAY 2: JINGLE JANGLE

[Description: Me wearing my custom roller dancing outfit, that I whipped up earlier this year out of some 1970’s cotton duck fabric I scored on ebay, posing in front of a current commission I am draping. The goal is minimal waste.]

There are many reasons why I stepped back from developing my own ready-to-wear fashion line when I was given the chance. To put it simply, taking part in the 2nd most polluting industry in the world only fueled my climate change anxiety. However, at the beginning of the pandemic I was out of a job and was quickly burning through my savings. I had inherited a great sum of vintage fabrics from my late grandmother and began sewing jingle dresses.

While jingle dresses are considered pan-indian today, their origins lay with the Ojibwe people. The origin story of the jingle dress takes place a little over a hundred years ago where the daughter of a medicine man fell ill, likely with the Spanish flu, and laid bedridden. The medicine man dreamed and was then guided by the spirits of four women to create the jingle dress. He was instructed to have his little girl dance in this dress and when she finally did her strength slowly returned to her, curing her of her illness.

I am starting another jingle dress commission for a relative who is in need of much healing. Not to brag, but I totally scored on the 1930s feedsack fabric pictured here. You can usually only find 1 yard cuttings of them today, but I stumbled across this full feed sack bag and a half on Etsy. I will most certainly hoard what scraps I have left 😭

Will be touching more on jingle dresses tomorrow and some other thangs. If you made it this far down, hope you have a good day[]}
DAY 3:

The sound of rolled snuff can lids clanging together evokes the sound of late afternoon showers. When you finish your dance, do you feel cleansed and strengthened, as one does when they dance jingle?

When you wear a garment, are you transported to a place in time? Are the patterns on your clothes, or the adornment you wear, connected to your family? It doesn’t have to be your biological family, it could be chosen too.

Unintentionally, every piece I create holds some semblance of home. Home is as complex as the river system in the northwoods; as complex as the merging of my family’s intertribal aesthetics.

It can be overwhelming when you care too much about multiple causes. It can be overwhelming when you try to express your multifaceted identity within your work and you’ll just think, “TO HECK WITH IT”

Unintentionally, every piece I create holds some semblance of home
[Slide 1: Close up shot of beadwork, highlighting antique French and venetian seed beads]

[Slide 2: Screenshot of article from WBAY]

Wisconsin Natural Resources Board Sets Quota Of 300 Wolves For Fall Hunt

DNR Recommended Quota Of 130 Wolves To Maintain Population

By Danielle Kaeding
Published: Wednesday, August 11, 2021, 4:40pm
DAY 4:

Boozhoo Giinawaa

Today I will actually be touching upon a topic that ignites a furious flame within me. Topics like this fuels me to create art centered around familial and cultural narrative--I am also realizing as I am writing this that my art creates space for healing--but enough about that. This is way more important.

Yesterday news broke that in a 5-2 vote the Wisconsin's natural resource board decided to double the number of wolves allowed to be hunted in this fall's wolf hunt. This means that instead of the recommended allotment of 130, tickets allowing 300 kills for “harvesting” dates running from Nov. 6 through February 28 2022.

Earlier this February, Wisconsin's wolf hunt went 178% over the 119 “harvest” limit and 212 wolves were unjustly murdered. Wolves and Indigenous people are similarly in the eyes of the government. Although today, our modern genocide lays within blood quantum and environmental racism--think about how line 3 and 5 greatly impact our ecosystems through the degradation of wetlands, poisoning our waterways and threatening our food security--we were also “controlled” through a hunt.

An example: In the year of 1756, Governor Charles Lawrence of Canada issued a resolution against the Micmac and other tribal people within the region stating,

“And, we do hereby promise, by and with the consent of His Majesty's Council, a reward of 30 pounds for every live male Indian prisoner, above the age of sixteen years, brought in alive; or for a scalp of such male Indian twenty-five pounds, and twenty-five pounds for every Indian woman or child brought in alive: Such rewards to be paid by the Officer commanding at any of His Majesty's Forts in this Province, immediately upon receiving the Prisoners or Scalps above mentioned, according to the intent and meaning of this Proclamation.”

Although we are still furiously fighting for our rights, wolves do not have the luxury of being able to communicate in the English language. It is thus our responsibility to vocalize on their behalf. I cannot go into too much detail about how BENEFICIAL they are to our ecosystems, I leave that up to you to research. Just know this: anyone who justifies murdering a wolf because wolves are a “threat to our livestock,” do remind them that livestock like cows and sheep are the invasive species, not wolves. If this means anything to you, please contact the Wisconsin DNR at 1-888-936-7463 to voice your concerns against the wolf hunt. I honestly believe that they should never be hunted, PERIOD, but baby steps I guess.
DAY 5: Ojibwe Strap Dress

DANG Y'ALL  Posting everyday has been like working a new muscle. I am in pain and feel strange being perceived.

Winding down this week to give Y'ALL some insight into what's to come for me. Currently I am sewing through my enormous fabric stash, creating for myself and others.

My main peanut butter and jam sandwich at the moment is creating Ojibwe strap dresses. This pattern is based off an 1850 sketch of an Ojibwe woman wearing hers + the caplet. [Gender is a social construct and I will design a strap dress for whoever is ‘Shinaab]

Not only are they easy, breezy, beautiful cover girl to wear but they are very Ojibwe specific. I got beef with pan-indianism within indigenous communities. Aesthetics are being appropriated left and right and there is a major lack of reciprocity going on.

The jingle dress has already become pan-indian so that's that. I think everyone is in need of healing and as long as its origins are respected, I am fine with that. Don't go appropriating strap dresses though cause otherwise I'm going to be -

In all seriousness though, I have been saying Ojibwe this and Ojibwe that this entire post and I am urging you to now go look up Line 3

Line 3 is currently being built through the Leech Lake and Fond du Lac reservations/treaty areas. This line will be the largest pipeline in Einbridge’s history, carrying up to 915,000 barrels of crude oil a day.

This pipeline will not only be detrimental to our waterways, endangering our food sovereignty through the degradation of wetlands and valuable wild rice beds, but also plays a huge role in our MMIW2S epidemic.

Please follow @giniwcollective for news on the frontlines and I urge you to donate to all water protectors so that they may sustain themselves and continue to stand in opposition.
[SLIDE 1: WIP strap dress that I am designing for my 2nd aunt]

[SLIDE 2: Me wearing a completed Ojibwe strap dress, sans caplet, cause it's muggy a/f here]
DAY 6: CONCLUSION

Thanks for hanging out with me this past week! Really appreciate being offered the platform and I enjoyed the challenge. My thumbs are so tired 😅

I do urge you to consider taking actions on the two issues I presented to you this past week. The more voices the better!

Anywho, enjoy your weekend. I'm going to finish my weekend furiously completing my homework and readings for my masters program 😊