

**Pow Wow Dancing: Creating Regalia
A Pathfinder for Students**

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Introduction

Modern pow wow dancing has evolved from ancient Native American customs and traditions, and there are many different styles of dance performed at pow wows. Integral to each style of dance is the regalia worn during its performance. Regalia is clothing worn for a noble purpose, and is thought to reflect the dignity and inner purpose of the wearer.¹

This pathfinder serves as part of the Northwest Indian College Virtual Library. It is intended to aid students in the Oskale Program in Lumi, Washington, who are interested in common styles of pow wow dance regalia, as well as the techniques and methods used for its creation. These students may have questions such as, Where can I find descriptions and illustrations of pow wow dance styles and regalia? How can I become more familiar with the terms used to describe regalia and its methods of creation? Where can I find “how-to” information on the various techniques used to create regalia? How can I locate and contact suppliers of regalia materials? How can I locate a pow wow in my area?

Since this pathfinder was created solely for a virtual environment, I limited my searching to sources that are available for free on the Internet. I further confined my searching to items related to pow wow dance regalia and its creation. I conducted my search using the Internet search engine Google <<http://www.google.com>>. The search terms “pow wow’ dance regalia,” and “pow wow’ dance,” were used to locate descriptive resources, i.e., resources providing background information on various dance

¹ Great Lakes Intertribal Council. “Native Wisconsin Pow Wow Page: FAQ” (June 2000) Online. Internet. 17 February 2001. Available FTP: <http://www.glitc.org/powwow.htm>

styles and regalia. The search terms “Native American’ embroidery technique,” “Native American’ featherwork technique” and “Native American’ quillwork technique” were used to locate more technical resources, i.e., resources pertinent to creating regalia. The search terms “Native American’ craft supplies” were used to locate suppliers of regalia materials. In order to evaluate and select the most useful resources from these searches, I used the following criteria:

- (1) Reliability of the Source
 - Is the creator knowledgeable of the topic?
 - Do they have a reputation in the pow wow community?
- (2) Accuracy of the Content
 - Is the correctness of the information provided verifiable in some other source?
- (3) Comprehensiveness of the content
 - Is the topic covered thoroughly?
- (4) Currency:
 - If current information is needed, has the source been updated recently?

Upon completing the evaluation and selection process, I compiled an annotated bibliography and pathfinder, which can be found at this address:

<<http://www.gslis.utexas.edu/~vlibrary/edres/pathfinders/eckenrode.pdf>>.

Pow Wow Dancing: Creating Regalia A Pathfinder for Students

Annotated Bibliography of Pathfinder Resources

Citation Format:

MLA Style Guide: The Documentation Style of the Modern Language Association.
(Sept. 1999) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:
<http://www.newark.ohio-state.edu/~osuwrite/mla.htm>

- (1) Cooper, Suzanne. "Suzanne's Jump Start Classroom" Beads and Stained Glass (Sept. 2001) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:
<http://www.suzannecooper.com/classroom/classmain.html>

Although this website is not specifically tailored to Native American beadwork, it provides a great overview of stitching techniques used in the creation beaded regalia. Techniques included are: the peyote stitch, the spiral rope stitch, and loom weaving. By selecting the hyperlink to one of these stitching methods, you will access detailed diagrams and step-by-step "how to" instructions.

- (2) Glazner, Chris, Roxanne Solis, and Geoff Weinman. "Pow Wow Dance Styles" Southern Pow Wows (April 1997) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP: <http://library.thinkquest.org/3081/styles.htm?tqskip=1>

Sponsored by Thinkquest, a non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of education through technology, this web page was created by students of Southern pow wow for students of Southern pow wow. While the site focuses on Southern dance styles, much of the information applies to Northern styles as well. Hyperlinks to detailed descriptions of men and women's dance styles and regalia are provided. Photographs of dancers in full regalia illustrate each dance style described.

- (3) Glazner, Chris, Roxanne, Solis, and Geoff Weinman. "Pow Wow Terminology" Southern Pow Wows (April 1997) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP: <http://library.thinkquest.org/3081/terms.htm>

Sponsored by Thinkquest, a non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of education through technology, this web page is notable for its concise yet thorough description of pow wow terminology. Excellent descriptions of regalia items are provided along with hyperlinks to photographs. And although this site was created by students of Southern pow wow for students of Southern pow wow, much of the information applies to Northern pow wows as well.

- (4) Great Lakes Intertribal Council. "Native Wisconsin Pow Wow Page: FAQ" (June 2000) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:
<http://www.glitc.org/powwow.htm>

Created by the Great Lakes Intertribal Council, this “Frequently Asked Questions” page provide answers to very basic questions about pow wows and pow wow protocol. This is a useful starting point for those who have never attended a pow wow.

- (5) “Native American Crafts and Suppliers” Native American Links (2000) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:
<http://www.mato.com/links/nalinks.html#Crafts>

This web page provides an alphabetical list of 38 commercial websites, specializing in the sale of Native American Craft Supplies. Click on a hyperlink to view the site of one of the suppliers listed. It is a useful resource for those interested in making their own regalia.

- (6) Powwows.com. (2001) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:
<http://www.powwows.com/>

Created and maintained by the Pow Wow and Cultural Director for the Midlands Intertribal Empowerment Group in Columbia, SC, the site provides hyperlinks to historical and detailed information about dances styles and regalia. The site also provides a live chat forum with over 2,000 members, and contains links to over 220 commercial, reference and personal websites. A very useful feature of this site is the “gallery,” through which it is possible to view pictures of beadwork and ribbonwork, watch videos of dance styles, and listen to pow wow songs. The site also provides a link to an up-to-date calendar of events that can be sorted either by the date or location of the pow wow.

- (7) Prindle, Tara. “Birds and Feathers” NativeTech: Native American Technology and Art (2000) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:
<http://www.nativetech.org/feather/index.html>

Created by members of the University of Connecticut’s Anthropology Department as part of NativeTech, a comprehensive web resource of Native American technologies, this page contains hyperlinks to information on featherwork, featherwork from various regions of the U.S., and feather identification and preservation. The regional featherwork topics include links to “how to” instructions and diagrams for the creation of fans. This is an essential resource for anyone interested in the creation of regalia using featherwork techniques, and it is also useful to those looking for examples of featherwork.

- (8) Prindle, Tara. “Internet Links to Native American Art Resources - Craft Supplies & Sources” NativeTech: Native American Technology and Art (2000) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:
<http://www.nativetech.org/links/crafts.php>

Created by members of the University of Connecticut’s Anthropology Department as part of NativeTech, a comprehensive web resource of Native American technologies, this page provides a thorough list of suppliers of Native American crafts and materials. The resources are usefully organized by types of supplies, such as “bead and jewelry

supplies” and “leather and fur.” The name, address, phone number and web address (when available) of each supplier are provided, along with a brief description of the products they carry. This is a very useful resource for those purchasing materials for the construction of regalia.

- (9)** Prindle, Tara. “Porcupine Quillwork and Hair” NativeTech: Native American Technology and Art (2000) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP: <http://www.nativetech.org/quill/>

Created by members of the University of Connecticut’s Anthropology Department as part of NativeTech, a comprehensive web resource of Native American technologies, this page provides hyperlinks to a variety of resources related to quillwork. Included are resources on types of quillwork, necessary tools and preparation, an introduction to four different quillwork techniques, as well as introductions to dyes and loom work. Many step-by-step “how to” instructions are included for a variety of projects, each containing useful diagrams and photographs of completed items. This resource is useful to those interested in creating regalia using quillwork techniques, and those interested in examples of the craft.

- (10)** Prindle, Tara. “Regional Overview of Native American Clothing and Regalia.” NativeTech: Native American Technology and Art (2000) Online Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP: <http://www.nativetech.org/clothing/clothing.html>

This page was created by members of the University of Connecticut’s Anthropology Department as part of NativeTech, a comprehensive web resource of Native American technologies. By selecting the “Look at a Map of Culture Areas with Illustrated Clothing” hyperlink, it is possible to view illustrations of the regalia and clothing worn by specific tribes during various historical periods. Labels are included that either name the articles of clothing or describe the materials they are constructed from. This is a useful resource for those interested in the regalia of a specific tribe or region.

- (11)** Prindle, Tara. “Tanning and Preservation of Other Animal Parts.” NativeTech: Native American Technology and Art (2000) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP: <http://www.nativetech.org/tanning/index.html>

Created by members of the University of Connecticut’s Anthropology Department as part of NativeTech, a comprehensive web resource of Native American technologies, this web page provides hyperlinks to “how to” instructional guides on tanning and the preservation of animal parts. Topics include, hide tanning, brain tanning, and preservation of hides and deer tails. This is a useful resource for those interested in creating regalia made from animal parts.

- (12)** Smith, Shelley and Tara Prindle. “Bead Weaving Techniques and Analysis” NativeTech: Native American Technology and Art (2000) Online Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP: <http://www.nativetech.org/beadweav/bweav.html>

Created by members of the University of Connecticut's Anthropology Department as part of NativeTech, a comprehensive web resource of Native American technologies, this web page contains diagrams of various weaving techniques, illustrations of beaded items, and descriptions of the various techniques in their historical context. This is a useful source for those interested in creating beaded regalia, and those interested in examples of the craft.

Annotated Bibliography of Supplementary Resources:

For Additional Information on Dance Styles and Regalia:

- (13) Lockard, Vicki, "Pow Wow Dance Styles," Canku Ota- A Newsletter Celebrating Native America 8 (April 2000) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:http://www.turtletrack.org/Issues00/Co04222000/CO_04222000_Powwowdance.htm

Canku Ota is a free, bi-weekly, online newsletter dedicated to Native American life and traditions. This article provides an overview of four men's dance styles: traditional, straight, fancy and grass dance. It contains detailed descriptions of the regalia worn and provides photographs.

- (14) Lockard, Vicki, "Pow Wow Dance Styles," Canku Ota- A Newsletter Celebrating Native America 9 (May 2000) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:http://www.turtletrack.org/Issues00/Co05062000/CO_05062000_Powwow.htm

Canku Ota is a free, bi-weekly, online newsletter dedicated to Native American life and traditions. This article provides an overview of three women's dance styles: traditional, fancy shawl, and jingle dance. It contains detailed descriptions of the regalia worn and provides photographs.

- (15) Powersource Native American Art and Education Center. "Ceremonial Dances" Powersource Gallery. Online. Internet. 17 October 2001 Available FTP:<http://www.powersource.com/gallery/objects/dance.html>

Recommended by the Discovery Channel, Magellan and the History Channel, this site contains a useful reference guide to Native American pow wow dances. Descriptions and photographs of the regalia worn for various dances are provided. The dance styles included are: fancy war dance, grass dance, men's northern traditional dance, men's southern straight dance, men's southern straight dance, women's traditional buckskin dance, fancy shawl and jingle dress. This is a useful site for background information.

For Additional Information on Techniques Used in Creating Regalia:

- (16) Giese, Paula. "Seed Beading Techniques" Native American Indian Art (August 1996) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:http://www.kstrom.net/isk/art/art_bea2.html

Created by an Ojibwa Indian from Minnesota, this site provides valuable information for those interested creating regalia using seed beading techniques. It offers descriptions, and diagrams of four techniques: double needle appliqué, peyote beadwork, lazy squaw stitch, and loom woven beadwork. Photographs of finished pieces can also be found at this site.

- (17)** Prindle, Tara. "Moccasins" NativeTech: Native American Technology and Art (2000) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:
<http://www.nativetech.org/clothing/moccasin/moctext.html>

Created by members of the University of Connecticut's Anthropology Department as part of NativeTech, a comprehensive web resource of Native American technologies, this web page provides historical information and diagrams of techniques used to create moccasins. From this page it is also possible to link to photographs of different styles of moccasins arranged by tribe and geographic region, as well as to "how to" instructions for making center seam moccasins. This is a useful site for those interested in techniques used in creating regalia.

- (18)** Prindle, Tara. "Index to Bead Weaving ~ Hand-held and Loomwork Techniques" NativeTech: Native American Technology and Art (2000) Online Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:
<http://www.nativetech.org/beatweav/bweavtcs.html>

Created by members of the University of Connecticut's Anthropology Department as part of NativeTech, a comprehensive web resource of Native American technologies, this web page provides hyperlinks to diagrams of various bead weaving techniques, including hand-held beadwork, bias-weave beadwork, loomed single-strand square-weave techniques, and loomed beadwork. This is a useful site for those interested the beadwork techniques used in creating regalia.

- (19)** Prindle, Tara. "Introduction and Use of Glass Beads" NativeTech: Native American Technology and Art (2000) Online Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:
<http://www.nativetech.org/glasbead/glasbead.html>

Created by members of the University of Connecticut's Anthropology Department as part of NativeTech, a comprehensive web resource of Native American technologies, this web page provides links to instructional materials for creating glass beadwork. Most of these materials provide diagrams, and a very useful interactive is provided for designing your own beadwork. This is a useful resource for those interested in the beadwork techniques used in creating regalia.

Pow Wow Dancing: Creating Regalia
A Pathfinder for Students
By Dawn Eckenrode

This pathfinder is intended to help students find information about pow wow dance regalia and the techniques behind its creation. The following resources can be found for free on the Internet.

What is a pow wow?

Great Lakes Intertribal Council. "Native Wisconsin Pow Wow Page: FAQ" (June 2000) Online. Internet. 17 February 2001. Available FTP:

<http://www.glitc.org/powwow.htm>

Where can I find descriptions and illustrations of common pow wow dance styles and regalia?

Glazner, Chris, Roxanne Solis, and Geoff Weinman. "Pow Wow Dance Styles" Southern Pow Wows, (April, 1997) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:

<http://library.thinkquest.org/3081/styles.htm>

Powwows.com. (2001) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:

<http://www.powwows.com/>

For additional sources, consult the "Annotated Bibliography of Supplementary Resources"

Where can I find a glossary of pow wow terminology?

Glazner, Chris, Roxanne, Solis, and Geoff Weinman. "Pow Wow Terminology" Southern Pow Wows (April 1997) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:

<http://library.thinkquest.org/3081/terms.htm>

Where can I find labeled illustrations of the regalia and clothing worn by a specific tribe?

Prindle, Tara. "Regional Overview of Native American Clothing and Regalia."

NativeTech: Native American Technology and Art (2000) Online Internet. 17

October 2001. Available FTP: <http://www.nativetech.org/clothing/clothing.html>

- Click on the "Look at a Map of Culture Areas with Illustrated Clothing" link.
- Click on the name of a tribe

I am interested in creating my own regalia. Where can I find descriptions and "how-to" information on the various techniques used to create regalia?

Beadwork and Beadweaving

- Cooper, Suzanne. "Suzanne's Jump Start Classroom" Beads and Stained Glass (Sept. 2001) Online. Internet. (17 October 2001)
<http://www.suzannecooper.com/classroom/classmain.html>
- Smith, Shelley and Tara Prindle. "Bead Weaving Techniques and Analysis" NativeTech: Native American Technology and Art (2000) Online Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP: <http://www.nativetech.org/beadweav/bweav.html>

For a more comprehensive pathfinder on this topic, please consult:
<http://www.gslis.utexas.edu/~vlibrary/edres/pathfinders/>

Featherwork and Fans:

- Prindle, Tara. "Birds and Feathers" NativeTech: Native American Technology and Art (2000) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:
<http://www.nativetech.org/feather/index.html>

Porcupine quillwork:

- Prindle, Tara. "Porcupine Quillwork and Hair" NativeTech: Native American Technology and Art (2000) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:
<http://www.nativetech.org/quill/>

For a more comprehensive pathfinder on this topic, please consult:
<http://www.gslis.utexas.edu/~vlibrary/edres/pathfinders/>

Tanning and Preservation of Other Animal Parts:

- Prindle, Tara. "Tanning and Preservation of Other Animal Parts." NativeTech: Native American Technology and Art (2000) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP: <http://www.nativetech.org/tanning/index.html>

For additional sources, consult the "Annotated Bibliography of Supplementary Resources"

How can I locate and contact suppliers of regalia materials?

Prindle, Tara. "Internet Links to Native American Art Resources - Craft Supplies & Sources" NativeTech: Native American Technology and Art (2000) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:
<http://www.nativetech.org/links/crafts.php>

"Native American Crafts and Suppliers" Native American Links (2000) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:
<http://www.mato.com/links/nalinks.html#Crafts>

I am interested in attending a pow wow. How can I locate a pow wow in my area?

Powwows.com. (2001) Online. Internet. 17 October 2001. Available FTP:
<http://www.powwows.com/cgi-bin/powwowcal.cgi>

- Select the "View By Location" feature
- Select the state in which you reside

If you need further assistance, don't hesitate to ask a librarian.

Questions or comments about this pathfinder? Feel free to email me at:

eckenrodedawn@yahoo.com

The address of this pathfinder is:

<http://www.gslis.utexas.edu/~vlibrary/edres/pathfinders/eckenrode.pdf>

