

August, 15 2017

To:  
Greg Staats  
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From:  
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To Whom It May Concern:

This letter of Hodiñhsq̓:ni: cultural support is for Greg Staats, Visual Artist. My name is Alfred Keye, Turtle Clan of the Mohawk Nation: Longhouse Faith Keeper, former NSL and Cayuga Immersion Teacher. I reside on the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory.

I have been working with the Kanien'kehá:ka visual artist Greg Staats whose work includes the preservation of traditional knowledge through artistic practices of photography, video and sculpture. We have worked together through COOL Cayuga Our Oral Language Program where I worked as the linguist, translator and transcriber of the Gaihwí:yo: Code of Handsome Lake into the Cayuga Language as well as other ceremonies and speeches. It was a 5-year Community-University Research Alliance (CURA) Project, funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). The official SSHRC title for this project is "Cayuga Language Maintenance" with project leaders are Amos Key, Jr., Director of First Nations Language Program at the Woodland Cultural Centre, and Dr. Carrie Dyck, a Linguistics Professor at Memorial University of Newfoundland. <http://www.woodland-centre.on.ca/cayuga-our-oral-legacy-cool-aka-%E2%80%9Ccura-project%E2%80%9D>

My participation in our continued work together now privately ensures that Greg's research and subsequent conceptual art works reflects the principles of relationships in the abstract without a literal replication or reproduction of any ceremonial practices, and respectfully adheres to the Hodiñhsq̓:ni: protocols of traditional knowledge of sensitive materials and cultural intellectual property rights. Our work consists of: Intergenerational transmission of cultural knowledge towards the artist's Greg Staats creative practice and

conceptualizing of Hodiŋhsq:ni: worldview, and the values of the Gaihwi:yo.

Topics include; Gaihwi:yo The Good Words. (The Moral Code of Handsome Lake); Midwinter; the Requickening Address; the Great Law; the first conceptual formation of wampum and deep visual concepts of language. worldview/cultural behaviors as working knowledge to continue to inform and move forward Greg's art projects.

Nya:wen / Thank you

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alfred Keye". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letter of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Alfred Keye