

About the artist, Candi Wesaw:

'Candi's drawings are from the heart, tapping on ancestral knowledge and raw emotion to bring forth pictures full of artistic skill and accurate detail that will make the viewer study them carefully and come away enlightened. Her ability to interpret text and ideas and turn them into visuals is unrivaled. She's a pleasure to work with and I recommend her highly.'

Linda Bechtle

Midwest Institute for Native American Studies

Candi Wesaw is from Hartford, Michigan and a citizen of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indian Nation (although her blood lines also include Nottawaseppi Huron and Gun Lake bands of Potawatomi, and Little River Odawa).

She is a Potawatomi/Odawa artist who has been involved in the arts all of her life. She has a deeply connected to her culture, heritage, and the arts. She works in multiple mediums and formats, including illustrations, textiles, photography, and traditional native arts.

Wesaw is very interested in sharing her art with others as a way of making connections with a wide diversity of audiences. She has illustrated a series of children's books about the Potawatomi, and is motivated to share her talent with youngsters to promote mutual cultural understandings. Examples of her work can be found at <http://fineartamerica.com/profiles/candisarts.html>

Wesaw has published *The Eighth Fire Series: Shwatso Shkote*, a book of her oil paintings. Says the artist,

In this series of paintings, I wanted to show my vision of what I imagined the first seven fires teachings might look like, including some of the effects along the way. The fires are native teachings. As you will see they talk about things that will affect not only natives, but everyone and mother earth too.

If you look close enough you may see the ancestors footprints, the water changing, a result of the effects of what we are doing to Mother Earth, etc. You can also see other things that have happened or are going to happen depending on what road we choose before the eighth fire is lit.

The remaining three paintings depict the eighth fire and the effects of either road we choose. I hope that everyone who sees this series will take the right road and do their part to help save mother earth!

<http://www.blurb.com/b/5115863-the-eighth-fire-series-shwatso-shkote>

Candi Wesaw has agreed to exhibit her work at the LeFevre Art Gallery at OSU-N during Autumn semester 2014.