## **Cultural Connections to Alaska Science**

Project research scaffolds upon prior work (NSF-DRK-12: 1812888) to explore the effectiveness of the Cultural Connections Process Model (CCPM). The model supports institutional + Indigenous co-production of place-based K-12 STEM education resources. The research is conducted by an Alaska Native researcher. Prior research tested the model in one rural Alaska school district (Northwest Arctic Borough) and grade level (middle school). This project applies the model to a different grade level (high school), four geographic regions of Alaska (northwest, interior, southcentral, southeast), and four Indigenous cultures (Iñupiaq, Gwich'in, Tsimshian, Sugpiaq).







The University of Alaska Fairbanks is built upon Troth Yeddha', the ancestral home of the Lower Tanana and Dené people. Their stewardship of the land over thousands of years makes our work possible. We appreciate the following Tribes and organizations for their commitment and support: Alutiiq Museum (Kodiak); Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments (Fort Yukon); Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government (Fort Yukon); Kodiak Archipelago Leadership Institute (Kodiak); Metlakatla Indian Community (Metlakatla); Native Village of Afognak (Kodiak); Native Village of Kotzebue (Kotzebue); Tangirnaq Native Village (Kodiak).

Co-PI Topkok's Indigenous research methodology, Katimarugut, was formalized in his dissertation with help from Iñupiaq participants (Topkok, 2015). The project's research methods align with: Guidelines for Respecting Cultural Knowledge (ANKN, 2000); Coolangatta Statement on Indigenous Rights in Education (Read, 2006); United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN, 2007); "Mapquqput Iñuuniaġniġmi" (Our Blanket of Life, NSBSD, 2010); the Iñupiat Ilitqusiat (cultural values) of the Iñupiat people of Northwest Alaska (ANKN, n.d.); the "Kheegwadadhaak'a" (We Just Keep the Fire Going) Framework (Fisher, 2018); "Liitukut Sugpiat'stun" (We Are Learning How To Be Real People, Drabek, 2012); and Raven Bloodlines: Tsimshian Identity: An Autoethnographic Account of Tsimshian Wil'naat'ał, Politics, Pedagogy, and Law, (Greening, 2017).

The project uses Community-Based Participatory Research (Barnhardt, 2005a; Castagno & Brayboy, 2008; Israel et al., 2008; U.S., 2013) and builds upon previous work testing the CCPM in Kotzebue, Alaska in collaboration with Hannah Paniyavluk Loon, Lena Suuyuk Hanna, Lance Qaluraq Kramer, and Macy Kikiktagruk Kenworthy.

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This project is funded by the National Science Foundation, Grant #2201324. Any opinions, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in these materials are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.