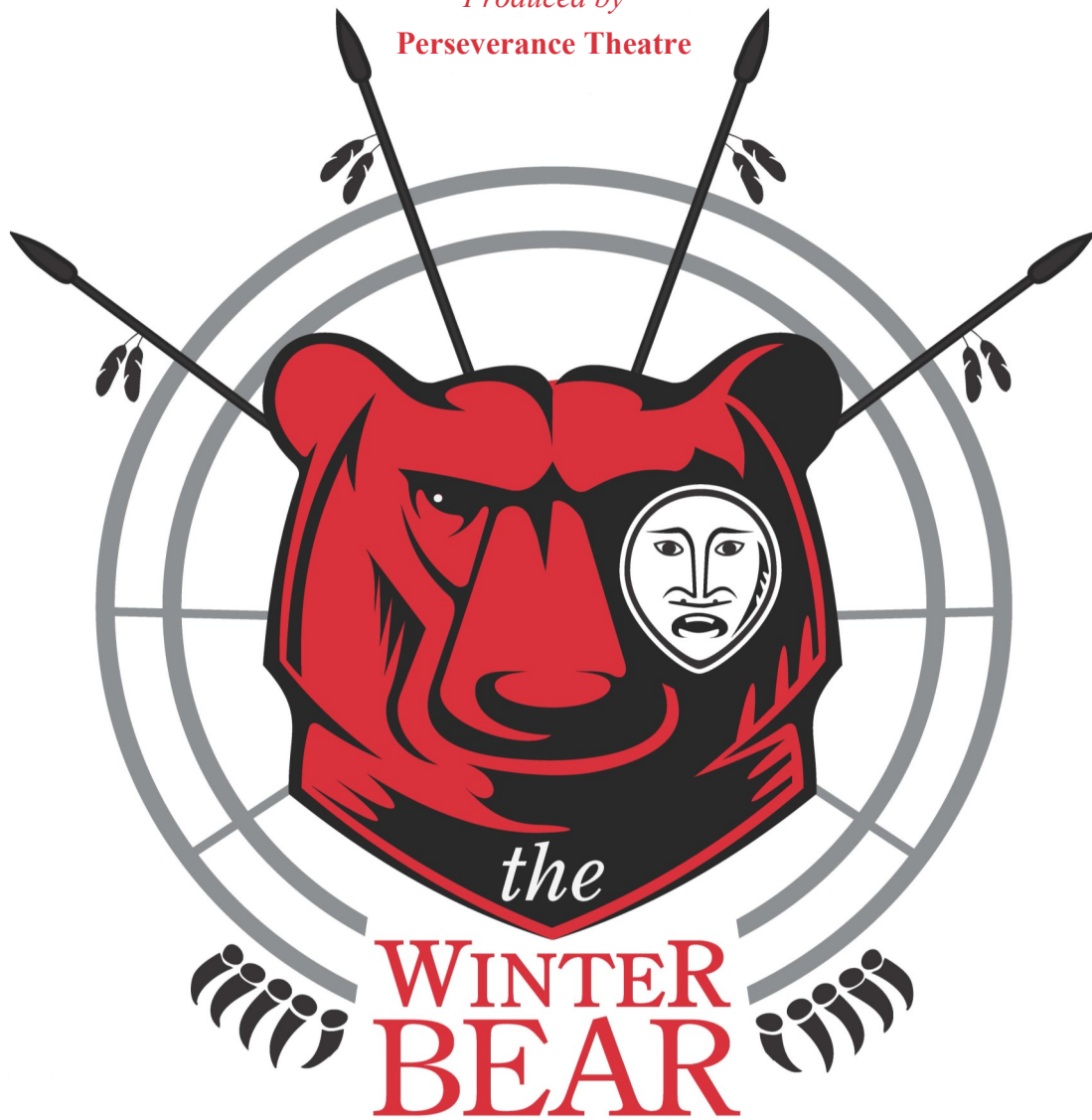


The Winter Bear
2017 Anchorage & Kenai Peninsula Tour

Produced by
Perseverance Theatre



— A PLAY BY ANNE HANLEY —

Inspired by the life of Koyukon Athabascan elder Sidney Huntington

Sponsored By

Southcentral
Foundation



“If the message of this show can reach one child and help save even one life, it is a worthwhile and important endeavor.” - Sidney Huntington



In April, 2017, *The Winter Bear* performed in three facilities in Anchorage, including an in-patient youth mental health facility, a youth correctional facility and a new performance space in the Spenard neighborhood. The Winter Bear Project then reached out to tour three additional communities in South Central Alaska, delivering a message of hope and resilience.

Major Funding

Southcentral Foundation
Alaska Community Foundation



Winter Bear Project Partners



In-Kind Benefactors

Black Water Railroad Company
Florcraft
Decor Industries
Lowe's Home Improvement
Tudor Home Depot
Home Depot NE Anchorage



This program is funded in part by grant number 1U79SM061769-01 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Tour Schedule



Anchorage

Wednesday, April 5 & Friday, April 7

North Star Behavioral Health System

Evening performance followed by Q&A with the actors

Thursday, April 6

McLaughlin Youth Center

Matinee

Saturday, April 8

Church of Love

Evening performance

Sunday, April 9

Church of Love

Matinee

The Kenai Peninsula

Tuesday, April 11

Seward

Seward High School

Evening performance

Thursday, April 13

Seldovia

Workshops for students at Seldovia School

Seldovia Conference Center, Alaska Tribal Cache Building

Potluck followed by evening performance

Saturday, April 15

Kenai

Dena'ina Wellness Center

Workshops and potluck followed by evening performance



Cast and Creative Team

The Cast

Sidney Huntington.....Brían Wescott*

Duane “Shadow” David.....Skyler Ray-Benson Davis

Miranda Huntington.....Sara Thiele

Victor Sam.....Benjamin J. Coffroth

Raven.....Jenny Marlowe*

Wolf.....DeAndre King Jr.

Lynx.....Aurora Lewis

Wolverine.....David Leslie

*Members of the Actor’s Equity Association, The Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers.



The Creative Team



Playwright and Advisor - Anne Hanley

Director - Robert Vestal

Technical Advisor - James Bartlett

Stage Manager - Jason Ginter

Tour Manager - Erika Stone

Costume Designer - Kellie Rieck

Tour and Production Assistant - Joseph Biagini

Consulting Stage Manager - Kadey Ambrose

Performance Attendance

North Star Behavioral Hospital	52
McLaughlin Youth Center	150
Church of Love	54
Seward High School	27
Seldovia Conference Center	58
Dena'ina Wellness Center	62

Total 403

Workshop Attendance

Seldovia	12
Kenai	10

Total 22

Audience Comments

“Powerful message using culture.”



“Suicide has affected three of my family members too. Talk. Listen. Hug.”

“I’m a teacher, and I was sitting behind a student who related SO MUCH to this story. EXCELLENT! Thank you!”

“I really wish more kids/teens came to such a great show and lesson.”

“Simply sharing our stories is a great place to start.”

Audience Comments Continued



“I wish the whole Kenai Tribe could see it!”

“Keep sharing the message!”

"These conversations make me feel less alone, like people do care."

“I wish all our staff could see this play. Simply amazing. Thank you for sharing this gift.”

“I taught and lived in Galena for nine years and knew Sidney - what a wonderful legacy and testament - keep living the message.”

Evaluation Results

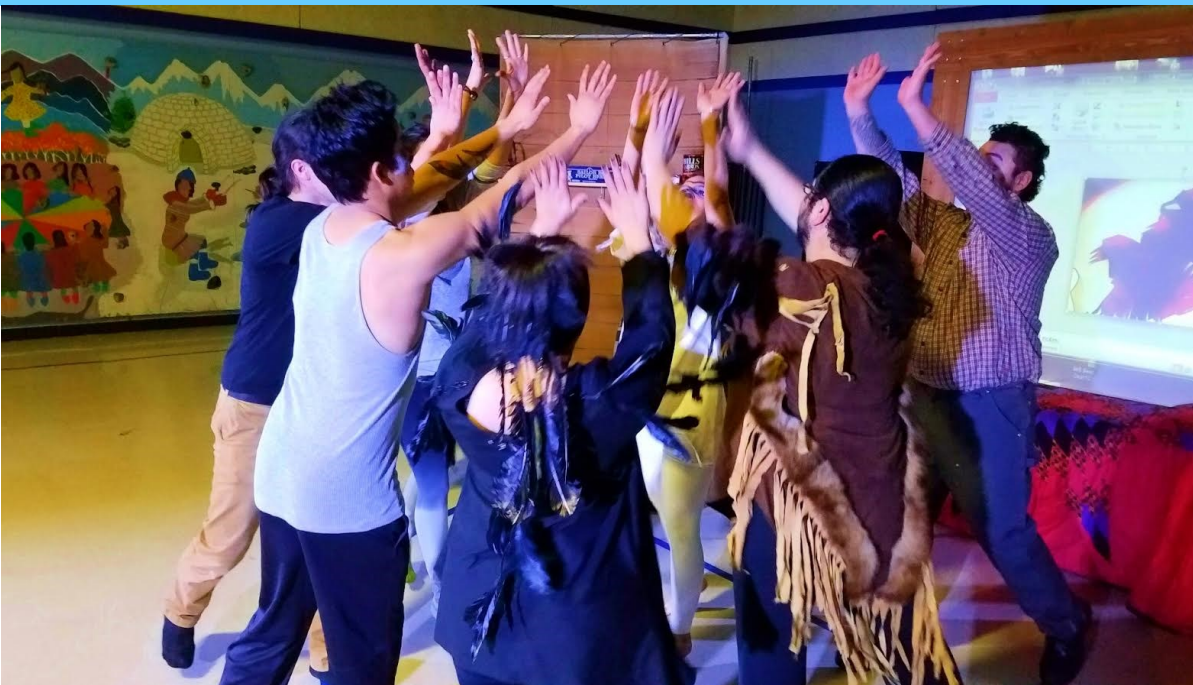
The Winter Bear Project compiled 96 post-show surveys from four locations.

Of those surveyed:

~ The age range stretched from 12 to 84 years.

~ 31% identified as Alaska Native.

~ 98% said they would recommend the play to a friend.



Do you think the play might help you understand Someone thinking about suicide?

On a scale of 1 (*not at all*) to 7 (*very much*), 67% selected a 6 or a 7.

Did the play make you feel hopeful?

On a scale of 1 (*not at all*) to 7 (*very much*), 63% selected a 6 or a 7.

Did seeing this play make you more likely to reach out to someone you know who might be having problems?

On a scale of 1 (*not at all*) to 7 (*very much*), 76% selected a 6 or a 7.