

## References

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Onondaga Nation:

[www.onondaganation.org/culture/wpm\\_tworow.html](http://www.onondaganation.org/culture/wpm_tworow.html)

Ganondagan:

[www.ganondagan.org/CanandaiguaTreaty.html](http://www.ganondagan.org/CanandaiguaTreaty.html)

Iroquois Museum:

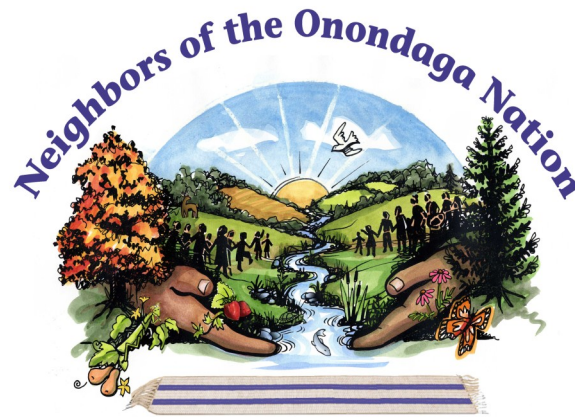
[www.iroquoismuseum.org/ve11.html](http://www.iroquoismuseum.org/ve11.html)

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The Two Row Wampum Renewal Campaign, organized by the Onondaga Nation and Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation/Syracuse Peace Council, will mark the 400th anniversary of the Two Row Wampum Treaty throughout 2013.

The Two Row Treaty, signed by the Haudenosaunee and Dutch, describes the Haudenosaunee and the Europeans as traveling down the river of life in peace and friendship in different vessels, agreeing not to interfere in one another's affairs or to damage our shared environment.

Our initiative addresses two interrelated issues: the devastation experienced by the Haudenosaunee nations as part of centuries-long efforts to assimilate/destroy them and the related environmental damage in New York State and around the globe. Join us!

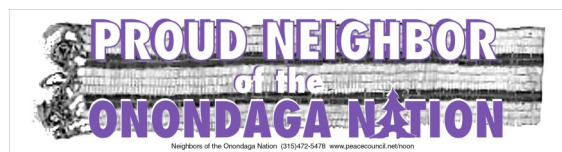


Two-Row Wampum Renewal Campaign:

Phone: (315) 701-1592

Address: 2013 E. Genesee St., Syracuse, NY 13210

[honorthetworow.org](http://honorthetworow.org)



## Wampum in Haudenosaunee Culture



# What is Wampum?

- Wampum is most easily described as assortments of beads carefully and beautifully constructed from various mollusk shells; the most prized being the quahog clam and various species of whelks.
- Wampum is used in various ceremonies and used as an ornament as well.
- Contrary to common belief, Wampum is not a form of currency but instead is a “living record” of various agreements or important events.
- Wampum has many practical uses including an invitation to meetings and representing a Haudenosaunee special role.



# Cultural Significance

- Wampum has been a part of Haudenosaunee culture since the beginning of their history. Evidence shows that Wampum was used previous to the Haudenosaunee Confederacy.
- Many long held memories are embedded into these beautiful belts. Colors, symbols, and designs convey important Haudenosaunee cultural meanings.
- Clan Mothers and Chiefs each have a string of Wampum that signifies their important position in the Clan.



# The Two Row Wampum

- Wampum is traditionally associated with treaties since the message woven into the Wampum belt signifies its extreme importance.
  - The central message of the Two Row Treaty is that of peaceful coexistence. One purple row on the Wampum belt shown below signifies a canoe carrying the Haudenosaunee; and the other a ship carrying the “White Brothers”; traveling side-by-side down the river of life, but not interfering with each other’s ways of life.
- Peace, Friendship, Forever**  
is the core of the agreement.
- Haudenosaunee still honor this treaty which they documented in the Two Row Wampum belt pictured below.

