

November: Paige Skenandore

About the Artwork:

Shekoli! Katsitsya'?' tahts niyukyats. On^yote?a.ka.ni?i okhale? wakenyaht^
niwaki?talo.t^

Hello! My name is Paige Morningstar Skenandore and my Indian name roughly translates to, "she extends out a flower." I am a member of the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin, and I am turtle clan.

My admiration for beadwork started when I was a little jingle dress dancer and saw all the older powwow dancers in their sparkly regalia and fancy beaded earrings. A Native advocate at my high school taught me how to do raised beadwork on a leather pouch. During my first semester at college, I began learning how to bead earrings with the indigenous student organization. Later in college, I learned the art of porcupine quillwork from a Menominee friend. From this point on, I was beading and quilling with friends, family, and learning how to do projects on my own. My passion for art came quickly and has allowed me to stay connected to my culture.

I graduated in Spring of 2022 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a Bachelor of Science in Community and Nonprofit Leadership - with certificates in Environmental Studies and American Indian Studies. I was on the indigenous student organization's leadership team for three years. During my last semester and into post-graduation, I researched indigenous healing and resilience through the art of beadwork in indigenous communities. Since then, I have been doing more bead and quillwork than ever before. Each item I create is made with good intentions and is a unique expression. With each item, I take my time and try not to rush any part of the process. Everything is original, and I do not make exact duplicates of any item. It brings me such happiness to bring ideas to life!

I created Moody NDN to share my art and inspire other artists along my artistic journey. The creation of Moody NDN is to encourage healing and good medicine that comes from beading and quilling. Moody NDN is my creative outlet for now, but the goal is to continue to connect with Native artists.

The name Moody NDN just kind of came to me one day a few years ago. There is a short story on my [website](#) if you're interested in learning more about it.