

May 14, 2024

To Archbishop Murphy High School students and faculty,

Thank you so much for inviting me to be part of the unveiling celebration for your beautiful new story pole. I am so disappointed I'm not able to be there.

First, I want to commend your principal, Alicia Mitchell, and school faculty for all your work making this project happen for your students. You've given them a truly once in a lifetime, hands on experience - being able to help create something that will proudly stand on your campus for decades to come.

I also want to acknowledge each and every student who played a role in creating the story pole. I hope that you treasure the memories of being part of something so special. Having the opportunity to work with an artist like James is an amazing experience but having the chance to work alongside him and create something so unique and meaningful is very special.

The City also had the chance to work with James Madison on the land acknowledgement art installation on our Everett Municipal Building. After adopting our land acknowledgement statement in 2021, we put out a call for artists, hoping to find a local artist to create something that represented the commitments including in our statement and celebrates indigenous culture. James completely blew us away with his design and we're so incredibly proud to have his work gracing our building.

Thank you again for the invitation. I'm proud to see this new addition to your campus and look forward to visiting it in person soon.


Sincerely,



Mayor Cassie Franklin, Everett Washington

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