

Land Acknowledgment:

Revised October 24, 2022

On behalf of the proposed Kalmiopsis Community Arts High School, we would like to take this moment to acknowledge that the proposed high school will be located within the ancestral homelands of the Takelma, Tolowa Dee-ni', Cow Creek Umpqua, Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians, and the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, the peoples who have lived here since time immemorial. These tribes were displaced during rapid American colonization, the Gold Rush and armed conflict between 1851 and 1856, which led to epidemics, starvation, the burning of villages, and displacement.

In 1853, the first of several treaties were signed between the American federal government, these tribes, and others. These treaties ceded most of their homelands to the United States and in return they were guaranteed a permanent homeland. At the end of the Rogue River Wars in 1856, these tribes and many other tribes from Western Oregon were removed to this Siletz Reservation and the Grand Ronde Reservation. Many died during the forced march known as Oregon's Trail of Tears, and their homelands were lost.

Today, despite these and other atrocities committed against them, Native communities remain committed to leaving the world better than they found it. As we recognize and honor these lands where we live and learn, we express support for the resilience and strength that all Indigenous people have shown worldwide.

adapted from the land acknowledgement of "Courageous Conversations - Rogue River Trail of Tears," organized by the Rogue Community College Diversity Programming Board (November 2021).