



President's Everyday Hero Award
Emerging Leader

Shaakuéesh

DEVLIN ANDERSTROM

Devlin was born in Anchorage and raised in Yakutat. He is Tlingít, Ahtna, Tanacross and Iñupiaq. His Tlingit name is *Shaakuéesh* and he is *Kwáashk'ikwáan* from the Moon House and *Dits'í'iltsiin* from the Copper River area.

He is a speaker and dancer for the Mount Saint Elias Dancers. Devlin spent a lot of time around elders who spoke Tlingit fluently and began his study of the language when he moved back home to Yakutat.

Devlin had the honor of being selected to provide the youth keynote address at the Elders and Youth Conference in 2014 in which he gave the address entirely in Tlingit. He also received the Spirit of Youth award which is dedicated to creating, promoting and recognizing youth involvement in communities across Alaska.

Devlin is a recent graduate of Yakutat High School. He works for the Yakutat Tlingit Tribe and Sealaska Heritage Institute as an apprentice under his fluent Tlingit language speaking grandparents Lena Farkas and Nellie Lord. He enjoys creating Native art, specifically Northwest Coast formline drawing and wood and metal carving. He also enjoys learning languages, hunting, fishing, sports, and generally being a single Alaska Native young man.