

## Theresa Secord



Theresa Secord was born in 1958 and is a traditional Penobscot basket maker<sup>1</sup>. She learned to weave from an elder in her community in a traditional setting on Indian Island, Maine in 1988<sup>1</sup>. She weaves traditional Wabanaki baskets using her great-grandmother's wooden forms and tools that have been passed down generations<sup>1</sup>. She founded the Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance (MIBA), an organization that works to preserve the endangered art of ash and sweet grass basketry1. The group lowered the average age of basket makers and increased the number of weavers in the Maliseet, Micmac, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot tribes<sup>1</sup>. Secord has received several awards and honors for her work, including a lifetime achievement National Heritage Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts in 2016, the First Peoples Fund's Community Spirit Award in 2009, and the Prize for Creativity in Rural Life, presented by the Women's World Summit Foundation at the U.N. in Geneva, Switzerland<sup>1</sup>. This award was presented to her for helping basket makers rise out of poverty<sup>1</sup>. She has taught many people to weave baskets using ash and sweet grass, including her own son, Caleb, who is her apprentice to ensure the tradition lives on in the family1.

## Scan here to see Theresa's latest works

## Citations

1. Secord, T. (n.d.). Wikepi baskets by Theresa Secord. Retrieved February 9, 2023, from https://www.theresasecord.com/biography

