



Biography:

Shawna Fricke is a traditional contemporary artist based in North Dakota with an associate of fine arts degree in two and three-dimensional art from the Institute of American Indian Arts.

Shawna's work reflects her Indigenous heritage from Paiute and Taos Pueblo. Shawna has been creating art ever since she could remember. She is a descendant from a long line of artists in her family, and her parents introduced her to art at a young age. Shawna uses acrylic and mixed media, and her artistic inspiration is influenced by many Native cultures and different art mediums. Painting is a way of reflecting on her culture, past and present through designs from beadwork, pottery, landscape, and historic pictures to get references on dress and powwow regalia. Shawna is a founding member of Native Artist United, a collaboration among Native artists in Mandan, North Dakota. She also volunteers with Native programs in the area where she lives, and she loves being connected to our Native community. Shawna currently resides and paints at her in-home studio in Driscoll, North Dakota with her family.

Artwork Description:

Lifeway represents the nurturing of future generations. Culture is represented through the Northern baskets in the floral designs, the traditional dress, and the color scheme of the family. The various colors of brown tones on the woman represent Mother Earth because she is a creator of life. The color blue on the children represents water and lifeways. Our lifeways heal our spirits.