## The Sound of the Drum

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

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In addition to being a cultural specialist for the Suquamish Tribe, Jerome Jainga works for the Marion Forsman-Boushie Early Learning Center. He designs culturally appropriate curriculum and programs for young people ages 3-12. He manages the educational delivery of
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## effery Noel Jainga- Tsimshian

Mr. Jainga is a cartoonist, illustrator, videographer, editor and screenwriter. He has attended Seattle Central Community College's Advertising Art Program and DeAnza College in California for filmmaking. He has studied traditional Native Arts with David Boxley (Tsimshian Eagle), learning Alaskan Tsimshian 2-D design, mask and spooncarving and entiting, writing and producing vidoo. He four years as a TV news camera soundperson at KOM tional native drum making classes with Mike Dangeli of Northwind Native Arts.


By Jerome Jainga
Illustrations by Jeffery Noel Jainga

On that one fine morning, on that one special day, the joyful beats of the rhythmic drums mixed in perfect harmony with nature. Everyone and everything heard the happiness in the sound of the drum.


The same feeling of happiness reached the sea birds as they also listened to the happy sounds of the people and their drums. The leader of the sea birds flew down and circled around the big long house as the other birds followed.


One morning, on a special day, the sea birds that lived by the beach flew on their way. They flew over a big house on the top of the hill. The big house was just above the beach, in the woods.


Coming from the house, the sea birds heard a noise they had not heard before. It sounded like pounding, a loud, steady thunder. As the birds flew by, they became curious and swooped down from the sky. The birds perched in the trees abouve the house. The rhythmic sounds from inside grew louder.


The squirrels in the bushes saw the little mouse come out and begin to dance. As they watched the mouse, a warm feeling of happiness came over them. They also wanted to run and play as they listened to the joyful sounds coming from inside the house.


The little mouse was filled with excitement as he listened to the sounds of the pounding drums and watched the people dancing. It made the little mouse want to dance too. The mouse immediately ran outside and began to dance.


A group of squirrels that were playing near the big house stopped and listened. They also heard the thunderous sounds coming from inside the house. Being very curious, like the birds, the squirrels scurried into the bushes surrounding the big house.


As the squirrels ran by, a little field mouse that was looking for food, wondered what was happening. Just then, the little mouse heard the steady pounding coming from the big house. The mouse was just as curious as the sea birds and the squirrels. He wanted to find out what the loud beating was. The little mouse decided to sneak into the big house through a hole in the wall.


When the little mouse got inside, he saw people gathered around a sparkling fire in the center of the house. The people all had drums and were beating together in a steady rhythm. They were singing, dancing and smiling. Everyone was filled with great happiness.

