



President's Lifetime Achievement
Award Recipient

La Kootí
MARLENE JOHNSON

Marlene is the thirteenth of 14 children born to Robert and Elsie Greenewald. Her Tlingit names are *Slath Jaa Klaa* and *La Kootí*. She is *T'akdeintaan* and *Taax Hít*. She attended elementary school in Hoonah, graduated from Juneau High School, and received vocational

training through BIA in accounting, and judicial certification from the National Judicial College. Marlene is a lifetime member of ANS Camp 12 and currently serves on the Sealaska Heritage Institute Board of Trustees as Chair. Her and her husband Clifford Johnson have six children: Don, Bob, Howard, Patty, Lynell, and Jodi; 13 grandchildren; and 7 great-grandchildren.

Marlene has dedicated her life to public service and has made significant contributions on the local, regional, state and national levels. She has served on numerous boards and commissions to advance Alaska Native social and economic progress, promote quality education, address rural poverty, and advocate for ANCSA as well as equal access to health and legal services. She was one of three original incorporators of Sealaska and served 20 years on the board (10 years as chair). Other boards she has served on include RurAL CAP, Central Council's Executive Council, Huna Totem Corp., Hoonah City Schools, United Bank of Alaska, and Huna Heritage Foundation. Marlene was also appointed to the University of Alaska Board of Regents and as a commissioner to the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission.

Marlene received the Alaska Democratic Party's Lifetime Achievement Award, AFN Citizen of the Year Award, Outstanding Women of America Award, was entered into the Alaska Women's Hall of Fame, and received an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from the University of Alaska Southeast.