



the Catawba Nation

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Catawba Citizens Participate in the Lumbee Ambassador Fashion Show 2024

Catawba Citizens, Alyssa Henderson, and Sullivan Wade represented the Catawba Nation during the 2024 Lumbee Ambassador Fashion Show this past weekend on, June 1st. With an extended invitation by Miss Lumbee, Ashtyn Thomas, it was an honor to have citizens representing the rich traditions of the Catawba Nation. This comes after a long relationship with the Nation and the Lumbee tribe, showcasing the power of indigenous beauty.

Walking the runway in multiple categories, Henderson showed why it is vital to preserve the Nations rich cultural heritage through two distinct looks. In the Ribbon Skirt category, she wore a University of North Carolina Pembroke-themed skirt as she is continuing her education there this coming fall. To accompany her skirt, she wore a shirt honoring her late brother Adrian Shane Blackhorse Henderson who was a talented grass dancer. The outfit represents the hopefulness of a bright future for those who are seeking higher education but also keeps her brother's memory alive.

For Henderson's second look in the Regalia category, she sported the Black Snake dress made by Catawba artist, Dawn Osborne. The black snake is symbol of strength and unity as traditionally worn by Catawba warriors.

Sullivan walked down runway in the Ribbon Skirt category with a Leopard print skirt designed by Lumbee artist, Norma Jean Locklear-Richardson. She also wore a Baby Yoda medallion made by Heather Nguyen (Catawba). Baby Yoda is a beloved character from the hit tv series, the Mandalorian. The look symbolizes the importance of traditional art by bringing it to the mainstream.

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