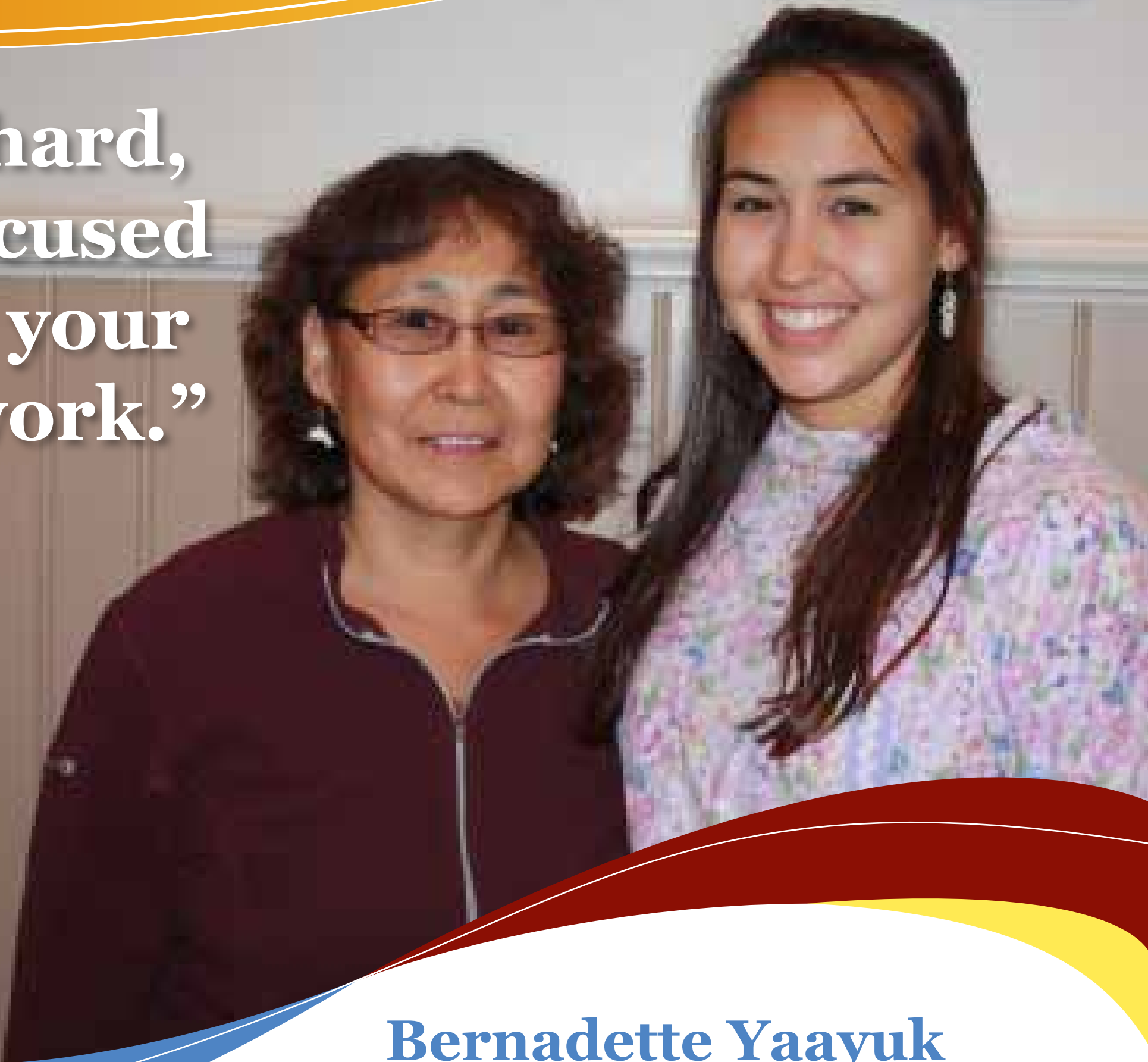




**“Work hard,
stay-focused
and do your
homework.”**



Bernadette Yaayuk Alvanna-Stimpfle

“I was born and raised in Nome and my parents are the late John and Magdeline Alvanna, from King Island. My father died from cancer before I was born, so my mother re-married to Paul Omiak from Little Diomedes when I was three years old. My maternal grandmother, Margaret Sukshaq Nigiruk helped raised me. I graduated from Nome-Beltz High School.”

Yaayuk earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Inupiaq language, with a minor in Elementary Education at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. She began her education career with Nome Public Schools as an Inupiaq language and culture teacher then taught English as a Second Language. She then moved on to teaching upper elementary classes. For two years she worked as a Inupiaq region Lead Teacher for the Alaska Rural System Initiative. She worked as the Alaska Native Education Coordinator for a year and a half. She is fluent and literate in the Inupiaq language as well as English. She graduated with a Master’s of Education degree in Language and Literacy.

Raised in the King Island community on the east end of Nome, Yaayuk has a strong Native cultural foundation. While in the classroom, she was a creative and energetic teacher. Being helpful, she worked synergistically with others, and was a project-oriented

Yaayuk strives to influence others by using the Alaska Native cultural values where being respectful is of utmost importance. She believes that when you give respect, you get respect. She values her Inupiaq language and loves to share words of the language!

teacher. She brings all these educational qualities to her new job as the Eskimo Heritage Program Director at Kawerak Inc.

Yaayuk is a member of the King Island Uguvangmiut Dancers. She serves as a council member for the King Island Native Community and is a board member of the Alaska Native Education Association, a statewide group.



**Educator Nomination Submitted by the
Nome Future Educators of Alaska Club**

Future Educators of Alaska

University of Alaska Office of Academic Affairs

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