

Dr. Maria Williams bio

Dr. Maria Williams received her Ph.D. in 1996 from UCLA specializing in Ethnomusicology. Her dissertation focused on contemporary traditional Alaska Native music and dance. She holds a joint appointment with the Department of Music at UAA and teaches an Alaska Native Music course, and a World Music course.

Her main area of research is on Alaska Native indigenous cultural practices. Her current research is community centered and based on an indigenous model. She recently produced a documentary called *A Beautiful Life*, chronicling the 750 mile journey of Athabascan Elder Daisy Demientieff.