

“ Education is important to me because we have a quality of life with education behind us. ”

# Martha

Martha, of Barrow, works full-time as a coordinator with Teachers for the Arctic & Inupiat Studies at Ilisagvik College and is also seeking a master's degree in cross cultural education from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Upon graduating, Martha hopes to teach at the college level, either at Ilisagvik College or as a visiting professor.

Martha, who holds a bachelor's degree in history, with a double minor in secondary education and Alaska Native studies, spent 22 years teaching high school and grade school. She has faced her share of challenges and accomplishments in her teaching career and in her own education.

Martha believes the ANTI program is crucial to ensuring there is proper representation of Alaska Native teachers in rural Alaska, which will lead to higher student self-esteem and success. Alaska Native teachers can also integrate Inupiaq values into their curricula, allowing students to better learn, live and understand their culture.

