Congratulations to 'Dr. Brauker'

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Don't be afraid to experience life in all of its many forms. Feel its ups and downs, its joys and happiness as well as its sadness. Don't mask it with outside stimulants. Experience the feelings and emotions you pass through – or how will you truly know how you feel about any situation?

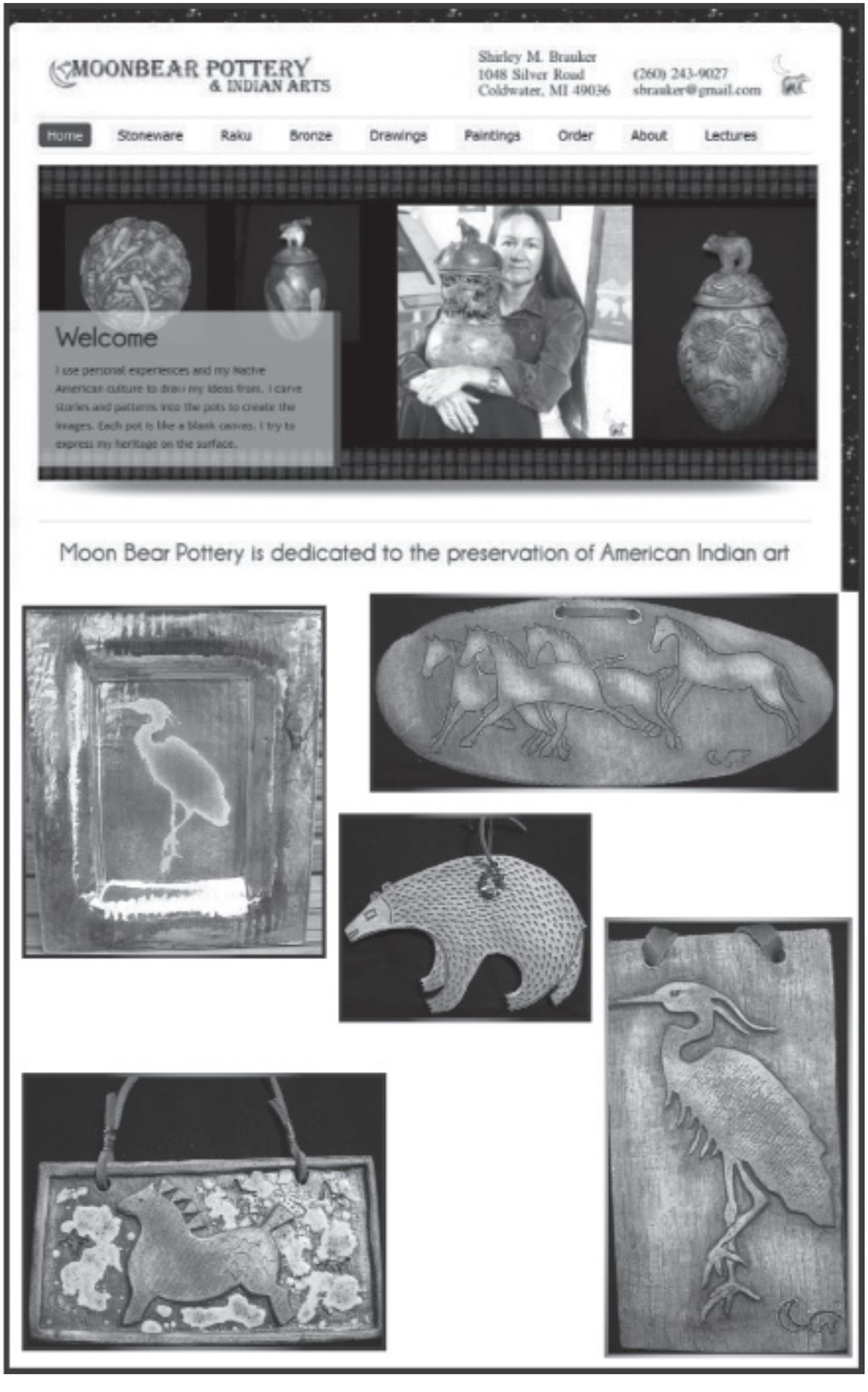
Take advice from your elders. Honor their input and experiences because they have traveled many of the same roads you have. Being an elder in my Tribe has given me the opportunity to teach and share my knowledge with our youth. It has been a rewarding experience to "Give Back."

Our Native teachings tell us about the 7 Grandfathers: Bravery, Honesty, Humility, Love, Respect, Truth and Wisdom. Follow these teachings. Use them as guides to strengthen your character. Build your reputation and identity from these teachings.

In conclusion hear the following words and take what you need from them to live a strong, productive life.

May your journey be filled with wonder and blessings. Live in gratitude. Live your life in joy. Live in Spirit. Keep your visions close, listen to your heart and pay attention to that inner voice, no matter how fleeting the thought.

When I was a little girl I told myself that someday I was going to be a teacher, travel to Alaska, be in a movie, write books, have my work in the Smithsonian, and do artwork for Disneyland. I have completed all of these.

I leave you with this:
There is no end to personal growth. It doesn't end when you graduate. You are simply moving to a higher level of responsibility and consciousness. Be aware of your surroundings. Gandhi said: Be the change you want to see in the world. Honor the old, embrace the future. Live your dreams.
Follow your heart & visualize your success.

I have always felt that if one person takes away one thought or idea from one of my classes, lectures or stories - something that he can carry next to his heart - then I have done my job. Remember, the measure of our lives is not what we have ~ but what we leave behind. Find what you love – and DO IT. Miigwech Thank You