

# AYA Accessories: From Vision to Reality

At the Canadian Country Music Awards swag suite; Crystal Shawanda sported a pair of sunglasses featuring hand etched "Eagles". Crystal's striking features were complimented by the flattering burgundy shades.

Belting out his tunes to a cheering crowd at the Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian, Mohawk musician Derek Miller took a moment to add a touch of cool for a good cause. He slipped on a pair of aviator style sunglasses, with etched Tlingit/Kwakiutl hummingbirds at the temples of the frames. Derek posed for a photo op, knowing that with his help, the eyewear contributes to healthy breakfasts for First Nations children.

Captured on the cover of a Vancouver newspaper, BC Treaty Commissioner Sophie Pierre's steady gaze is framed by

a striking pair of black and translucent readers with "Eagles" accentuating her eyes.

Who is behind these hot fashion accessories? Why does the artwork seem familiar and how do they benefit First Nation children in Canada?

The sunglasses and readers are from the "AYA" Brand of accessories from Claudia Alan Incorporated. Company founder and eyewear designer, Carla D'Angelo wanted to celebrate the art and rich traditions of the First Peoples of the Pacific Northwest.

AYA sunglasses and readers feature the unique designs of Corrine Hunt, a Kwakiutl and Tlingit artist who has been celebrating her heritage through art for 22+ years. If the artwork seem familiar, it simply because the world was well

introduced to Corrine's style through her designs for the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Medals.

Carla D'Angelo commissioned Corrine to create original sun, eagle, hummingbird, raven and wolf artwork for the eyewear. Carla then tapped into her fashion design education and expertise to incorporate the artwork into the stylish sunglasses and readers, resulting in a distinctive look that has a broad appeal. They have captured the eye of fashion editors across Canada: from the Vancouver Sun and Province, Globe and Mail, Montreal Gazette, and the Calgary Herald to name a few.

The AYA line of eyewear gives back for every pair of sunglasses or readers sold. The donations are made to ONEXONE Foundation. This non-profit society supports nutritious breakfast programs for First Nations in Canada, as well as other

good work in the United States and around the world. For more information about the eyewear, Corrine Hunt's involvement or ONEXONE visit: [www.claudiaalan.com](http://www.claudiaalan.com)



*Crystal Shawanda sporting a very stylish pair of Carla's sunglasses.*

