

# THE CULTURAL SANCTUARIES FOUNDATION

Protecting the Protectors



*Young eagle hunter and grandson of Tuganbeck at this year's Golden Eagle Festival. Portrait by Olivia McKendrick.*

## Hot on the heels of our October newsletter relating to the Olep Cultural Center in Bhutan, we want to update you now on our Eagle Hunter Cultural Center in Western Mongolia and on the new Madang Language and Cultural Center in Papua New Guinea.

**Eagle Hunter Cultural Center, Mongolia**
We have just been back to visit the Center for the first time since it opened in October 2024. Since the inauguration, we have been in touch with the Center's local management team very regularly, often daily but there is no substitute for being there in person and we are happy to report that the Center is thriving. It is popular with the local eagle hunting community and tourists alike and its financial independence is growing. We have expanded its management by bringing in an experienced museum curator as a new team leader and are now working on some other exciting developments including the installation of a separate breakfast and coffee ger (a traditional Mongolian yurt) and an enhanced visitor experience. We are excited for the coming year and seeing the Center continue to go from strength to strength.

**Madang Language and Cultural Center, Papua New Guinea**
Papua New Guinea's province of Madang is one of the most culturally, linguistically and biologically dense hotspots on Earth. Our new Center there will be the first of its kind - not only as it will be the first ever language and cultural center in Papua New Guinea but also because it will support the culture and distinct languages of some 50 local tribes. It will house a dedicated language recording studio and be a particular draw for academics and students from around the world. They will be able to study at the Center to do deep research on, and help record and protect, the local endangered cultures and languages alongside the many biologists and other scientists who already visit the area. Together with our project partner, the New Guinea Binatang Research Centre, we are excited officially to announce that construction has begun. Foundations are being laid and the new Center (its design mirroring a traditional Papua New Guinean longhouse) will open by next fall.

That's it for now. More to come soon. Our heartfelt thanks as always to the indigenous communities that we work with, to our wonderful local project partners and management teams and to the generous supporters and donors without whom none of this would be possible.

**The Cultural Sanctuaries Team**
**November 2026**



*Huli wigman in the Tari Highlands of Papua New Guinea. Portrait by Chris Rainier*