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Diné College • Tsaile, Arizona
86556
dinecollege.edu

2023 FALL COMMENCEMENT



FRIDAY, DEC 8TH 10AM
TSAILE, ARIZONA

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Good morning to our Warrior family. Today's Fall Commencement is a wonderful day for all of us to come together and join in saying congratulations to our graduates. The earning of a diploma or certificate is more than a piece of paper, it is evidence of the capacity for learning, reaching potential and challenging oneself. The graduates today will leave this commencement to become full members of their community and profession. They now have the opportunity to find new challenges to overcome. Your track record shows that you can accomplish what you put your mind to.

We live in a very challenging time. Sometimes we feel that we cannot change the outcome of our future but that is not the Navajo way. Whether we are talking about climate change, economic development, education or something smaller, we all can make a difference. Let us all commit to work together to build a greater Navajo Nation. Let's look at today's graduates as inspiration to continue to find solutions and not just recite problems.



President
Charles "Monty" Roessel

A college degree does not give you any special rights but it does give you the responsibility to be engaged. It does give you the receipt that you are not afraid of hard work. It does give you the ability to hold yourself accountable to your community, family and Navajo Nation.

I appreciate you attending the 2023 Fall Commencement and I look forward to meeting you throughout today's activities.

ORDER OF CEREMONY

Emcee: Dr. Perphelia Fowler, Human Resources Director

Processional: Dr. Avery Denny, Hataalii, Professor

Posting of Colors: Tsaile/Wheatfields & Blackrock Veterans Association

National Anthem: Ashley John, Warrior Student Initiative Project Manager

Invocation: Rex Lee Jim, Hataalii, Dean of the School of Diné Studies & Education

Welcome Address: President Charles "Monty" Roessel

Commencement Speaker: Madam Speaker Crystalyne Curley, 25th Navajo Nation Council

Acknowledgement: Dr. Alysa Landry, Interim Provost

Conferral of Certificates & Degrees: President Charles "Monty" Roessel

Alumni Induction Ceremony: Crystal Carr, Director of Legislative Affairs & Special Projects, DC Alumni

Congratulatory Remarks: Gerilyn Jesus, Associate of Arts in Education

Benediction: Timothy Nelson, Dean of the School of Transformation

Retrieval of Colors: Tsaile/Wheatfields & Blackrock Veterans Association

Recessional: Diné College Song

DINÉ COLLEGE SONG

By Dr. Avery Denny (Revised by Dr. Herman Cody)

Diné College déé' naashá, Sa' ah Naghai Bek' eh Hózhó, Dził nanit' ooh
wo wo wei, déé' naashóó wo wo wei, Diné College déé naashá.

Sisnaajini déé' naashá, Sa' ah Naghai Bek' eh Hózhó, Dził nanit' ooh
wo wo wei, déé' naashóó wo wo wei, Sisnaajini déé naashá.

Tsoodzil déé' naashá, Sa' ah Naghai Bek' eh Hózhó, Dził nanit' ooh
wo wo wei, déé' naashóó wo wo wei, Tsoodzil déé naashá.

Dook' oosliid déé' naashá, Sa' ah Naghai Bek' eh Hózhó, Dził nanit' ooh
wo wo wei, déé' naashóó wo wo wei, Dook' oosliid déé naashá.

Dibé Nitsaa déé' naashá, Sa' ah Naghai Bek' eh Hózhó, Dził nanit' ooh
wo wo wei, déé' naashóó wo wo wei, Dibé Nitsaa déé naashá.

Dził Ná' oodilii déé' naashá, Sa' ah Naghai Bek' eh Hózhó, Dził nanit' ooh
wo wo wei, déé' naashóó wo wo wei, Dził Ná' oodilii déé naashá.

Dził Ch'ool'í'í déé' naashá, Sa' ah Naghai Bek' eh Hózhó, Dził nanit' ooh
wo wo wei, déé' naashóó wo wo wei, Dził Ch'ool'í'í déé naashá.

Diné College déé' naashá, Sa' ah Naghai Bek' eh Hózhó, Dził nanit' ooh
wo wo wei, déé' naashóó wo wo wei, Diné College déé naashá.

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

On January 23rd, Crystalyne Curley was elected by her colleagues to serve as the Speaker of the 25th Navajo Nation Council, becoming the first woman to hold the position as head of the Navajo Nation Legislative Branch. Speaker Curley is Tsenjikini and born for To'aheedliinii. Her maternal grandfather is Kinyaa'aanii and her paternal grandfather is Dził t'aadi Kinyaa'aanii. She is originally from the community of Fish Point, Ariz., located within the Tselání/Cottonwood Chapter and she is fluent in the English and Navajo languages.



Madam Speaker Crystalyne Curley
25th Navajo Nation Council

Speaker Curley earned two Bachelor's Degrees from Arizona State University and a Masters in Public Administration from the University of New Mexico. She previously served as a policy analyst with Diné College and the Navajo Government Development Office. In addition, she served as a Legislative District Assistant, and Sr. Public Information Officer for the Office of the Speaker and Office of the President and Vice President before being elected to the Council in November 2022, representing the communities of Tachee/Blue Gap, Many Farms, Nazlini, Tselani/Cottonwood, and Low Mountain. From 2011-2012, she also served as Miss Navajo Nation.

School of Arts & Humanities

Associate of Arts, Liberal Arts

Sells, Wyatt Glenn (TC)

Bachelor of Fine Arts,

Emphasis in Painting

Ami II, Carlon Patsunu (TS) ** 🇺🇸

Bachelor of Fine Arts,

Emphasis in Digital

Photography

Harrison, Candace Lena (TS)

Honie, Khalid Dean (TS)

Certificate, Navajo Cultural Arts

Charley Jr, Acey (TS) *

Harrison, Catherine (SH) **

Homer, Shania Jaye (TC) *

School of Business & Social Science

Associate of Arts,

Business Administration

Begay, Joni Brooke (TS)

Begay, Shaquille W (TC) **

Benally, Tori Alonda (SH) ** 🇺🇸

Brown, Candice (TC)

Calamity, Lena R (CP)

Chato, Andrea Renee (TS)

Craig, Benjamin Thomas (CP)

Hill-Tullie III, Rashawn Atsa (TS)

Hubbard, Amanda (WR) *

Jackson, Victoria (SH)

Joe, Nedra Ann (SH) *

Nez, Britannia Rae (WR)

Nez, VaNessa Kelli (TS)

Singer, Clay L (TS)

Teller, Tanya Jean (TS)

Tom, Melvina (TS)

Yazzie, Chelsea R (SH) ** 🇺🇸

Young-Panigeo, Sonya (SH)

Associate of Arts, Social & Behavioral Science

Charley, Sheridan L (TS)

Greyeyes, Tiarai Michelle (TS)

Guy, Stephan Notah (TS)

Guy, Tiyan Paul (TS)

Harrison, Chenoah M (TS)

Largo, Dzazhoni Celestine (TS)

Sloan, Rhainnon Lynae (TC) ***

Tully, Michelle Rae (TS)

Associate of Arts, Social Work

Tenorio, Richard Xavier (TS)

Tsosie, Elijah Angel (TS)

Wilson, Othell Marc (TS) **

Associate of Applied Science,

Business Management

Charley, Sheryl Gabrielle Ann (TS) **

Associate of Applied Science,

Office Administration

Begaye, Clarice (TS) **

Bachelor of Arts,

Business Administration

Joe, Nedra Ann (SH) *

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology

Calamity Sr, Albert (CP)

Chee, Kaibah (TS)

Clah, Taleighia Cree (TS)

Kee, Shawn H (TS)

Lee, Charlene Algena (TS)

Style, Rainee (TC)

School of Diné Studies & Education

Associate of Arts, Dine' Studies

Bennett, Leatrice Kay (TS)

Associate of Arts,

Early Childhood Education

Begaye, Linda Maria Theresa (TS)

Associate of Arts, Education

Begay, Kacy Candace (SH)

Begaye, Tanya Ann (TS)

Goldtooth, Charlotte (TC)

Jesus, Cerilyn Janell (TS) ***

Thompson, Caitlin Sharise (TS)

Bachelor of Arts,

Elementary Education

Blackhair, Kristina Lynn (TC) *

Granger, Kylie (TS)

James, Demitre Mary Ann (TS)

Tso, Heather Rae (TS)

Wilson, Matt (TS) *

Bachelor of Arts, Education;

Emphasis in Multicultural

Education

Begay, Sham Ray (TC) **

Murphy, Elysia A (SH)

School of Science, Technology, Engineering & Math

Associate of Science, Biology

Piestewa, Karlene Rae (TC) **

Tenorio, Tovarai (TS)

Associate of Science, Health

Occupation

Beyale, Justina (TS)

Big, Willetta Alice (TS)

Brown, LeShauna K (TS)

Healing, Ethan Davis (TS)

James, Autumn Tyler (TS)

Nez, Britannia Rae (WR)

VanTso, Michael Steven (TS)

Associate of Science,

Mathematics

Hubbard, Amanda (WR) *

Associate of Science, Public Health

Begay, Leorenda Renae (TS)

Gorman, Trish (TS) *

Poyer, Alia Ann (SH) ***

Yazzie, Dayhenoa Ch' ikeeh Nizhoon (TS)

Bachelor of Science,

Biology

Litson, Marcus (TS)

Bachelor of Science, Public Health

Acothley, Herrisha (TC)

Begay, Crystanna L (TS)

Laurent, Don McKenley (TS) ***

Werito, Pamela Mae (TC) **

Minor, Native American Studies

Werito, Pamela Mae (TC) **

Certificate, Computer Technology

Smith, Leslie Scott (TS)

Certificate, Medical Assistant

Blacksmith, Amber Marie (TC)

Claw, Heather Terrilynn Ann (TC)

Flores, Olivia Marie (TC)

Francis, Angelita Mae (TC)

Hatathlie, Ancita (TC)

Lee, Karen (TC)

Semallie, Ciarra (TC)

Talayumptewa, Willinda (TC)

Tallman, Fatisha A (TC)

Certificate, Public Health

Perry, Candice Lynn (Dual Credit, TS) *

Tsosie, Autumn (TS)

Graduation with Honors

* 3.50 to 3.69 Cum Laude

** 3.70 to 3.89 Magna Cum Laude

*** 3.90 to 4.00 Summa Cum Laude

 Veteran

