

Diné College Song

Sung by: **Dr. Avery Denny, Diné College Professor, Hataalii**



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



Sisnaajiní déé naashá,
Sa'ah Naghah Bek'eh Hózhó,
Dził nanit'oooh wo wo wei, déé' naashóó wo wo wei,
Sisnaajiní déé naashá.



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



Dook'ooslíid déé naashá,
Sa'ah Naghah Bek'eh Hózhó,
Dził nanit'oooh wo wo wei, déé' naashóó wo wo wei,
Dook'ooslíid déé naashá.



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



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



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



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



2025

Spring Commencement

President's Message

This day is designated to recognize your journey, the successes you achieved, the challenges you prevailed over, and your next steps in life. Today, we pause to celebrate an important milestone in your life.

Discern the messages you hear today and employ the key points as you enter your next chapter in life. Whether you choose to pursue a graduate degree, enter the workforce, or take the time to catch your breath and regroup yourself, remember you matter, and you are **WARRIOR STRONG!**

We are grateful that you invested in your education at Diné College. Thank you for taking the opportunity to secure and advance yourself with both Diné traditional and Western teachings. Your educational credentials demonstrate your growth, advancement, and readiness to contribute. To graduate is to change gradually.

Our late President once stated, "A degree from Diné College is more than just a diploma. It is recognition that you are proud of your heritage and that you have successfully worked hard to earn a rigorous and quality degree from the Nation's college". And so it is that you now possess a degree stamped with an arrowhead and embraced with a rainbow path signifying Protection and Hózhó.

Therefore, the college empowers you to apply your hard-earned knowledge, skills, and talent to lead and inspire others. The Nation, the people, and the world need your leadership now more than ever before. Be creative, think holistically, and use your education to transform our Nation for the better.

Thank you, parents, family, and friends, for supporting your students and witnessing the celebration and honoring of their academic accomplishments. May each and every one of you continue forward on the corn pollen path. Thank you for attending the Spring 2025 Diné College Commencement.

Acting President

Glennita Haskey



Board Of Regents

Maggie George, Appointed Member
Kimberlee Williams, Appointed Member
Anderson Hoskie, Appointed Member
Jalen Smallcanyon, Secretary/Treasurer
Cameo Mejia, Designated Member

Cabinet

Glennita Haskey, Acting President
Dr. Alys Landry, Provost
Bo Lewis, Vice President of Finance and Administration
Malcolm Bob, Acting Vice President of Student Affairs
Karen Francis, Chief of Staff

School Deans

School of Arts & Humanities:
Dr. Haesong Kwon, Interim Dean,
Assistant Professor
School of Business & Social Science:
Patrick Blackwater, Dean,
Assistant Professor
School of Diné Studies & Education:
David P. Nez, Dean, Senior Lecturer
School of Science, Technology,
Engineering and Mathematics:
James Tutt, Dean
School of Transformation:
Timothy Nelson, Dean

Order Of Ceremony

Emcee	Winifred Jumbo, Director of External Campuses
Processional:	Dr. Avery Denny, Hataalii, Professor
Posting of Colors:	Diné Saani Silaotsoi Color Guard
National Anthem:	Terance Woody, Graduating Student, Associate of Arts in Diné Studies
Invocation:	Michelle Whitstone, Assistant Professor
Welcome Address:	Glennita Haskey, Acting President
Commencement Speaker:	Russell Begaye, Former Navajo Nation President
Acknowledgment:	Dr. Alysa Landry, Provost
Conferral of Degrees & Certificates:	Glennita Haskey, Acting President
Alumni Induction Ceremony:	Dr. Crystal Carr Cook, Director of Tribal Housing Research, Secretary of the Alumni Association
Congratulatory Remarks:	Danielle Lewis, Graduating Student, Associate of Arts in Education
Benediction:	Travis Teller, Student Mental Health Coordinator
Retrieval of Colors:	Diné Saani Silaotsoi Color Guard
Recessional:	Diné College Song

Commencement Speaker



Russell Begaye

**PRESIDENT OF THE
NAVAJO NATION**

May 2015 - January 2019

Russell Begaye, a member of the Kinłichíí'nii clan born for Bit'ahnii, grew up on a farm in Shiprock, New Mexico. He attended local schools and graduated from UCLA in 1974 with a degree in Political Science.

Serving as the 8th President of the Navajo Nation from May 2015 to January 2019, Begaye focused on education, health, law enforcement, veteran affairs, and economic development.

Under his leadership, the Nation's scholarship programs were doubled, including increased funding for Diné College and Navajo Technical University. He also established specialized scholarships for fields like medicine, engineering, and public health.

Begaye improved healthcare by advocating for new facilities, such as one in Dilkon, and collaborated with the University of Arizona School of Medicine to admit and support Navajo medical students. He prioritized law enforcement, founding the first Navajo Police Academy and securing better facilities. For veterans, he created the Navajo Veterans Administration and a Veterans Council to address their needs.

During his term as a Navajo Council Delegate, he restructured the Council from 88 to 24 delegates, strengthened the Criminal Code, and passed laws benefiting vulnerable populations.

Through his work, Begaye consistently emphasized safeguarding the Navajo Nation. His advice to Navajo Nation leaders is to, first and foremost, Protect the People, Protect the Nation, and Protect our Nation's Sovereignty. His legacy reflects a steadfast commitment to the advancement and well-being of the Navajo people.

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Emphasis in Painting
Pino, Karl R (TS)

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Emphasis in Digital Photography
Begay, Samantha T (TS) ***

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

Bachelor of Arts, Business Administration
Benally, Jaren (TS)
Chee, Audrianna (TS)
Endishee, Melvina R (TS)
Guy, Paula Cora (TS) *
Manygoat, Skylar (SH)
Notah, Henrietta (TS) **
Polingyumptewa, Calandra (TC)
Roberts, Karen (SH) **

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology
Antone, Adrianna L (TS)
Begay, Chartonna L (TS)
Ben, Arlinda (TS)
Calamity, Alvina Lynn (CP) *
Gorman, Shannon Lynne (TS)
James, Sandralita Lynn (TS)
Mann, Ashly Allison (TS)
Natonabah, Bonita (TS) ***
Shorty, Rufina A (SH)
Tahy, Gabriel (TS) **
Tully, Michelle Rae (TS)
White, Kristel De'Vari (SH)

Minor in Native American Studies
Calamity, Alvina Lynn (CP) *

Associate of Arts, Business Administration
Bahe, Kyleigh Lyn (TS)
Ben, Levyn (TS)
Benally, Kiyaani Cedar (TS) **
Bennally, Alfred P (SH) *
Curley, Pauline (WR) *
Edsitty, Victoria (TS)
Gene, Mikal Dixon (TS)
Hosteen, Charmayne (CP)
Joe, Seidel Derrick (TS)
Jones, Dendrick Daniel (TS) *
Maloney, Zachary Montai (TC)
Nez, Rosalena (TS)
Redhouse, Lavencia S (TS)
Shult, Angelita Judy (CP)
Wauneka, Jewel B (TS)
White-Claw, Rowena (TS) *
Williams, Felicia Dominica (WR)

Associate of Arts, Social and Behavioral Science
Attson, Courtney Lisa (WR)
Baker, Lance (TS)
Benallie, Jerrick Jeremy (TS)
Calamity, Raymona Auriel (TS)
Clitso, Claudette R (SH)
Kaibetoney, Philbert (TS)
Kee, Berlinsea (TS)
Lindholm, Dylan W (TS) **
Nez, Marlina (TS)

Sansosie, Chad Starwind (TS)
Thomas, Alden L (SH)
Tohe, Kristin (TS)

Associate of Arts, Social Work
Calamity, Alvina Lynn (CP) *
Paul, Charmayne Gene (TS)
Thomas, Rafaela McKagen (SH)
Wagner, Megan Mae (TS)

Associate of Applied Science, Business Management
Bennally, Alfred P (SH) *

Associate of Applied Science, Office Administration
Roberts, Tonena (TS)

SCHOOL OF DINÉ STUDIES AND EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts, Elementary Education
Benally, Diedra (WR)
Cook, Georgeett (TS)
James, Donna Jean (TS) *
Remiro, Karrington Allison (TS) ***
Watchman, Destinee Nizhoni (TS)
Yazzie, Alessandra (TS) **

Bachelor of Arts, Education; Emphasis in Multicultural Education
Becenti, Winona Lynn (SH) **

Bachelor of Science, Secondary Education, Mathematics
Johnson, Erick (TS) **

Associate of Arts, Diné Studies
Kee, Shawn (TS)
Smith, Elxcia N (TS)
Woody, Terance T (TS)
Yazzie, Merinda (TS)

Associate of Arts, Early Childhood Education
Bochinclonny, Phyllis (TS) *
Dan, Rolinda (TS)
Harvey, Krystal L (TS) *
Kee, Berlinsea (TS)
Lee, Talia Lynn (TS)
Nez, Raenelle Deanne (TC)

Associate of Arts, Education
Hayou, Herman (TS)
James, Donna Jean (TS) *
Jones Jr., Damien Daniel (TS) *
Lewis, Danielle (TS) *
Lindholm, Dylan W (TS) **
Remiro, Karrington Allison (TS) ***

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH

Master of Science, Biology
Benally, Alana Rae (TS) **
Cayatineto, Harrison (TS) *

Bachelor of Science, Agricultural Science
Bia, Caui S (TS) *

Goldtooth, Natasha Del Ray (TS)
Jacobson, Sedona Ann (TS)
Tsosie, TyHanin (TS)

Bachelor of Science, Biology
Brown, LeShauna K (TS) *

Bachelor of Science, Biomedical Science
Chee, Myka Martina (TS) *
Faber, Brooke (TS) **
Kaye, Kayaani Nia (TS) *
Paul, Juelian Erika (SH)

Bachelor of Science, Public Health
Chee, Shamanique Annie-Chato (TS)
Curley, Jill Karen K (TC)
Du Puy, Tina M (TC)
Jackson, Emily (TS)
Lewis, Eldrida (TS)
Smallcanyon, Megan T (TS)
Whiterock, Jamie (TS)
Wilson, Mia Angela (SH) **
Yazzie, Megan Yvonne (TS) ***

Associate of Science, Biology
Damon, Meagan Hope (TS)
Estrada, Ashlyn E (TS)
Mescal, Natalia Reilly (TS)
Phillips, Nizhonibaa Raeanne (TS) ***
Shorty, Tiffany Brianna (TS)
Tsosie, Sheridan Jane Nasbah (TS) *
Yazzie, Kaitlyn Mya (TS)

Associate of Science, Environmental Science
Haven, Noah D (TS)
Lee, April Roberta (TS)

Associate of Science, Health Occupation
Begay, Mikayla Mariah (TS) *
Begay, Ryan F (TS) *
Ben, Jayme Elizabeth (TS) *
Bitsilly, Shante (TS)
Blackrock, Racey Lynn (TS)
Carroll, Ryonne A (TS)
Chee, LeShawna DeeAnn (TS)
Eriacho, Lortis D (TS)
Estrada, Ashlyn E (TS)
Gene, Felicia (TS)
Homes, Tseligai (TS)
Pino, Karl R (TS)
Talkalai, Haley G (TS)
Tomasiyo, Hailey (TS) *
Tsosie, Sheridan Jane Nasbah (TS) *
Wagner, Tristen Jeanette (TS) *
Yazzie, Jammer-Tracey (TC)

Associate of Science, Mathematics
Bia, Mikayla Shonell (TS)
Harvey, Nicole Rae (TS)
Williams, Michael John (TS)

Associate of Science, Physics
Begay, Koleson (TC)

Associate of Science, Pre-Engineering
Bia, Mikayla Shonell (TS)
Friday, Shanine (TS)
Nez Jr., William Jason (TS)

Smith, Dusty Rae (TS)

Associate of Science, Public Health
Ben, Jayme Elizabeth (TS) *
Hunt, Teshawna (TS)
Sam, Dannielle Donni (TS)
Yazzie, Neenesha Jo (TS)

Certificate, Computer Technology
Begay, Adriano Lewis (TS)
Dedman, Darius (TS) ***
Hobb, Joshua Dylan (TS)
Thompson, Megan R (TS)

Certificate, Public Health
Atene, Nina (SH) ***
Begaye, Clarice (TS)
Harvey, Deelilah (Dual Credit, TS) ***
Jackson, Fannie (WR)

SCHOOL OF TRANSFORMATION

CompTIA IT Fundamentals + Certificate
Dooline, Delwin
Todacheenie, Gerald

Medical Assistant Certification
Ben, Jayme

Pharmacy Technician Certification
Alfred, Ashley
Allison, Shannon
Denny, Hannah
Iyua, Shannon
Peralto-Mike, Pamela
Tsosie, Morgan
Williams, Jennifer
Yazzie, Franchaska
Yazzie, Laphena

Solar Technician Certification
Baldwin, Ryan C.
Dempsey, Shanielle H.
John, Evitan B.
Shepherd, Eric H.
Smallcanyon, Wayne
Tallsalt, Tylane L.
Thompson, Dayan W.
Wilson, Vance

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

Begay, Robert J.
Duwyenie, Tehya B.
Francisco, Rayleen A.
Gilbert, Erin K.
Harrison, Stephanie A.
Jones, Alphriam H.
Kayonnie, Nathaniel
Largo, Shelby A.
Cole Reuben, Elissa D.
Tolth, Breanna A.
Whitehat, Roger T.
Yazzie, Miranda

* 3.50 to 3.69 Cum Laude

** 3.70 to 3.89 Magna Cum Laude

*** 3.90 to 4.00 Summa Cum Laude