

**EDUCATION BRIEFS**

**Diné/Tongan chosen for medical leaders congress**

**WEST JORDAN, UTAH** — Manatu Ngalo, a junior at Itineris Early College High School of West Jordan, was a delegate to the Congress of Future Medical Leaders on Nov. 21 to 22.

Ngalo is Bitter Water Clan, born for Tongan. Her maternal grandfather is Mexican Clan and her paternal grandfather is Tongan.

Her mother is Diné from Red Mesa, Utah. His father is from the Islands of Tonga, specifically the villages of Tuanuku, Vavau, and Pea, Tongatapu.

"I'd like to share my accomplishments thus far," Ngalo said. "For most of primary school, junior high to current high school, I have been an honor roll student. In my spare time, I dedicate my time to the community helping others."

"This year, I was inducted into the National Honor Society and Health Occupations Students of America," she said. "In addition, to join the Congress of Future Medical Leaders of America and their congress."

Ngalo is in the process of earning an associate degree along with her high school diploma.

"My main goal is to be a medical doctor and work hard," she said. "The challenges and outcomes of becoming a doctor will be the most rewarding. On an ending note, I would like to continue school into a higher education."

Ngalo was nominated for the congress Dr. Mario Capecchi, winner of the Nobel Prize in medicine and science director of the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists.

During the two-day Congress, Ngalo joined students from across the country and heard Nobel laureates and National Medal of Science winners talk about leading medical research.

**Diné College art show & sale raising funds for scholarships**

**TSAILE, Ariz.** — Diné College was in the process of planning the 2020 Scholarship Gala back in March when the COVID-19 reached the Navajo Nation. Due to the severity of the situation, the event was canceled.

To address the need for social distancing and safety precautions that prevent the spread of the virus, an online fundraiser was proposed.

For the past two months, Nonabah Sam and Adrian Lerma, development and alumni officer, have been organizing a virtual art auction and show & sale.

The event features works of art by Diné master painters Baje Whitethorne Sr. and Shon-to Begay, as well as many other renowned Native American artists

The fundraiser will raise funds for student scholarships and help our students graduate with little or no student debt.

The virtual art auction was broadcast live on the evening of Nov. 18 and the art show & sale will run online until Dec. 2.

Information: <https://www.dinecollege.edu/virtual-art-auction-2020/>

**SJC music showcase set for virtual showing**

**FARMINGTON** — A previous announcement said the San Juan College music program fall end-of-semester Student Showcase was canceled but due to pre-recording, with the exception of the African Drumming Ensemble, the showcase will be shown virtually at the scheduled times below:

- San Juan College Symphonic Band and music educators' ensemble, today, Dec. 3, at 7 p.m.

- San Juan College Choir video release, "How Can I Keep From Singing," Tuesday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m.

- San Juan College Orchestra, Friday, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m.

The pre-recorded showcase will feature students performing during their final exams in a COVID-safe manner. All music classes were converted to an online format on Nov. 30.

The events can be viewed on the following links: [www.sanjuacollege.edu](http://www.sanjuacollege.edu) [www.facebook.com/SanJuanCollege](http://www.facebook.com/SanJuanCollege) and [www.facebook.com/ksje90.9](http://www.facebook.com/ksje90.9)

**Applicants wanted for governing board seats**

**FLAGSTAFF** — Applicants are wanted for appointment to five school district boards, including the Coconino Association for Vocations, Industry, and Technology (CAVIAT) in Fredonia (1 open seat); Coconino Community College District No. 3 (1 open seat to be filled in Jan-



Manatu Ngalo

COURTESY PHOTO

uary 2021); Fredonia-Moccasin USD No. 6 (2 open seats); Maine Consolidated USD No. 10 (3 open seats); and NATIVE, Tuba City (1 open seat).

Superintendent of Schools Tommy Lewis plans to fill these positions before Dec. 24, 2020 so appointees can begin on Jan. 1 as new board members.

Applicants must be Arizona registered voters and residents of the school district for at least one year prior to the date of appointment. Applicants or their spouses cannot be an employee

of the district.

Information: 928-679-8070 or [kslack@coconino.az.gov](mailto:kslack@coconino.az.gov).

**SJC closed for Thanksgiving**

**FARMINGTON** — San Juan College will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday from today through Sunday. No classes will be held at the Farmington, Aztec or Kirtland campuses.

All classes will resume on Monday, Nov. 30, in their respective online, hybrid, or

face-to-face formats.

The Health and Human Performance Center, bookstore, Cosmetology Salon and library are closed following the New Mexico public health order. Students may purchase books online at [bookstore.sanjuacollege.edu](http://bookstore.sanjuacollege.edu).

The Educational Services Center is also closed through Nov. 30 and services within the building are serving students remotely.

Information: [sanjuacolleg.edu](http://sanjuacolleg.edu)

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**ART BRIEFS**



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Joy Harjo reads and discusses her poem "Exile of Memory" on Aug. 5, 2020, from her home in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Harjo is the 23rd Poet Laureate consultant in poetry to the Library of Congress, and the first Native American poet to serve in the position.

**Joy Harjo appointed to 3rd term as U.S. Poet Laureate**

**WASHINGTON** — Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden has announced the appointment of U.S. Poet Laureate Joy Harjo to a third term, making Harjo the second laureate to receive this extension since terms for the position were established in 1943.

Harjo's third term, to begin in September 2021, will offer the opportunity to complete projects and programs that were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

For her third term, Harjo will focus on her signature project, "Living Nations, Living Words," just launched at [loc.gov/programs/poetry-and-literature/poet-laureate/poet-laureate-projects/living-nations-living-words/](http://loc.gov/programs/poetry-and-literature/poet-laureate/poet-laureate-projects/living-nations-living-words/).

This digital project features an interactive map, developed with the Library's Geography and Map Division, which includes 47 contemporary Native American poets across the country — including Harjo, Louise Erdrich, Natalie Diaz, Ray Young Bear, Craig Santos Perez, Sherwin Bitsui and Layli Long Soldier.

"This has been a challenging year for the country, for our earth," Harjo said. "Poetry has provided doorways for joy, grief and understanding in the midst of turmoil and pandemic."

Her laureateship began June 19, 2019.

Her first-term closing event was canceled after the pandemic forced the closure of the Library's public buildings, and she started her second term on Sept. 1.

Harjo was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on May 9, 1951, and is the author of nine books of poetry, including her most recent collection, "An American Sunrise" (W.W. Norton), as well as "Conflict Resolution for Holy Beings"; "The Woman

Who Fell From the Sky," which received the Oklahoma Book Arts Award; and "In Mad Love and War" (Wesleyan University Press, 1990), which received an American Book Award and the Delmore Schwartz Memorial Award.

Harjo has also written a memoir, "Crazy Brave," which won the 2013 PEN Center USA literary prize for creative non-fiction, as well as a children's book, "The Good Luck Cat," and a young adult book, "For a Girl Becoming."

**New kitchen to open at Pueblo cultural center**

**ALBUQUERQUE** — The Pueblo Harvest Restaurant at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center will become the Indian Pueblo Kitchen, a teaching kitchen and restaurant centered on Indigenous cuisine.

Under the leadership of Executive Chef Ray Naranjo, Santa Clara/Odawa, the kitchen's opening date depends on public health mandates, but IPCC is hoping for spring of 2021.

The kitchen will carry on the tradition of creative Native American culinary artistry and Pueblo hospitality, said Beverlee McClure, vice president of community and cultural engagement.

Students can learn Indigenous cooking techniques and restaurant operations and management, she said, to prepare them for a future in the hospitality industry.

In addition, the kitchen will provide entrepreneurs, food truck operators and Native American food artisans with access to a commercial greenhouse and commercial kitchen.

It will also offer culinary tourism opportunities such as cooking classes, wine pairing dinners, Feast Day experiences and farm-to-fork dining.

Information: [indianpueblo.org](http://indianpueblo.org)