

2026 Chief Manuelito Scholarship Awards Ceremony

Friday, July 31, 2026 • 8 am – 3 pm MST
Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort
Flagstaff, Ariz.

Master of Ceremonies
The Honorable Theresa Hatathlie-Delmar
Arizona State Senator

- 7:30 am **Registration & Refreshments**
Diné Event Center
- 8:00 am **Invocation**
The Honorable Vince James
25th Navajo Nation Council Delegate
- 8:30 am **Welcome**
Dr. Shayla Yellowhair
Interim Superintendent of Schools
Department of Diné Education
- 8:50 am **Keynote Address**
Dr. Isabella Robbins
2013 Chief Manuelito Scholar
PhD Candidate at Yale University
- 9:10 am **Keeping Your Chief Manuelito Scholarship**
The Honorable Dr. Andy Nez
25th Navajo Nation Council Delegate
- 9:30 am **Congratulatory Message**
The Honorable Dr. Buu Van Nygren
Navajo Nation President
- 9:50 am **Congratulatory Message**
The Honorable Crystalyne Curley
Speaker of the 25th Navajo Nation Council
- 10:15 am **Special Acknowledgments**
Recognition of Sponsors
- 11:00 am **Lunch**
Diné Ballroom
- 12:00 pm **Presentation of 2026 Chief Manuelito Scholars**
Dr. Buu Van Nygren, Navajo Nation President
Richelle Montoya, Navajo Nation Vice President
Crystalyne Curley, Navajo Nation Council Speaker
Navajo Nation Council
Navajo Nation Board of Education
- 3:00 pm **Closing Remarks**
Ms. Rose Graham, Department Manager, Office of
Navajo Nation Scholarship & Financial Assistance

End of awards ceremony. Travel home safely.

Axhé'heé' Ntsáago

Special thanks to our generous sponsors for providing the support needed to honor the Navajo Nation's 2026 Chief Manuelito Scholars.



Office of Navajo Nation
Scholarship & Financial Assistance

Chinle Agency Office
Toll Free (800) 919-9269
onnsfachinle@navajo-nsn.gov

Fort Defiance Agency Office
Toll Free (800) 243-2956
onnsfacentral@navajo-nsn.gov

Tuba City Agency Office
Toll Free (866) 839-8151
onnsfatubacity@navajo-nsn.gov

Crownpoint Agency Office
Toll Free (866) 254-9913
onnsfacrownpointnm@navajo-nsn.gov

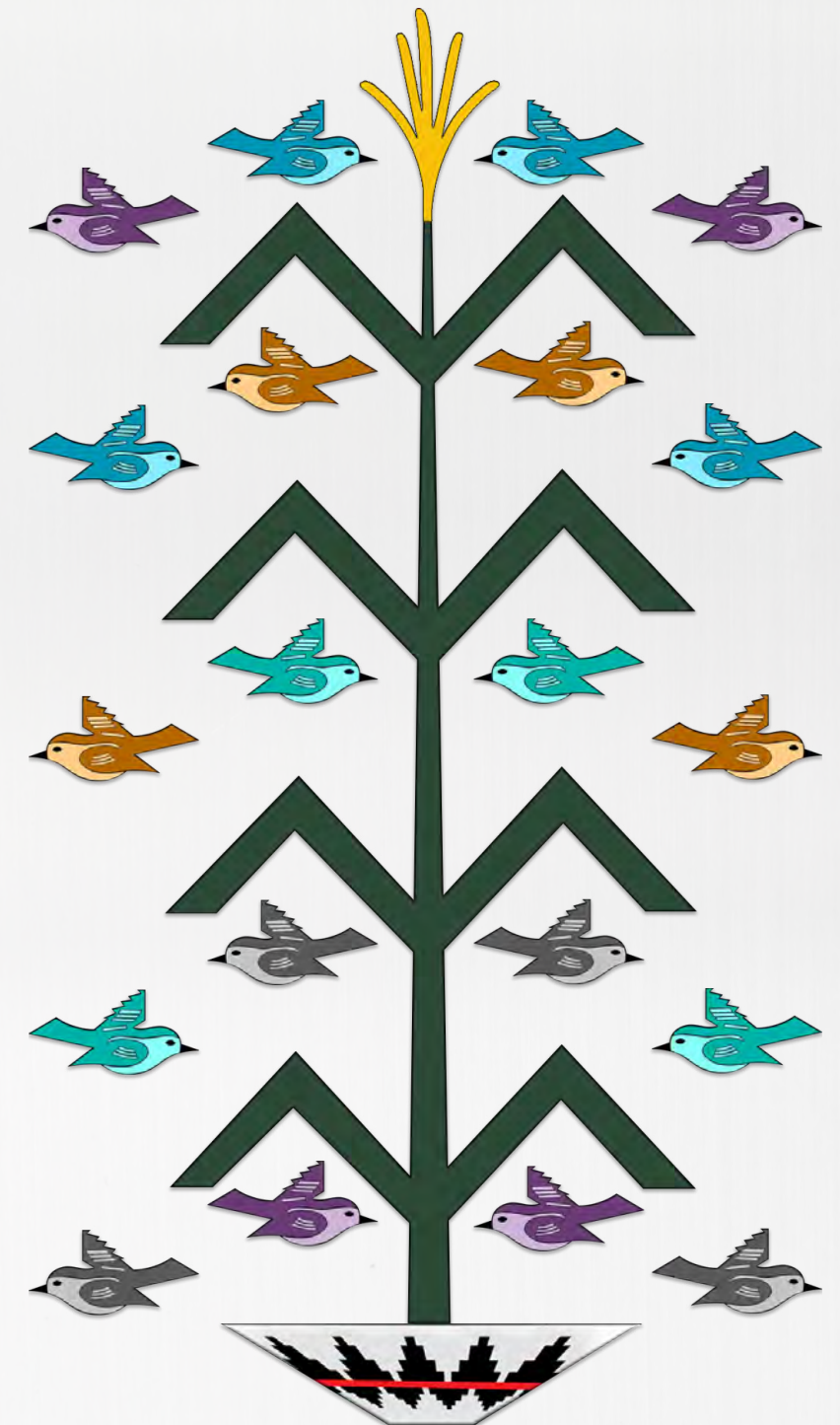
Shiprock Agency Office
Toll Free (866) 223-6457
onnsfashiprock@navajo-nsn.gov

Central Office
Phone (928) 871-7444
onnsfa_admin@navajo-nsn.gov

<https://onnsfa.org> www.facebook.com/onnsfa

2026 Chief Manuelito Scholarship AWARDS CEREMONY

Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort • Flagstaff, Arizona
Friday, July 31, 2026



2026 Chief Manuelito Scholars *(Listed by Agency)*

Chinle Agency
Jacob M. Badonie, Chinle High School, Northern Arizona University
Joaquin A. Baca, Early College Academy, University of New Mexico
Mya I. Beck, Farmington High School, Texas Tech University
Neimeia D. Begaye, Many Farms High School, Coconino Community College
Ozlynn Vaughn Bleu Begaye, Page High School, Northern Arizona University
Piper Blackgoat Diehl, Juneau-Douglas High School, Northern Arizona University
Ciera E. Charley, Navajo Preparatory School, Arizona State University
Jobryant Charley, Piñon High School, Ottawa University-Surprise
Laela Brooke Chee, Piñon High School, Northern Arizona University
Anthony E. Cunningham III, Westside High School, Kennesaw State University
Skylar Corrinna Dean, Chinle High School, Mesa Community College
Damion Vance Dedman, Chinle High School, University of Arizona
Wyatt Estenson, Casa Grande Union High School, Arizona State University
Gessalyn Etsitty, Piñon High School, Grand Canyon University
Kateri C. Etsitty, Xavier College Preparatory, Santa Clara University
Dayna Harvey, Chinle High School, University of Arizona
Melody F. Hasdale, Desert Christian High School, Vanguard University - Southern California
Micah Chace Hunter, Chinle High School, Fort Lewis College
Lukas James, Piñon High School, Eastern Arizona College
Vivian Julia James, Cortez High School, Northern Arizona University
Aimee Stella-Lynn Lee, Chinle High School, Southern Utah University
Angelo Arellano Nez, Troy High School, University of California – Santa Cruz
Rasia Maree Perkins, Corona Del Sol High School, Pennsylvania State University
Lanell Rena Salaba, Piñon High School, Northern Arizona University
Mihkayla Stevens, Richfield High School, Southern Utah University
Eithan Trey Tachine, Piñon High School, Northern Arizona University
Maelen van Dam, Jefferson Academy High School, Stanford University
Caleigh Autumn McKenna White, ASU Preparatory Academy, Arizona State University

Crownpoint Agency
Talen Keithlyn Becenti, Thoreau High School, Northern Arizona University
Hunter Billie, Raymond S Kellis High School, Illinois Institute of Technology
Jade Buffalohead-Ashcraft, Miyamura High School, New Mexico Institute of Mining & Tech
Colin Campbell, Miyamura High School, University of New Mexico
Alana Valeria Dean, Thoreau High School, University of New Mexico
Rayonna Eskeets, North Thurston High School, University of Washington
Khyran Guerro, Tohajiilee High School, University of New Mexico
Alexia Rae Heaton, Perry High School, Brigham Young University
Caitlyn Jones, Miyamura High School, New Mexico State University
Adam Lee, Piedra Vista High School, University of New Mexico
Dakota Love Lee, Volcano Vista High School, Arizona State University
Kylie M. Montaña, Miyamura High School, Fort Lewis College
Zhin Ross Nez, Crownpoint High School, University of New Mexico
Kynlie Lantana Platero, Piedra Vista High School, University of Wyoming
Marc Nakai Platero, Skyridge High School, University of Utah
Adam Pozernick, Miyamura High School, New Mexico State University
Addyson Michelle-Raine Salazar, Navajo Preparatory School, Gonzaga University
Landon Jackson Tyler, Wingate High School, Fort Lewis College

Fort Defiance Agency
Ayaina Rose Aho, Holbrook High School, Tulane University
Desiree Helen Angulo, Westwood High School, University of Arizona
Alanna Barton, Miyamura High School, University of New Mexico
Melanie J. Becenti, Rehoboth Christian School, Northern Arizona University
Leia Begay, Tucson Magnet High School, University of Arizona
Tayler Ray Bennett, Gallup High School, University of Arizona
Taylor Brody Billiman, Gallup High School, New Mexico State University
Olivia Lynn Bishop, American Fork High School, Utah Valley University
Anne Marie Breeze, Winslow High School, University of Arizona
Mikayla Charley, Ganado High School, Northern Arizona University
MacAllen Cousens, Navajo Preparatory School, University of California – Berkeley
Avianna Damon-Showalter, Xavier College Preparatory, George Washington University
Marlo Mae Ellis, Central High School, University of Colorado – Boulder
Rayne Etsitty, Valley High School, Northern Arizona University

Maya Lynn Francisco, Holbrook High School, Northern Arizona University
Peyton Rae Gishey, Corona Del Sol High School, Northern Arizona University
Noah Nelson Grinde, Marcos de Niza High School, South Mountain Community College
Olivia Harvey, Ganado High School, Diné College
Layla Eartha Holmes, Horizon High School, Arizona State University
Jordin Mae Holyan, Newcomb High School, University of Portland
Lucas Houston, Miyamura High School, University of New Mexico
Josiah Howard, Miyamura High School, Arizona State University
Starr R. Joe, Window Rock High School, Stanford University
Joshua J. Keeto, McKinley Academy, University of Oregon
Shelby Mya Lee, Ganado High School, Diné College
Liani Alyssa Lopez, McKinley Academy, Arizona State University
Kyliana Nizhoni Massey, Camelback High School, Arizona State University
Tierra Rose Meyers, Ganado High School, Lincoln College of Technology
Iris Renai Morris, Holbrook High School, Northern Arizona University
Cody Nockideneh, Holbrook High School, Brigham Young University - Idaho
Jeremias P. Paddock, Winslow High School, Northern Arizona University
Alaina Joy Plucker, Holbrook High School, Northland Pioneer College
Leota Angel Poneoma, Winslow High School, Diné College
Lostah Marie Rivas Johnson, Explore Academy, Fort Lewis College
Nizhoni A. Rivera, Rio Rancho High School, University of New Mexico
Savanna Robinson, Gallup High School, University of New Mexico
Markayla Claire Shirley, Chandler High School, Chandler-Gilbert Community College
Emilee Hadassah Spencer, Window Rock High School, Colby College
Hunter Cole Tallsalt, Holbrook High School, University of Arizona
Madeline Mae Thomas, ASU Preparatory Academy, Arizona State University
Jonah Brian Thompson, Fayetteville-Manlius High School, Arizona State University
Colten David Thursby, Tombstone High School, Long Island University-Brooklyn
Oleshia Alana Tsosie, Ganado High School, Arizona State University
Dineah Marie Velasquez, Cleveland High School, University of Oklahoma
Jayanna Nolyn White, Ganado High School, Foothill College
Logan Wooten, Silver High School, New Mexico State University

Shiprock Agency
Dineh Blackhorse Abreu, Shiprock High School, San Juan College
Aspen Archuleta, Farmington High School, New Mexico Institute of Mining & Tech
Jeremy Dalin Arviso, Navajo Preparatory School, New Mexico Institute of Mining & Tech
Aamya Sage Whitechair Begay, Desert Vista High School, Arizona State University
Jayden D. Begay, Piedra Vista High School, Northern Arizona University
Kyle Ashtin Begay, San Juan High School, Brigham Young University
Noah Sean Begay, San Juan High School, Brigham Young University
Benjamin Michael Lee Benally, Valley Lutheran High School, Dartmouth College
Julianna Candelaria, West Brook Senior High School, Lamar Institute of Technology
Javonte Chee, Farmington High School, San Juan College
Angel Clauschee, Farmington High School, San Juan College
Mykayla Lynn Clitso, San Juan College High School, University of New Mexico
Benjamin Shonota Bitsyé Collins, Farmington High School, San Juan College
Natyus Antwon Curley, San Juan College High School, University of New Mexico
Josiah Benjamin Dineyazhe, Navajo Preparatory School, University of Arizona
Zachary Cody Dodge, Piedra Vista High School, New Mexico State University
Brandt Edwards, Piedra Vista High School, New Mexico State University
Gavin Marshall Francis, San Juan College High School, University of New Mexico
Kyla Tegan Franklin, San Juan College High School, University of Colorado – Boulder
Deja R. George, Navajo Preparatory School, Colorado State University
Shawndae J.K. Haungooah, San Juan College High School, University of New Mexico
Avery Wren Himmelreich, Navajo Preparatory School, Northeastern University
Paizlee Jean Jackson, Richfield High School, Utah Valley University
Ian Sebastian John, Navajo Preparatory School, New Mexico Institute of Mining & Tech
Aspyn Amira Sage Kaskalla, Navajo Preparatory School, Yale University
Wyatt Russell Keith, San Juan High School, Utah State University – Eastern Price
Dylan Lansing, Navajo Preparatory School, University of New Mexico
Halia Parker Lansing, Explore Academy, University of Colorado – Boulder
Jaymie Virginia Larney, Desert Vista High School, Western New Mexico University

Elijah R. Lee, Farmington High School, Fort Lewis College
Haley A. Manygoats, Navajo Preparatory School, Arizona State University
Wachaykeah Rosemarie Martin, Whitehorse High School, Utah State University – Blanding
Cuyler N. McDonald, Kirtland Central High School, University of New Mexico
Kaidence Nathelle Mitchell, San Juan High School, University of Utah
Alesia Morningsstar Nabahe, Santa Fe Indian School, San Juan College
Navani Yanaha Nakai, Snow Canyon High School, Utah Tech University
Madisyn NiaCohn Parker, San Juan College High School, Northern Arizona University
Hughstin Jake Pelt, Whitehorse High School, University of Utah
Makenna E. Pete, Farmington High School, Northwestern University - Evanston
Aayden D. Roland, Winslow High School, Northern Arizona University
Austin Romero, Durango High School, Arkansas State University Mid-South
Georgia Linn Ryals, Kirtland Central High School, University of New Mexico
Chyllynn Sam, San Juan High School, Weber State University
Justyce Nikia Scott, Navajo Preparatory School, University of Chicago
Sydney Noella Symonette, Langley High School, Florida State University
Rashaad Toledo, Farmington High School, University of New Mexico
Colby Lee Tsosie, San Juan College High School, University of New Mexico
Julianne Mikaela Vega, Dolores Senior High School, University of Colorado – Boulder
Elyse Woods, San Juan College High School, Florida Institute of Technology
Bella Hunter Yazzie, Farmington High School, University of Southern California
Braxton Riley Yazzie, San Juan College High School, University of New Mexico
Shale Yazzie, Native American Community Academy, University of New Mexico

Tuba City Agency
Adrian Brian Acothley, Paradise Valley High School, Arizona State University
Kylie Acuff, San Clemente High School, University of California – San Diego
Luke T. Benally, Monument Valley High School, Dartmouth College
Caitlynn Emma Black, Coconino High School, Northern Arizona University
Kylie Rose Colliflower, Coconino High School, Stanford University
Katerin Báhozhóni Crank, Monument Valley High School, Grand Canyon University
ShaShia Dugi, Tuba City High School, Utah State University – Blanding
Deswood Nataani Nez Edison, Greyhills Academy High School, Northern Arizona University
Jazzlee Yazzie Esplain, Flagstaff Christian High School, Northern Arizona University
Hailey Lynn Etsitty, Monument Valley High School, Gateway Community College
Nizhoni R. Fleg, Albuquerque High School, University of Colorado – Boulder
Kymberli R. Fowler, Monument Valley High School, Northern Arizona University
Desmond Goldtooth, Page High School, Arizona State University
Ernest Bahe Greeyes, Jr., Greyhills Academy High School, Southern Utah University
Joaquin Gullatt, Monument Valley High School, Arizona State University
Keilila Hamren, Flagstaff High School, University of Arizona
Daniel Zakk Holgate, Corona Del Sol High School, Northern Arizona University
Gavin Hurley, Tuba City High School, Northern Arizona University
Haley Noelle LeBlanc, Maple Mountain High School, Utah Valley University
Maela Skye Little, Monument Valley High School, Northern Arizona University
Sierra Tapaha Luna, Xavier College Preparatory, University of Arizona
Symond Haskell Hawk Martin, Page High School, Northern Arizona University
Aydan Royal Peralta, Coconino High School, Northern Arizona University
Paige Tiana Preston, Tuba City High School, Arizona State University
Bradley I. Redhouse, Navajo Preparatory School, University of Denver
Delane Little Rodriguez, ASU Preparatory Academy, Arizona State University
Jamieson Rope, Camp Verde High School, Arizona State University
Hailey Russell, Greyhills Academy High School, Coconino Community College
LeDannon Schenally, Richfield High School, Snow College
Aubrey Raine Taylor, Mountain View High School, Northern Arizona University
Brandin Naabaahii Upshaw, Navajo Preparatory School, University of San Diego
Faith Ann Vicente, Rehoboth Christian School, Arizona State University
Christian Walker, Phoenix Preparatory High School, Arizona State University
Keely C. Welch, Tuba City High School, Paradise Valley Community College
Patricia Whalen, Millennium High School, Arizona State University
Caleb Matias Whitehorse, Verrado High School, Stanford University
Marchie Woods, Coconino High School, Northern Arizona University
Ethan R. Yazzie, Navajo Preparatory School, Weber State University
TyVaughn Yazzie, Monument Valley High School, Northern Arizona University