**Governor’s Office Applies for NPS Funding for Middle Village Kivas Restoration**

The Governor’s Office has applied for a National Park Service grant under the Historic Preservation Fund. The project is for the “Middle Village Kivas Restoration Preliminary Planning & Assessment”.

**Project Abstract**

**Grantee Name:** Pueblo of Zuni  
**Grant Number:** P22AP01862-00  
**Project Title:** Pueblo of Zuni Middle Village Kivas Restoration Preliminary Planning & Assessment  
**Project Period:** 09/01/2022-09/30/2024  
**Grant Amount:** $30,187.00

This grant would support efforts to procure a historical site assessment and mitigation plan for the repair and preservation of the Middle Village Kiva. This area is recognized as a historical and religious property in dire need of preservation. The grant is intended for consultant service/s to be implemented by the following consultants as part of the Phase I activities. All work executed during the duration of the project is to incorporate the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties.

**Consultants**

- Cornerstones Community Partnership from Santa Fe, New Mexico. Cornerstones works in partnership with communities to restore historic structures, preserve cultural landscape, encourage traditional building practices and conserve natural resources.

**Cornerstones Tasks:**

- To evaluate the existing conditions of the 13-roof supporting vigas at the Wall Kiva. Provide guidance on selection of log materials and proper curing.
- Technical assistance on replacement of roof supporting vigas, repair of vigas and/or splicing of new viga ends to match historic ones.
- Training of replaced vigas or splicing techniques as determined in the assessment.

The assessment on the conditions of the 13 viga tails was performed and completed on October 11, 2022.

**Twin Buttes Cyber Academy Wins 44th Annual 4 Corners Regional Science and Engineering Fair**

Twin Buttes Cyber Academy joined and competed among high schools in the 44th Annual 4 Corners Regional Science and Engineering Fair last March 9-11, 2023 in Grants, New Mexico.

TBCA sent 2 projects: Biodiesel as an Alternative Bio-fuel, which was defended by Ashley King and Kierstin Kaamasee, and Analysis of the Level of Arsenic in Zuni, New Mexico Waters using the HACH Testing Process.

**ZYEP and Partners Host Earth Week Activities**

In April the Zuni Youth Enrichment Project joined with the Zuni Environmental Protection Program, Zuni Department of Probation, Zuni Public School District, Zuni Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Zuni Solid Waste Program to offer a full schedule of “Earth Week” activities on April from 17-22.

A signature “Keep Zuni Beautiful” community event took place on Earth Day, Saturday, April 22.

During the week, Zuni students had opportunities to learn about a variety of topics with Earth Week partners.

**Zuni Animal Care Services: For Healthy and Happy Pets and Animals**

Dear Pueblo of Zuni,

Hello, Ya’at’eeh, it is finally spring! That also means that tick season will begin soon, if it has not already started. The best prevention are flea and tick products for your pets. Also, cleaning up around your house and clearing the brush will decrease ticks because they do live in those areas. If you do need a flea and tick product please call to make an appointment at the Earthship.

I have also been seeing more Parvo puppies in the past months. I am encouraging you to get your puppies and kittens vaccinated, even the older pets. The best prevention is vaccinations! When a puppy gets sick with parvo they need to get tested for the disease. Once a test is done the treatment for the disease can start. It takes a lot of time, care and money.

**From this issue forward the Messenger will turn the camera to Zuni’s Pets and Animals. Keep an eye out for familiar tails!**

**Above: the one and only Smino**

**PRESORTED STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT # 3 ZUNI, NM 87327**

**COVID HAS EASED...but not for the first time**

**MASK ON!**
fluids to help a pup get through parvo. Some puppies survive parvo and some puppies do not. It is usually a 50/50 percent chance that a puppy will survive even with treatment. This is why I am encouraging everyone you know who just recently got a puppy to get it vaccinated by 8 weeks of age. I have had some successful stories of puppies who survived parvo. I am sure some owners have been telling their successful stories of their pets with their family and friends.

Thank you to Everyone who brought their pets out in January 2023 for the 1st Spay and Neuter/Wellness event of the year, with Tulsa Humane. They successfully Spayed and Neutered 151 pets. They also vaccinated 160 pets. This was over a course of a three-day clinic with team of 10. Even though it was freezing, volunteers, our Animal Control and our Rangers were out helping me! Give them around of applause! I would also like to Thank Banfield, who were the main sponsors of the event. They were the ones who funded everything. They also bought Zuni Animal Care Services new exam tables, cabinets and more supplies. We will be expecting them to come out again in the future so keep a lookout for fliers and listen out on KSHI for dates!

I would also like to thank everyone who came out to Zuni Housing Authorities pet’s vaccination event. ZHA helped me put up a vaccination clinic at their community centers for their tenants. The events were held at the end of March, when we did three clinics. Six pets were vaccinated at lakeside community center. Twenty-one pets were vaccinated at Bluebird on a cold windy day. Twenty-nine pets were vaccinated at Blackrock Community Center.

In the past couple of months, I was able to get a donations of pet food for the Elderly’s pets. They were super excited; it filled my heart with joy to see them so excited over what they were receiving. A big thanks to Animal Control Officers Elroy Zunie and Ranger Corey Seowtewa, who helped take me to the locations to pick up the pet food. They also helped me load and unload pallets. We also had some volunteers help as well. Thanks to Rez Dawg and Animals United.

Canine Parvovirus

**KNOW THE SIGNS**

- **How it’s Spread:** Coming into contact with:
  - Other dogs
  - Environments
  - People
  - Feces
- **Symptoms:**
  - Vomiting
  - Fever
  - Diarrhea
  - Rapid weight loss
- **Prevention:**
  - Vaccinating your dog is the best way to help prevent canine parvovirus infection.
  - Puppies should not socialize with other dogs until they have completed their 3rd vaccination course.
  - Avoid public places where dogs are exercised.

**Most deaths from parvovirus occur within 48 to 72 hours following the onset of clinical signs**

**Your Guide to Preparing for Tick Season**

As the weather gets warmer, ticks become more active. These parasites can transmit many diseases through their bite, so it’s important to keep your pets safe with these helpful tips:

- **Regularly check your pet for ticks when they come inside from outdoors**
- **Ticks prefer to attach close to the head, neck, ears and feet but can be found anywhere on your pet’s body**
- **Regularly mow your lawn and remove tall weeds**
- **Watch out for tick brush or grass**

**Use flea-prevention products recommended by your veterinarian**

If you do find a tick on your pet, call your veterinarian. It is vital to take proper care when removing ticks to prevent transmitting infection to yourself or your pet.

**ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center**

For more information, please visit aspca.org/apcc
May is Mental Health Awareness Month

By Shumak’olo:wa Health Center

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. While mental health is important to address year-round, Mental Health Awareness Month provides a dedicated time for people, organizations, and communities to join their voices to share the message that mental health matters.

We all have mental health, just as we have physical health. Our mental health affects how we think, feel, and act every day. However, mental health is often ignored until something is going wrong. The best way to prevent that is to pay attention to our mental health even when we’re feeling ok or even good. We all have days when we feel better than others. And just like with our physical health, we can all do things that make us mentally healthier.

Mental health plays a big role in our overall well-being. When we’re mentally healthy, we can enjoy our life and the people in it, feel good about ourselves, keep up good relationships, and manage stress. It’s normal for our mental health to shift over time. Creating positive habits is a great way to support our mental health.

Let’s collectively promote these simple moments by taking time out of your busy day to come join in an evening of music provided by ALLSZN.

ALLSZN’s mission is to help refine the raw talents of indigenous people through art and music in order to help them find success as they define it, and on their own terms. This is their way of giving back and providing what they, themselves, could have benefitted from as young artists. As influential as music is, they seek to use their platform, knowledge, and influence to build up the artistic community and infrastructure to spark a movement and cultural shift throughout Native country and the world.

ALLSZN will perform twice at the Zuni High School Gymnasium on May 4, first from 1:00 to 3:40 for Twin Buttes Cyber Academy and Zuni School students and faculty only.

Per the flyer below, ALLZN will then perform free of charge to the Zuni Community, made possible by the Shumak’olo:wa Health Center. This live performance is open to all ages, and doors will open at 5:30 p.m.

Zuni Game and Fish Ranger Graduates from U.S. Indian Police Academy

The Zuni Game and Fish Department would like to announce the graduation of Tribal Ranger Keera Bobelu from the United States Indian Police Academy, located in the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Artesia, New Mexico, on Monday, April 10th, 2023.

Ranger Bobelu made history as the first female Ranger in Zuni that is Law Enforcement certified. Keera served as a Squad Leader throughout the 13 week Basic Training Program and completed her training with distinction. We are proud to have her with the Zuni Game and Fish Department and look forward to her leading the way for other women who are interested in a career serving the community and protecting the natural resources of the Zuni Tribe.

"The standards of the Zuni Game and Fish Department are highly expected and with determination and motivation to strive for the best. My achievement is a reflection of the amazing support team I have with this department. Being a female and becoming one of the first certified female Rangers for Zuni Pueblo comes with great honor and pride. To the women of Zuni and beyond, continue to be strong and strive to achieve your goals because anything is possible."

– Ranger Keera Bobelu
Earth Week continues from page 1

These included “Why Littering is Harmful” with ZEPP, “Where Does Our Trash Go?” with the Zuni Solid Waste Program, and a water conservation presentation with the ZYEP Food Sovereignty team. A fourth presentation about solar panels was planned in conjunction with Gallup Solar.

“We want to engage tribal programs and Zuni community members in activities that address environmental protection, sustainability, the responsible management of solid waste, and the conservation of resources,” said Enric Tsalate, ZYEP’s built environment and facilities coordinator, who coordinated Earth Week with ZEPP’s Kollin Homer. “In addition, students were able to participate in tribal and community cleanup events on April 21 and 22.”

In 2022, approximately 100 community members participated in the Pueblo of Zuni’s tribal cleanup event. They collected more than 2,000 pounds of trash in a collective effort to beautify Zuni and clean particular areas along the Zuni River.

The 2023 Pueblo of Zuni tribal cleanup began at 9 a.m. on Friday, April 21. Guest speakers welcomed tribal employees, who headed out to their designated cleanup sites at 9:30 a.m. The program provided lunch at noon.

“Although ZYEP is a separate nonprofit organization, we are doing our part on the 21st, caring for the neighborhood in our area,” said Tahlia Natachu, ZYEP’s executive director.

Finally, “Keep Zuni Beautiful” took place on Earth Day, Saturday, April 22. ZYEP coordinated and hosted this community-wide cleanup event, which began at 9 a.m. with registration at Ho’n A:wan Park.

After participants cleaned up their areas, ZYEP picked up all collected trash, and the event concluded with guest speakers and lunch provided by A:shiwi College and Career Center.

**Zuni Youth Enrichment Project Led March Backpacking Trip in the Grand Canyon**

Earlier this month, the Zuni Youth Enrichment Project had the opportunity to take eight youth participants on a backpacking trip in Grand Canyon National Park. ZYEP Youth Development Coordinator Kiara “Kiki” Zunie, Physical Activity Coordinator Josh Kudrna, and Cultural Advisor Keith Edaakie chaperoned the trip, which took place on Mar. 13-16. This opportunity was made possible by the support of 11th Hour Project, a program of the Schmidt Family Foundation.

ZYEP designed the four-day trip in such a way that participants could experience the Grand Canyon at different levels. The group camped at the top of the South Rim, hiked the 7-mile South Kaibab Trail to the bottom of the canyon, camped at the Bright Angel Campground on the Colorado River, hiked 5 miles up the Bright Angel Trail to the Havasupai Gardens Campground, and completed the trail’s final 5 miles on their last morning.

“The whole visit was brimming with wonderful small moments,” said Kudrna, who brought his medical training and expertise in outdoor recreation programming to the trip. “It was a really special experience and a pleasant group. We were supportive of each other and took the time to feel the spiritual weight of where we were.”

The first of those small moments happened on Monday, Mar. 13, before the group even set foot in the national park. After stopping in Flagstaff, Arizona, to purchase spikes for their hiking boots due to rumored snow and ice on the trails, they got caught in a 2-mile traffic jam of spring breakers waiting to enter the park.

“It ended up being a fun time of our group bonding in the van,” Kudrna remembered.

The ZYEP group caught their first glimpse of the canyon at the South Rim, where trip leaders pointed out the hiking trails and where future campsites were hiding in the deeper layers of the canyon. Then they set up their first campsite.

“Around the campfire that night, we discussed how we felt, coming to the canyon,” Kudrna said. “Many of us saw this as a healthy break from the stresses of daily life.”

On Tuesday morning, after a night of below-freezing temperatures, participants woke to see deer wandering through the campsite. After breakfast and organizing their backpacks, they dropped off their van at the park’s backcountry office and took a bus to the trailhead for the South Kaibab Trail. There, they met Mike Lyndon, tribal liaison for Grand Canyon National Park.

Lyndon spoke to the group about his role and how he connects with affiliated tribes, as well as his own connections with Zuni representatives. He and his daughter joined ZYEP on the trail to the bottom of the canyon, providing insights and different ways to access this sacred place.

“The South Kaibab Trail is a steep, 7-mile descent to the bottom of the canyon,” Kudrna said. “It’s a tough hike when carrying pack weight, so we took our time, stopped to rest as needed, and enjoyed the views.”

The air temperature increased dramatically as the group descended, encouraging them to shed warm jackets and hike in just shorts and T-shirts. They arrived at the Bright Angel Campground in the early evening, savoring the opportunity to soothe their aching legs in the freezing Colorado River.

During the evening, interpretive rangers stationed at the campground introduced themselves and invited the group to join a public discussion about the significance of the canyon.

“Once we finished dinner and cleaned up, we joined the other campers for the ranger talk,” Kudrna said. “Our group shared what ZYEP is, and Cultural Advisor Keith Edaakie and participant Brandon Laate talked about the relationship the Zuni people have with the canyon, as a tribe and on personal levels.”

On Wednesday, a light rain persisted throughout the day. Trip leaders gave the group space to be present that morning, so they could wander the area at their leisure and explore their own thoughts and connections. At mid-day, they packed up and began a wet, uphill climb along the Bright Angel Trail.

“The trail ran parallel to the Colorado River for a little over a mile,” Kudrna said. “We took the time to go down to the river and provide offerings to the ancestors.”

“It was 5 miles to our final campsite at Havasupai Gardens,” he continued. “The group was far more chatty during this hike. They were comfortable with each other, and the hike was filled with great personal conversations.”

Grand Canyon continues next page
That social environment endured in camp, where the group shared personal stories and laughter. After dinner, they expressed thanks for the many things each person had done to uplift the group.

On Thursday, participants woke early, packed, and ate breakfast quickly with the goal of reaching the van by early afternoon. The final, steep hike up the Bright Angel Trail covered an additional 5 miles. It was slow going, but it provided additional opportunities to connect with Lyndon.

"Mike talked about the park and about Zuni, since he knew many of our participants’ family members through his previous work with the tribe," Kudrna said. "He also talked with them about how they could continue to use the park as a resource.

"Eventually, we all made it out of the canyon," he added. "We celebrated, because together, we pushed through such a physically demanding and special environment."

On the way home, after dealing with an unexpected flat tire, Kiki Zunie led a group discussion about trip experiences and takeaways. Kudrna noted that many participants talked about the trip’s impact on their sense of self, their feelings of responsibility for sharing the Zuni culture with younger generations, and their new understanding of how capable they really are.

"Ultimately, there was a theme of gratitude, as well as excitement to share their experiences once they were back home," he said. "Kiki and I felt that our biggest highlights were when we got caught in the long traffic jam, and we connected with other park visitors stuck around us; when people supported each other during the challenging hikes; and when group members opened up about their artwork, lives and ambitions.

"The fact that many people spoke about how they wanted to bring others to the canyon, or hike to the bottom again on their own, tells us that we successfully created a space that felt supportive, comfortable and empowering," he reflected.

ZYEP is dedicated to providing its Zuni youth with access to sacred spaces. Kudrna said he looked forward to continuing the youth project’s relationship with Lyndon — and finding new opportunities to bring Zuni tribal members to the park in different capacities, and on their own terms.
ZYEP Art Apprentices Show and Sell Original Work at March Art Showcase

With support from Ancestral Rich Treasures of Zuni (ARTZ) and Administration for Native Americans (ANA), art students from the Zuni Youth Enrichment Project’s Emerging Artist Apprenticeship Program had the opportunity to show their original work on Friday, March 10. Eighteen apprentices ages 12 to 21 participated in the showcase at the ARTZ Cooperative in the Pueblo of Zuni, and collectively, they sold more than $2,000 worth of art.

Subject matter ranged from pop culture and cartoons to Zuni culture and history. Many of the older youth also infused their work with more in-depth self-expression, revealing how they felt at the time or sharing the stories of significant life events.

“The subject matter was so broad, it made the art show really unique,” said Elroy Natachu Jr., ZYEP’s art coordinator. “It encompassed so many different areas, and it hit community members in different ways.

“The apprentices were scared at first, but when the community arrived, they became salespeople,” he added. “The paintings sold like hotcakes! By the end of the night, they were exhausted but had a great sense of accomplishment. Not only did they catch a glimpse of what it’s really like to be a show artist, $2,000 in one night is incredible.”

The art showcase concluded the apprentices’ two-dimensional art program at ZYEP, which began in January. With a wide range of experience among the art students, instructors Dennis Dewa Jr. and Mallory Quetawki carefully assessed each young person’s skill level so they could build individual lesson plans.

“ZYEP is honored that amazing Zuni artisans like Dewa, Quetawki and our past instructors are always willing to teach these apprenticeships in order to pass on the tradition of Zuni art to our youth,” Natachu said.

“The apprenticeship program has given us, as artists, opportunities to contribute to so many moving parts of our community,” Quetawki said. “In our generation and the generations before, our only opportunities for art mentorship involved joining the craft of our parents and family for its economical purposes — and whatever we could absorb from the school systems here in Zuni. We grew as individual artists from there.

“This opportunity given to us by ZYEP allows us to teach the young artists to grow with one another as a community of artists,” she continued. “(It’s) a way to embrace everyone’s art, and to find your pathway in the journey of becoming a professional artist or of making art for personal growth and self-care.”

Quetawki also noted that the Emerging Artist Apprenticeship supports cultural and language preservation, as the young artists are learning to express themselves with Zuni cultural teachings.

“This was an opportunity to show the younger artists that we are open to sharing our ways, as our ways are part of the Zuni Way,” she said. “It is important to continue passing down this knowledge.”

During this six-week winter session, the Emerging Art Apprentices learned about grayscale, value systems, shadowing, use of light, perspective and composition. They also delved into color theory and texture, and they learned to blend their own colors.

“We did exercises that encouraged the artists to think about colors and how they interact,” Natachu said. “They explored paint thickness and different brushes as they expanded their skill set. They worked with mixed media as well, exploring different textures and how those would affect the paint.”

As they created their work, the art students also learned to navigate the critique process. Natachu noted the importance of handling this appropriately. “We create a safe space at ZYEP,” he explained. “The students learn how to critique each other’s painting constructively, how to make their work better, and how to handle all of this in a healthy way.”

The Emerging Artist Apprenticeship Program is about more than the art, however. A critical component of the program involves career readiness, with lessons that include customer service, budgeting and pricing.

“If they want to become a show artist down the road, it hits them,” Natachu said. “They need to buy their own art supplies, they need to pay for hotels and gas to attend shows, and they need to have packaging materials for their artwork. It doesn’t matter if they want to do this as a hobby or as a job. They need to turn a profit, and these lessons help prepare them for the future.”

A key partner in the Emerging Artist Apprenticeship Program is First Financial Credit Union, which hosts a “spending frenzy” event for the art students. During this simulation of real-life financial responsibility, each student is given a fixed amount of funds and must take care of adult expenses like housing, car payments, fuel and meals.

They also receive random cards that represent major life events, and they receive additional funds or have to spend money depending on those events. As they navigate the exercises, they are learning to write and cash checks, balance a checkbook, live within their means, and plan for the future.

“They loved the process, but they were shocked to see what their spending habits looked like,” Natachu said with a chuckle. “They would say, ‘We really need to learn to budget our funds better!’ It shocked them up, which is necessary so they can start to think long-term.

“The best part was that they were able to invite their family members to do this with them,” he added. “That was a fun way to create multigenerational interaction. It really helps when youth can learn with their families.”

“The business side of art has never been taught to us,” Quetawki said. “We had to dive in head-first, without guidance. We want doors to be open for our future artists so we will have a community cultural record keepers, visual storytellers and successful artists in the great art markets of the world. Encouragement and support go a long way, and they definitely make your path as an artist much easier.”

Throughout the apprenticeship, instructors shared their own personal experiences as working artists, and reassured the young artists that they would have plenty of support if they chose to pursue a career in the arts.

“We want them to feel empowered,” Natachu said. “They have tools, access and support through ZYEP, ARTZ and the tribe. This is a journey, and we are giving them the building blocks they need.”

As the ZYEP team gears up for the second cohort of the 2023 Emerging Art Apprenticeship Program, they are working closely with the top three students from the two-dimensional art apprenticeship — Braydon Othole, Cody Cachini and Nicholas Koruh-Ukestine — to prepare them for 6th annual Bernalillo Indian Arts Festival in Bernalillo, New Mexico, on May 6-7.
Zuni Youth and Families report a Variety of Positive Outcomes from the 2022-23 Delapna:we Project

In recent surveys, Zuni families and youth reported a variety of positive outcomes in the wake of Ho’n A:wan Productions’ 5th annual Delapna:we Project. Made possible with support from the U.S. Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and countless individual donors, this innovative project brings the Zuni people’s traditional oral stories to life through the performing arts.

A collaboration between the Zuni Youth Enrichment Project, A:shiwi A:wan Museum and Heritage Center, Edaakie Arts, ShiwiSun Productions, Zuni Public Library, KSHI Radio and other Zuni community members, the 2022-23 Delapna:we Project began with theater camp in December and concluded with a film premiere on February 3, a time frame that adheres to Zuni cultural protocols for the winter storytelling season.

“In their surveys, 75 percent of parents and guardians said their children spoke more Zuni at home during the project, and 83.3 percent said their children connected with positive role models while they were with us,” said Tahlia Natachu, ZYEP’s executive director. “One hundred percent said their children had fun and were positively impacted by the project.”

The youth agreed with that assessment. In their surveys, more than 90 percent said they feel hopeful about their future, have positive role models in their lives, and believe that speaking the Zuni language is important. In addition, 100 percent said that traditional Zuni stories are important to them.

Each Delapna:we Project incorporates cultural education and performing-arts activities. Participants also learn the basics of the traditional oral stories that historically served as the primary sources of entertainment, history sharing, intergenerational bonding, and cultural education for the Zuni community.

During this year’s project, 27 youth, adults and elders enjoyed team-building exercises, built positive intergenerational relationships, and connected with traditional oral stories that the Doris Duke Foundation recorded in the 1960s.

“We split the participants into groups and had them choose storyboarding, puppets, creative writing or film,” Natachu said. “Each group took the story of Shumak’olo:wa (dragonfly) and used their chosen art form to tell or retell the story, keeping in mind our goal to make the content relatable for people so we can prioritize our families, culture and language.”

The puppet group staged a live puppet show in the Zuni language for families of the participants, with the rest of the community able to watch via Facebook. The creative writing group listened to the original Delapnanne (plural of Delapna:we) and created their own stories based on the originals. “They recorded the stories, which were first told in Zuni and then in English,” Natachu said. “KSHI, our local radio station, featured a new story every Wednesday for five weeks.”

The storyboarding group listened to the delapnanne and then drew images for visual storytelling. These were compiled into a coloring book that participants could take home and community members could download.

The film group worked together to bring to life a script written by Keith Edaakie, the Delapna:we Project’s lead-er and director. Edaakie’s script merged the traditional story with the contemporary world, showing a modern Zuni family and how they incorporated the values from Shumak’olo:wa in their lives. The film also included clips from the other activities, so everyone in the Delapna:we Project had a part.

The community was able to view the film through a special YouTube premiere event. At the Zuni Public Library’s new location, participants and their family members watched the film in person while snacking on popcorn and traditional alekwi:we (parched corn).

“Youth, families and elders were very proud, and each year, we’ve seen anticipation and support continue to build in our community for the Delapna:we Project,” Natachu said. “We had the most volunteer involvement this year, with volunteers representing so many vital parts of our community. We want to give a special thanks to Odell Jaramillo for sharing her talents, resources, and love for Zuni youth and culture. Thank you, also, to Shelly Morningsong and Fabian Fontenelle for their musical contributions to the project. And, we’re deeply grateful to SAMHSA, as well as to everyone who contributed to the Delapna:we fundraising campaign. We couldn’t have done this without you.”
Twin Buttes Science and CTE Teacher Wins National Award

The National Science Teaching Association (NSTA), was founded in 1944 with the main headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. It is the largest Science educator’s organization in the United States of America with 40,000+ members coming from different sectors of the government.

NSTA is one of the best sources of teaching materials, such as lesson plans, books, newspapers, journals, online training, and workshops. NSTA annually conducts an international science conference that attracts 30,000+ participants.

Twin Buttes Science and CTE Teacher Wins National Award

The team won a number of awards, including:

- Award of Excellence for a Water–Related Science Research Project
- 2nd place for Environmental Senior Division
- Geoscience Excellence Award
- Outstanding Research Project from friends of Science Fair
- Outstanding Research Project from New Mexico Gas
- Outstanding Research project from Knights of Columbus
- Qualified entry for State Science and Engineering Fair 2023 that will be held at New Mexico Tech April 14-15, 2023.

One came from Twin Buttes Cyber Academy. One came from the Zuni Public School District, and the only one from New Mexico, in the person of Mr. Roy Basa. The conference was held in March in Atlanta, Georgia and the formal awarding ceremony was held at the Center of Civil Rights Museum.

Mr. Basa teaches Environmental Science, Biology, Physical Science, Clean Energy Strategies, Human Body Systems, Technology, Engineering, and Astronomy at Twin Buttes Cyber Academy. He is also in charge of one after-school program named Go Science: Learn, Appreciate, and Apply, where parents and students collaborate on some of the activities. He also sits as co-advisor of Health Occupation Students of America, where he let his students do small internships by simulating the work and responsibilities of any health practitioner. He also brings his students to actual training and workshops with some of the medical doctors and nurses of Indian Hospital Services (IHS) like Basic Radiology, Emergency Response, Food Handling, Nutrition, and Dietetics. All his students in Health Career Occupation Exploration are certified by the American Heart Association in CPR and Basic Life Support, and all are food handlers certified by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Division of Environmental Health Services, Indian Health Services, Environmental Health Services, Navajo, New Mexico.

Mr. Basa's students joined, competed, and won the 2022 New Mexico Governor STEM Challenge with their project: Fatty Acid Methyl Esters from Selected Regional and Native Plant Seeds of New Mexico as an Alternative Biofuel. Recently, his team of student researchers also won a bunch of awards in the 4 Corners Science and Engineering Fair 2023, held at Grants in February.

His students will join the Health Occupation Student of America Competitions and Conference at North Pyramid, Albuquerque, on April 13-15. Twin Buttes will be sending 3 entries for health career photography, 2 entries for health career display, and 1 entry for health research. Some of his students will level up to the State Science and Engineering Fair on April 14–15 at New Mexico Tech in Socorro.

Mr. Basa is so thankful to all his students, colleagues, the principal, and to all Zuni Public School District stakeholders for the opportunity and support.

Most youth who do not drink alcohol are proud to be Zuni!

As caregivers, let's encourage our youth to maintain the connection to our culture by staying free from alcohol.

Without culture:
We lose our language
We lose our traditions
We lose our way of life
We lose our identity

Data Source: 2021 Youth Annual Strengths-Based Survey
Photo courtesy of Abihaai Aowam Museum and Heritage Center

2023 Summer Youth Applications NOW AVAILABLE!!

Calling Youth between the ages of 14-24...

Individual must reside within the Zuni Service delivery area (Zuni Indian Reservation); with the exception of college students.

Do you need some extra cash to put in your pockets this summer?! Would you like to gain work experience to include on future job applications and/or resume?

WE GOT YOU!!

Pick up an application at our ZECDC Office or scan QR Code

DEADLINE to submit application is MAY 10, 2023

01 TWIN BUTTES ROAD ~ PO BOX 339
ZUNI, NM 87327
505.782.5998/5909