



JORDAN
Native
American
Program

Tribal Consultation with the
Confederated Tribes of Goshutes

April 23, 2026

O u r T e a m

- Lori Packer - Elementary School Student Mentor
- Chris Upshaw - Middle School Student Mentor
- Steve Hawkins - State Coordinator & High School Student Mentor
- Malinda Jensen - Administrative Assistant
- Dr. Ami Shah - Program Administrator



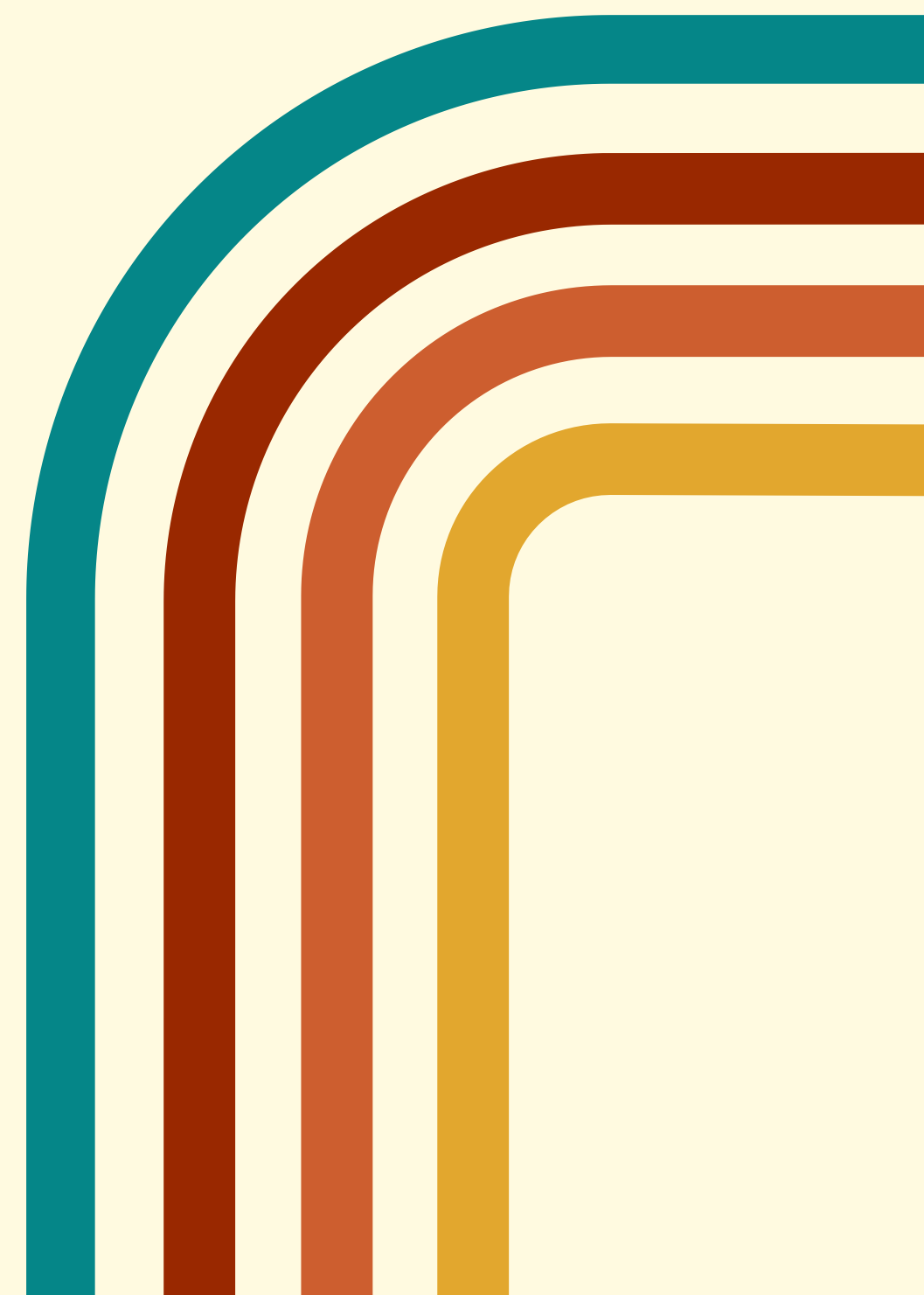
Mission Statement and Vision:

Mission

To provide a holistic and culturally responsive educational experience that celebrates the rich diversity of Native American students and their communities.

Vision

To empower Native students to thrive, preserve their heritage, and emerge as the next generation of Indigenous leaders and change-makers.



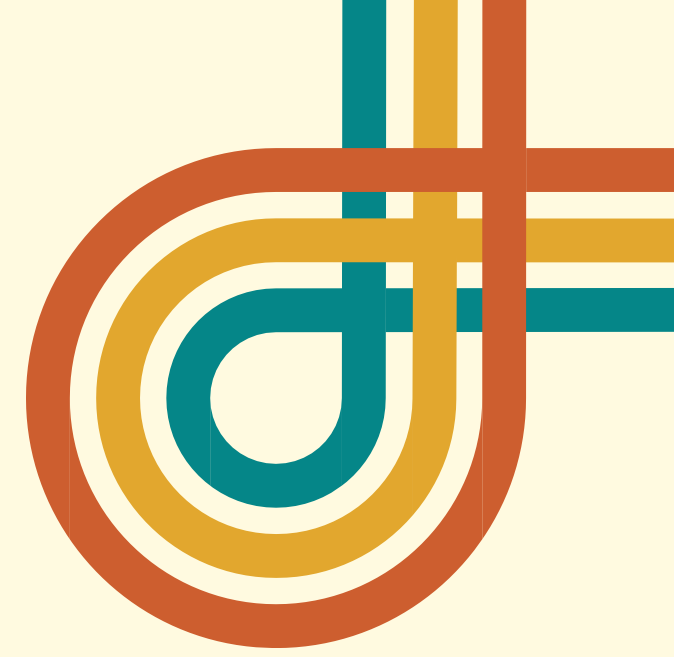
What does our
program look like
currently?



Number of Native American Students in Jordan District

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Total students registered as Native	509	483	869	833	849	852	834
Certified	150	194	319	354	319	329	350
Pending	-	68	157	137	112	90	67
Unable	-	22	152	125	98	88	66
Refused	17	25	37	27	22	22	16





G o s h u t e S t u d e n t s i n o u r D i s t r i c t - u p d a t e

- Kindergarten-Antelope Canyon
- 1st Grade- Silver Crest Elementary
- 5th Grade - Columbia Elementary
- 8th Grade - South Jordan Middle
- 10th Grade -Bingham High

Budget Breakdown

Budget Category	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
Personnel	\$19,359	\$32,265	\$40,000	\$53,900	\$55,393	\$59,457
Travel/ Conferences	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$1,600	\$9,000	\$9,375	\$6,586
Supplies	\$5,500	\$2,000	\$23,631	\$14,634	\$8,200	\$9,688.11
Professional Development	NA	NA	\$5,741	\$500	\$500	\$1,000
Indirect Costs	\$858	\$863	\$1,437	\$1,826	\$1,437	\$1,541.89
Total	\$30,717	\$38,728	\$72,409	\$79,860	\$74,905	\$78,253

Graduation Rates

2026

- Total Self-Identified
 - 38 Seniors
- Total Students Certified
 - 28 Seniors
 - 28 Graduated
 - 100% Graduation Rate (anticipated)

2025

- Total Self-Identified
 - 52 Seniors
 - 50 Graduated
- Total Students Certified
 - 35 Seniors
 - 35 Graduated
 - 100% Graduation Rate

2024

- Total Self Identified
 - 52 Seniors
 - 50 Graduated
- Total Students Certified
 - 25 Seniors
 - 24 Graduated
 - 96% Graduation Rate

2023

- Total Self Identified
 - 54 Seniors
 - 49 Graduated
- Total Students Certified
 - 25 Seniors
 - 22 Graduated
 - 88% Graduation Rate



What have we
done?

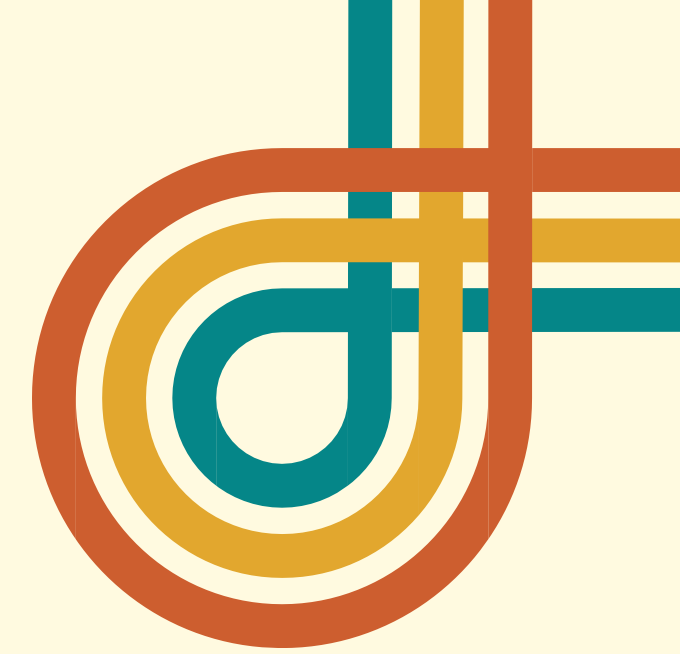


Goals 2025 - 2026

- Culturally responsive academic support
- Student mentoring
- Cultural awareness presentations
- Student-driven advocacy and leadership (clubs)
- Active student recruitment
- Student connection (field trips)
- Life After High School - Scholarships, JATC, college tours
- Building Community: Social Media, Newsletter



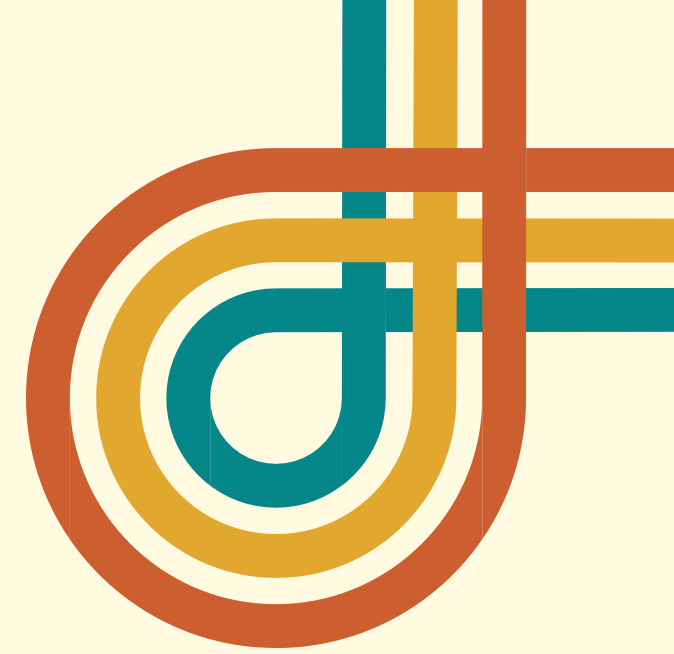
Culturally Responsive Academic Support



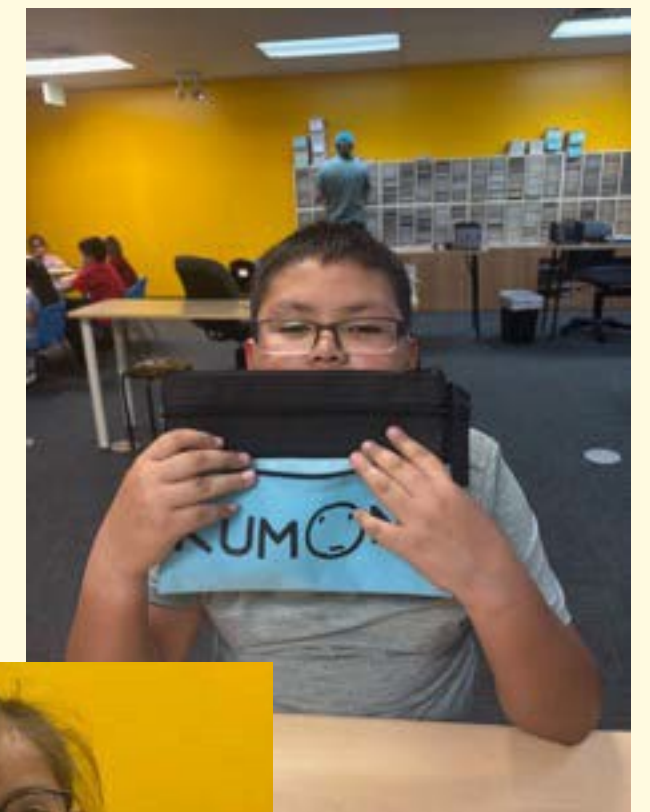
- Books given to elementary students featuring Native American culture
- Kumon tutoring made available to families
- Books by Native American authors given to secondary students
- Writing workshop
- Navajo Language and Government classes in conjunction with Granite School District (Dr. Clayton Long)
- Duolingo Subscriptions



Culturally Responsive Academic Support

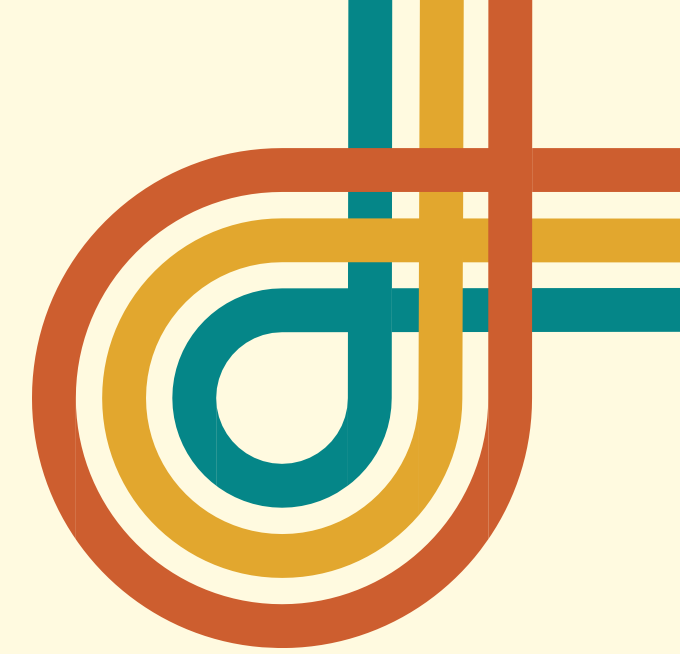


- Kumon Tutoring
 - Three students are actively enrolled in Kumon
 - Past performance: students improved at least 1 grade level



Books Report

300+ books purchased to be distributed for all grades



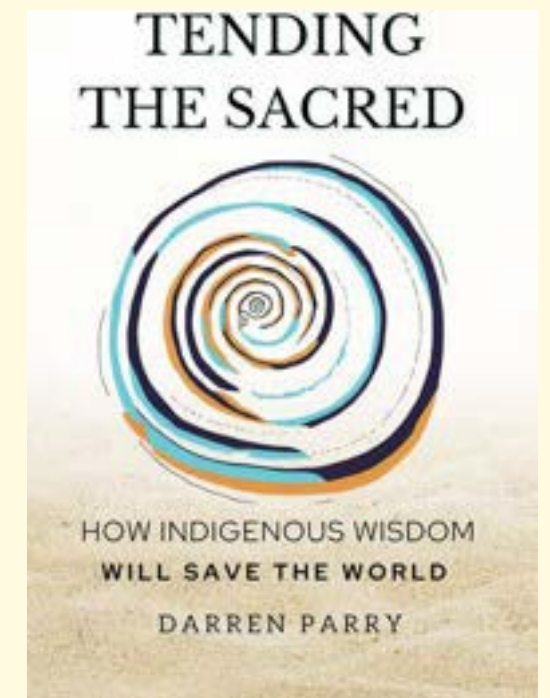
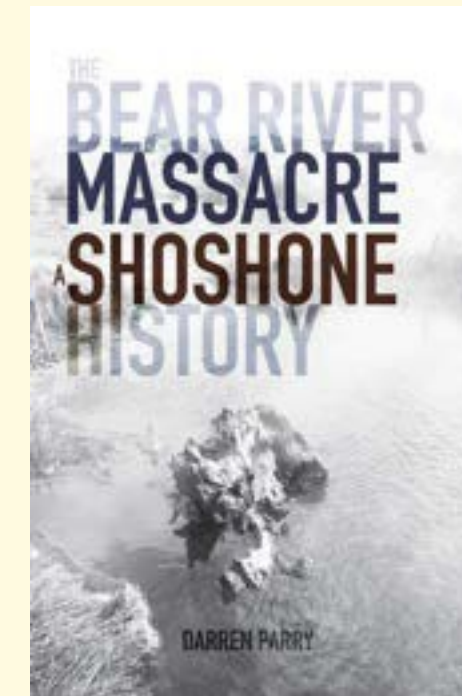
W r i t e r s W o r k s h o p

f e a t u r i n g D r . D a r r e n P a r r y

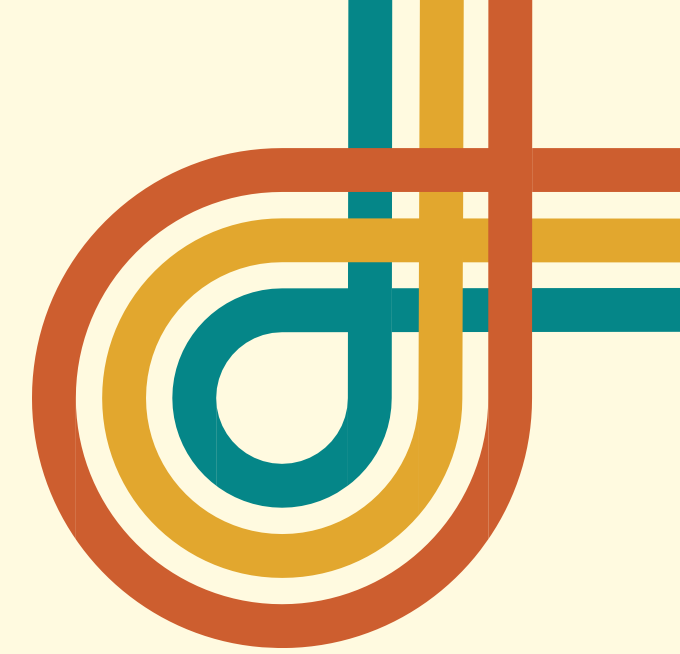
M o u n t a i n R i d g e H i g h S c h o o l



- Native student requested mentorship from author
- More than 40 people slated to attend workshop at Mountain Ridge literature class on March 17



Culturally Responsive School Presentations



- Presented at elementary, middle, and high schools across the district
- Discuss awareness, culture, and respect



Native
American
Mentors

Just for
you.



**Tracie
Yellowman Tso**
Pipe Welder



Cal Crosby
CEO
King's English and
Brain Food Books



Aaron Smith
Physician



Continued Professional Development for JNAP Team

- USU Tribal Exhibit from Intermountain Intertribal Indian School - Repainting the 'I'
- NIEA, Spokane, WA
- Research Methods Workshop, U of U
- Utah Conference on Traditional Tobacco by Ute Tribe
- Monthly PDs with Dusty Jensen, UVU



Continued Professional Development





Culturally Responsive Student Mentoring

- Mentors on three levels:
 - High school
 - Middle school
 - Elementary school
- Frequent check-ins between students and mentors
 - More than 600 visits per year



Roots & Wings Scholarship and Mentor Night

- We invited all 8-12th graders and their parents/guardians
- Ashley Heaton presented about colleges and scholarship opportunities specifically for Native Americans
- College representatives on hand
- 16 Mentors presented

Roots & Wings Scholarship and Mentor Night



Roots & Wings Mentors

1

Career Mentors

2

Aimie Rizzuto
Assistant Principal

TRIAL POSITION:
Lakes Area Biological Park, assistant principal

Current Field:
Education

Education:
Bachelor's degree from University of Minnesota and M.Ed. in Education from the University of Minnesota. M.S. in Education from the University of Minnesota. M.Ed. in Education from the University of Minnesota.

Contact:
612-330-4346
arizzuto@lakesarea.org

3

Tracie Yellowman Tso
Pipe Welder

TRIAL POSITION:
Steel Erector

Current Field:
Steel Erector / Pipe Welder

Education:
22 years of working experience in steel erecting and pipe welding. High school diploma, and other technical training in steel erecting and pipe welding. Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Minnesota. Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Minnesota.

Contact:
802-770-8112
tracieyellowmantso@gmail.com

4

Therill Tso
Journeyman Iron Worker

TRIAL POSITION:
Iron Worker

Current Field:
Iron Worker / Steel Erector

Education:
Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Minnesota. Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Minnesota.

Contact:
802-770-8112
therilltso2013@yahoo.com

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Aaron Smith
Physician

TRIAL POSITION:
Physician

Current Field:
Health Care

Education:
Bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Minnesota. Bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Minnesota. M.D. from the University of Minnesota.

Contact:
aaron.smith@med.umn.edu

6

Phillip Smith
Retired Chief Medical Officer and Physician

TRIAL POSITION:
Physician

Current Field:
Health Care

Education:
Bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Minnesota. Bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Minnesota. M.D. from the University of Minnesota.

Contact:
802-770-8112
phsmith@med.umn.edu

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Eric Gilbert
Regional Manager - North America, Ceriprot

TRIAL POSITION:
Manager

Current Field:
Business / IT Project Management, Accounting, Multi-Media, Creative Design

Education:
Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Minnesota. Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Minnesota.

Contact:
802-770-8112
eric.gilbert@ceriprot.com

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Codee Flores
Teacher

TRIAL POSITION:
Elementary School Teacher (K-5)

Current Field:
Education / Special Education (K-5)

Education:
Bachelor's degree in Education from the University of Minnesota. Bachelor's degree in Education from the University of Minnesota.

Contact:
802-770-8112
codeeflores@ednet.org

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Cal Crosby
Chief Bookseller / Chief Executive Director

TRIAL POSITION:
Executive

Current Field:
Entrepreneur / Business Owner / Thought Leader

Education:
Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Minnesota. Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Minnesota.

Contact:
802-770-8112
cal@calcrosby.com

10

Madison Hansen
Owner - Holladay Cleaning Pro LLC

TRIAL POSITION:
Owner

Current Field:
Entrepreneur / Professional Photographer

Education:
Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Minnesota. Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Minnesota.

Contact:
hansenm@holladaycleaning.com

11

Paul Tsosie
Lawyer

TRIAL POSITION:
Lawyer

Current Field:
Legal

Education:
Bachelor's degree in Law from the University of Minnesota. Bachelor's degree in Law from the University of Minnesota.

Contact:
802-770-8112
paul@tsosielaw.com

12

Karissa Valenzuela Nelson
Communications Coordinator

TRIAL POSITION:
Coordinator

Current Field:
Marketing, Communications

Education:
Bachelor's degree in Communications from the University of Minnesota. Bachelor's degree in Communications from the University of Minnesota.

Contact:
802-770-8112
karissa@valenzuelanelson.com

13

Victoria Meza
Therapist

TRIAL POSITION:
Therapist

Current Field:
Behavioral Health / Social Work

Education:
Bachelor's degree in Social Work from the University of Minnesota. Bachelor's degree in Social Work from the University of Minnesota.

Contact:
802-770-8112
vmeza@meza.com

14

Emmalani Longenecker
Sr. Advisor, Tribal Engagement

TRIAL POSITION:
Advisor

Current Field:
Management / Tribal Engagement / Social Work

Education:
Bachelor's degree in Social Work from the University of Minnesota. Bachelor's degree in Social Work from the University of Minnesota.

Contact:
802-770-8112
emmalani@longenecker.com

15

Penelope Laura Pinnecoose
Family & Community Services Department Manager

TRIAL POSITION:
Manager

Current Field:
Social Work / Community Services

Education:
Bachelor's degree in Social Work from the University of Minnesota. Bachelor's degree in Social Work from the University of Minnesota.

Contact:
802-770-8112
penelope@pinnecoose.com

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Rhythm of the Ancestors

– Indigenous Drum Making Workshop



Elementary Field Trips



- Hogle Zoo
- Jordan Innovation Lab
- Hutchings Museum in Lehi



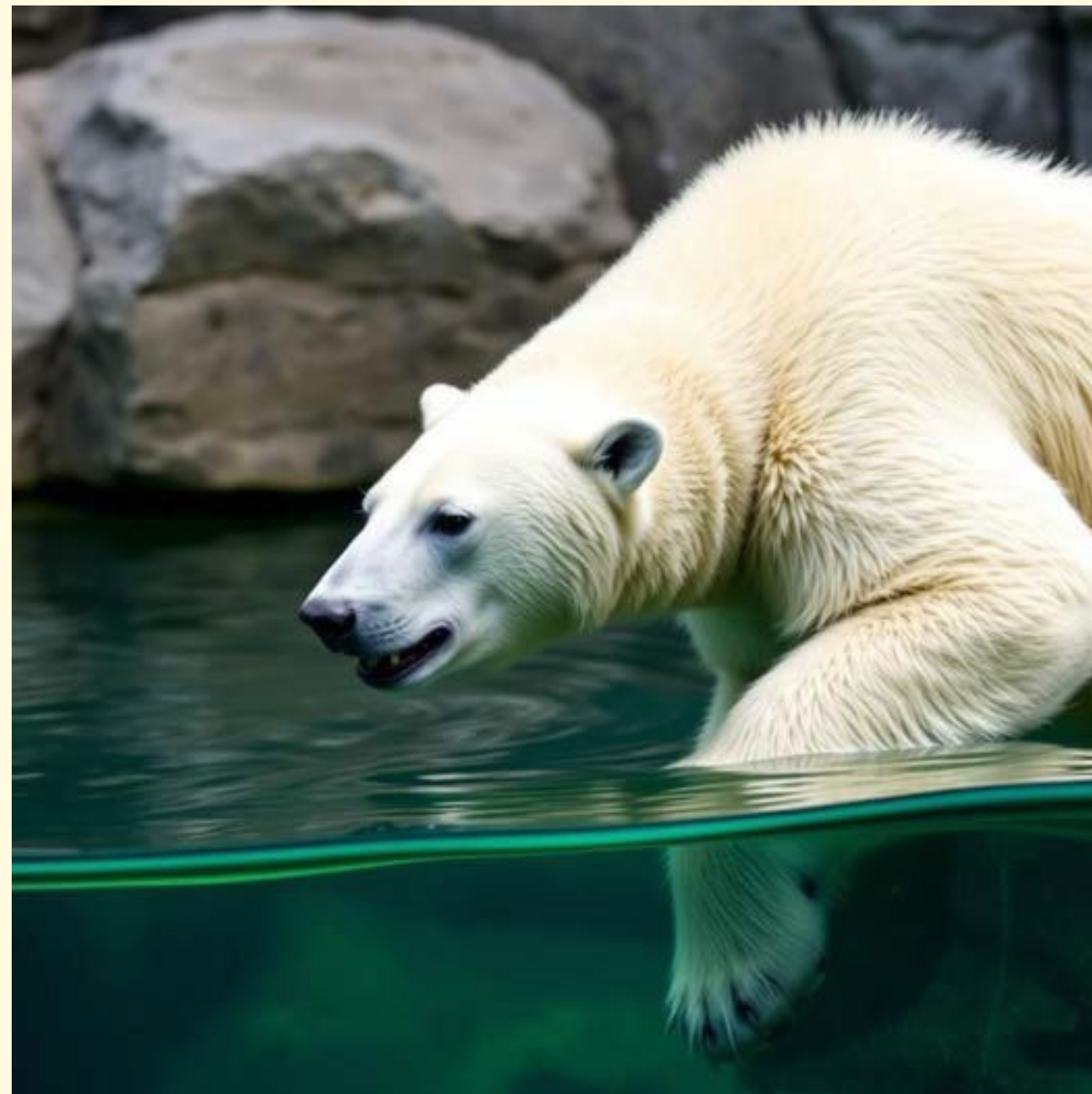
Middle School Field Trips

Utah Natural History Museum



Middle School Field Trips

Upcoming: Hogle Zoo



High School Field Trip

She-Tech and Aquarium



Arianna Knighton was one of several Native students attending in February of 2026. High school students from across the district visited the aquarium in fall of 2025.

Prep for Life After High School

In April and May we will be taking high school students to colleges/tech campuses to generate interest in preparing for life after high school



Life After High School - Emphasis on JATC

We are using social media and mentor visits to encourage students to take classes at the JATC. Benefits:

- Can graduate high school with career certifications
- Test drive careers to see if they are really a good fit
- Close to 100% graduation rate



Life After High School

- Emphasis on Scholarships

Informing all students of tuition benefits:

- Most Utah public colleges offer free tuition to registered members of 8 Utah tribes
- Federal, tribal scholarships available
- FAFSA and other grants

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible to receive the Native Student Scholarship, students must meet all of the following criteria:

1. Must be an admitted University of Utah student.
2. Must be a Utah resident or a non-resident student who qualifies for resident tuition.
3. Must be enrolled full-time (12+ credits) in a degree seeking program.
4. Must be an enrolled member* of one of the federally recognized Utah Tribes and eligible for tribal tuition.
 1. Confederated Tribes of the Shoshone Reservation
 2. Navajo Nation (Diné)
 3. Northwestern Band of Shoshone Nation of Utah (Pishoshone)
 4. Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah (Cedar City Band of Paiutes, Kanosh Band of Paiutes, Kovekaham Band of Paiutes, Indian Paiute Band of Paiutes, and Shoshone Band of Paiutes)
 5. San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe
 6. Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians of Utah
 7. Ute Indian Tribe of Uintah & Ouray Reservation
 8. Ute Mountain Tribe of the Ute Mountain Reservation
 9. Hopi
 10. Zuni
 11. Shoshone-Bannock
5. Must have a current completed FAFSA** on file at the University of Utah by the first day of classes each semester receiving the scholarship. (Students must file the FAFSA once a year and an assessment using the FAFSA by no later than February 1 each year)
6. This scholarship is renewable up to 8 semesters/terms, in order to receive, students must continue to make satisfactory academic progress toward degree completion.

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

The Native American Student (NAS) Scholarship is awarded to Native American students who are a member of one of the federally recognized tribes in and around Utah and who have applied for scholarships or financial aid with their tribe.

- \$3,000 minimum cumulative GPA
- 12 credit enrollment minimum
- Must be a Utah resident or non-resident who qualifies for resident tuition rates
- Working towards first bachelor's degree
- Cannot have received more than 8 semesters of scholarships at UVU
- Must complete a FAFSA each year

STAR VALLEY UVU UNIVERSITY

Eligibility Requirements

1. Must be an admitted Salt Lake Community College or Salt Lake Technical College student.

2. Must be enrolled in at least one course per semester on a degree, non-degree or certificate seeking student.

3. Must be a Utah resident or a non-resident student who qualifies for resident tuition. A student who is not a Utah resident, nor a member of one of the listed tribes below shall be granted to receive tuition rates upon submission of proof of enrollment in any federally recognized tribe. (upon qualifying for Utah residency, the student qualifies for the full amount as described).

4. Student must submit proof of enrollment in a federally recognized tribe whose resources fall within or adjacent to the state of Utah. (see list in #7).

5. Student must submit a "Confidence Degree of Indian Blood" that demonstrates connection to a parent and/or grandparent enrolled in a federally recognized tribe whose boundaries fall within or adjacent to the state of Utah (see list in #7).

6. Student must submit proof of their residency (living in Utah continuously for one year or graduating from a Utah high school) in addition to proof of tribal enrollment in any of the 17th federally recognized tribes. (see list in #7).

7. Qualifying federally recognized tribal nations with boundaries in or adjacent to the state of Utah include:

- Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation
- Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation
- Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah & Ouray Reservation
- Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians of Utah
- Navajo Nation
- Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah (Cedar City Band of Paiutes, Kanosh Band of Paiutes, Kovekaham Band of Paiutes, Indian Paiute Band of Paiutes, and Shoshone Band of Paiutes)
- San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe
- Kootenai Band of Paiute Indians of the Kootenai Indian Reservation
- San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe
- Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
- Hopi Tribe of Arizona
- Zuni Tribe of the Zuni Reservation
- Shoshone-Bannock Tribe of the Fort Hall Reservation

Eligibility Criteria

To qualify, a student must meet all of the following requirements:

- Must be an admitted student at Utah State University who qualifies for resident tuition.
- Must be a Utah resident or a non-resident student who qualifies for resident tuition.
- Must submit a FAFSA
- Must be enrolled full-time (12+ credits) in a first-time Technical Education Certificate program, Associate, or for Bachelor's program.

Must be member of one of the federally recognized tribes in and around Utah:

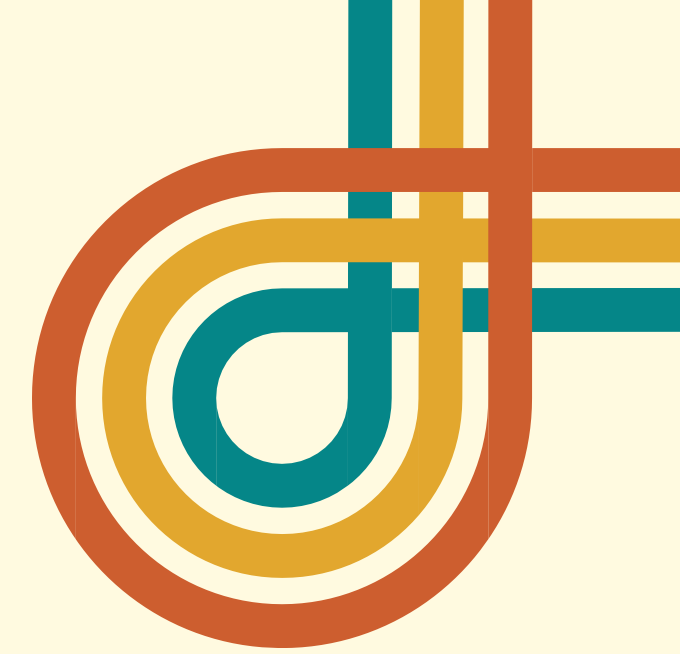
- Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation
- Navajo Nation (Diné)
- Northwestern Band of Shoshone Nation of Utah (Pishoshone)
- Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah (Cedar City Band of Paiutes, Kanosh Band of Paiutes, Kovekaham Band of Paiutes, and Shoshone Band of Paiutes)
- San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe
- Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians of Utah
- Ute Indian Tribe of Uintah & Ouray Reservation
- Ute Mountain Tribe of the Ute Mountain Reservation
- Hopi
- Zuni
- Shoshone-Bannock

STATE

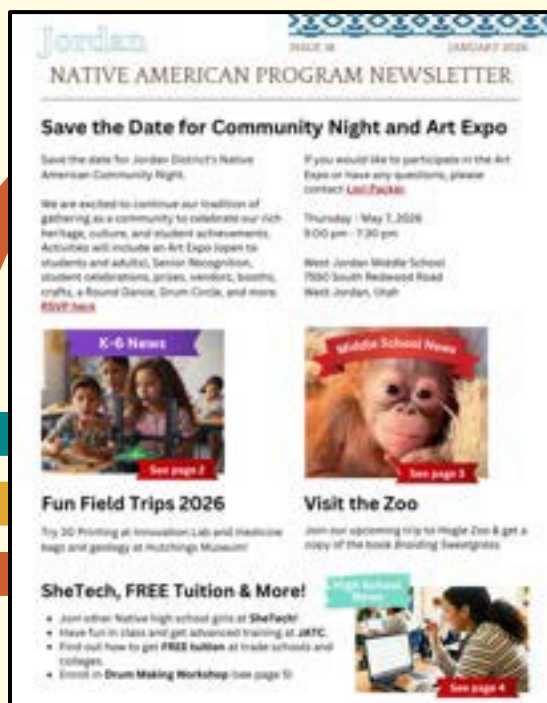
Career - Centered Student Advocacy and Leadership

- Native American affinity group established at West Jordan High School
- Development stages at Copper Hills, Bingham, Riverton high schools

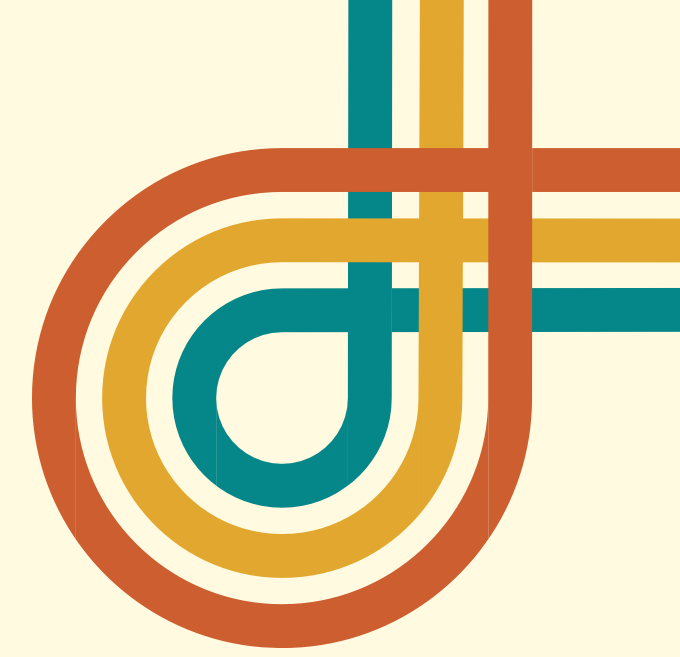
Community Involvement and Outreach



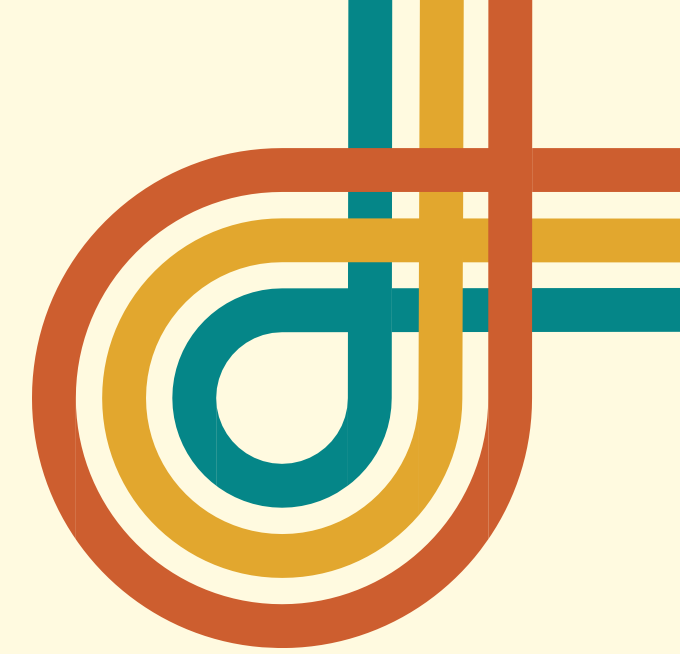
- Native American Community Night
- Newsletters, Parent Square
- Parent Committee Meetings



Community Involvement and Outreach



Building Community Through Social Media



I'm Djay Jones. I'm a proud Native American and a senior at West Jordan High School.

This video is from a post. [View post](#)

Native American Education Program- Jordan District
Published by Steve Hawkins · March 6 at 10:58 AM · 🌐

Edit

You and 13 others · 2 🗨️ 4 👍 515 👁️

Like Comment Share

Most relevant ▾

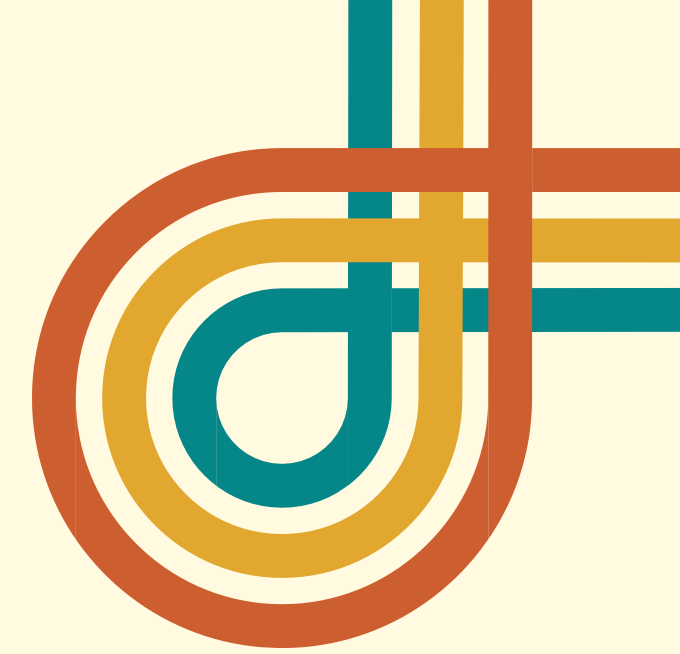
Ruth Martinez
Totally TOTALLY Awesome Congratulations 🏆🏆 reach for the Stars
2d Like Reply Send message Hide

Colleen Yazzie
Good job, grandson! You're Flagstaff family is very proud of you! 💙👏👏
2d Like Reply Send message Hide

Comment as Native American Educa...

700+ views

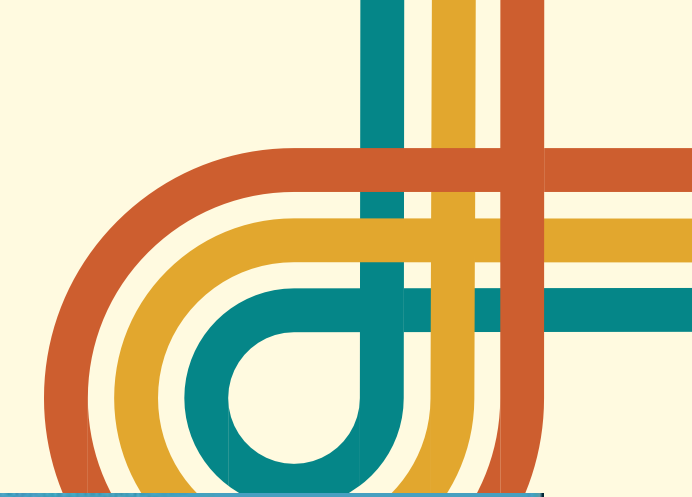
Building Community Through Social Media



500+ views



1,000+ views



Community Resource Guide

- Community resource guide shared with families and schools
- Various resources for needs, interests, opportunities etc. in our community

Scan this code to access the Community Resource Guide



The collage displays four different pages from the 'Jordan Native American Resources' website. The top-left page features sections for 'COMMUNITY EVENTS' (stay connected with upcoming powwows, cultural celebrations, school events, and community gatherings) and 'CULTURAL CORNER' (highlight teaching, traditional stories, language lessons, or cultural practices to help families stay rooted and connected). The top-right page lists 'Facebook Pages to Follow for Upcoming Cultural Events & Learning Opportunities' and 'Instagram Pages to Follow for Upcoming Cultural Events & Learning Opportunities'. The bottom-left page shows the 'CULTURAL CORNER' section with links to 'Urban Indian Center', 'Granite School District', 'Every Kid Outdoors', 'Restoring Ancestral Woods', and 'Indian Training Education Center'. The bottom-right page shows the 'FAMILY RESOURCES' section with information about the 'Natural History Museum of Utah' and 'Tracy Aviary'.

Orange Shirt Day

- September 30
- Phyllis Webstad (1973)
- Orange color represents the loss of childhood and the ongoing journey of healing
- JNAP to purchase Orange Day Shirts for everyone interested



Community Night

Announcement / Highlights

We are excited to continue our tradition of gathering as a community to celebrate our rich heritage, culture and student achievements.

Activities will include Senior Recognition, Round Dance, Drum Circle, Prizes, Vendors, a Jingle Dance, and a **special exhibit, Repainting the I**, which features murals that once adorned the walls of Intermountain Intertribal Indian School. These vibrant artworks came from the students themselves who created images that connected them with home and gave them a way to assert their cultural heritage.

Native American Community Night

Thursday - May 7, 2026

5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

West Jordan Middle School

7550 South Redwood Road, West Jordan, Utah



Community Night

Announcement / Highlights

Keynotes

Shannon Erickson (Director of Learning and Engagement, USU)

Lorina Antonia- Former student

Peggy Barker- Former student and teacher



T h a n k Y o u !

We appreciate your time and
support for our program.

