

Elysse Honyouti - Teaching Good Thoughts

Elysse (whose Hopi name is *Pivaletsnom*, meaning "tobacco plants lined in a row") is *Taawawungwa* (Sun Clan) from the Village of Kykotsmovi. She is 19 and currently undergoing her second semester studying Studio Arts at the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She graduated from Hopi Jr/Sr High School in 2016. After she receives her associate's degree from IAIA, Elysse plans to pursue a teaching degree so that she can teach art. Her proud parents are Harvey and Ellen Honyouti.

Who encouraged you to get a secondary education?

My family has been my biggest support and they have always encouraged education. And also my teachers. It's sort of been something that is always encouraged by everyone.

What led you to attend IAIA?

I like art. It's something I feel I'm pretty decent at and I can improve at. I picked IAIA because it will allow me to improve and I will be able to learn all the different types of art and explore different things. One thing I always was told was, do whatever you want to do as long as it makes you happy. All through high school, I looked at so many different things I wanted to do and never really could see myself doing those types of things and all I wanted to do was my artwork. So I looked into it and realized this is what will make me happy.

What do you want to do with your degree?

Right now, I want to improve on different techniques and expand my knowledge. I want to go to a university and work on my education to become a teacher. I want to be an art teacher. That's my main goal right now.

Do you think having a secondary education is more important on the reservation than elsewhere?

I feel it's more important because a lot of the jobs that don't require a degree are like working at a store, working at small businesses. But we don't have much stores or restaurants out there and all the other jobs, you need higher education to get

them. There's not very many jobs out there for people that don't have a degree.

How do you see teaching art benefitting Hopis and the Hopi community?

Hopefully the kids [on Hopi] grow a passion for it. But the way I see it is just giving them the motivation, teaching them not only art but different things in life that you kind of need. Like giving them the motivation and having those kids know that I believe in them too and they can do pretty much whatever they set their minds to. Mainly encouraging them to go off to school and wanting to be a

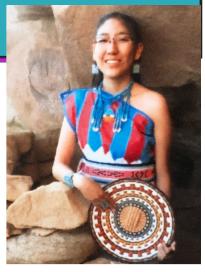


Ellyse with her dad

role model for these students.

What advice would you give to other Hopi students that are starting their post-secondary education?

Stay focused. A big thing that you need to teach yourself is, you need to learn how to discipline yourself. Because when you're on your own you can be like, "I don't want to



go to school today." And there's no one, your parents aren't there to wake you up and you just have to teach yourself. You have to remember what your goal is, remember what you're there for. You just have to give it all you have, try your best. Sometimes it feels like it's not enough but the hard times will pass. You'll be alright. It'll be hard but you just have to remember your purpose and what you want for yourself.

Who were your artistic influences in your family?

I think my brother [Allen] would probably be the main influence. We would just be sitting there drawing and he kind of taught me different techniques growing up and some people don't have that. I think he's been my biggest influence. Growing up I always wanted to be like him. He's a person that I looked up to. Mainly the way he carried himself and like how all of his drawings kind of tell a story in his artwork. He has his own different style. That's what I admired about him.

What role does art play in Hopi culture and with Hopis, in general?

I feel like it's keeping our tradition alive. What I mainly do is Kachinas. That's just a part of us and there's just a lot of good thoughts that go into these things. Like even just drawing - you pray, you think of all the qualities that these Kachinas have and you try to put that into your artwork.

Why is your culture important to you

I've grown up pretty traditionally. Both my parents spoke fluently in the Hopi language. My parents are older so they taught us, at a young age, all of the historical events and why things are important. I grew up knowing the importance of these different things and I think my grandparents played a big role in their lives. Both of my grandparents from both sides passed away before I was older. So I kind of wanted to teach myself these things because... I just think it's different when you don't have your grandparents around because a lot of times you take them for granted and I see that a lot. I listened to what my parents told me because that came from their parents and they're teaching us the things that [my grandparents] weren't able to.

What would you like to say to HEEF donors?

I would just thank them for believing in us. Alot of people wouldn't just donate their money to a bunch of Native kids. They see something in us and that really means a lot to me -another person believing in me. That's kind of what pushes me to strive for the best. I just try to do the best that I can here because somebody put their time and their money into believing in us.



Message from HEEF Executive Director, LuAnn Leonard

Dear Friends,

The first issue of the year is always my favorite as we proudly get to acknowledge our generous donors from the prior year. We know that resources are limited and that each individual, family, organization, and business that is listed, carefully considered their options and selected the Hopi Education Endowment Fund (HEEF) to receive their gift and for that we are grateful.

For many, both on and off reservation, our work is important as we are supporting the education of the young leaders who will take the Hopi people into the future. Recently, I was honored to be asked by one of our IMAGINE Grantees to judge a science fair at First Mesa Elementary School. I was inspired and impressed to see that all of the projects incorporated Hopi teachings and history. Projects included: "Traditional Hopi Houses vs Concrete Houses", "Is Ngömápi (Boiled Cedar) Safer Than Ibuprofen?", and "The Cycle of Hopi Prayers and Water". The students carefully developed hypotheses, conducted their research, and provided their conclusions. During the award ceremony the teachers and judges were able to stress the importance of science and how our Hopi ancestors were also scientists. Congratulations to all!

The year 2018 will prove to bring many other opportunities that we are excited to share with you. One such fundraising endeavor is the return of the HEEF Silent Auction. With the support of our generous sponsors -Salt River Project, Terri Hall & Pat Ryan, Arizona Public

Service, NAU, ASU, Uof A, GoalBusters, Hopi Tribe Economic Development Corp, Walker & Armstrong, and Amerind Risk- the HEEF event will bring together the generous donations of Hopi and other Native artists and individuals for an evening of Hopi entertainment, art, and food. We hope that you and your friends will take time to join us at the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona in Phoenix, Arizona on March 2nd, from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. For more information please go to our website at www.hopieducationfund.org.

On behalf of the HEEF Board and Staff we look forward to a year of continued success. Many thanks to all for your generous support! Askwali!

LuAnn Leonard, Executive Director Hopi Education Endowment Fund



Proud award winners and future Hopi college students

Artist Donor, Wallace Lomakema



Lomakema, testing colors for a drawing in progress

Wallace Lomakema is from the Village of Walpi, and a member of the Flute and Deer Clans. He is now retired after working for many years at the Hopi Jr./Sr. High School as a bus driver. At 82 years of age, he considers himself new to his craft and to being a professional artist. He credits his daughters with pushing him to pursue drawing around 10 years ago.

Lomakema's drawings are vivid pictures of various scenes from different Hopi villages. They contain a sense of life and realism that can be attributed to Lomakema's ability to envision each of his drawings as if he were watching the event unfold. The detail in his drawings is also a product of the long, tedious process Lomakema goes through. Each

drawing begins as an image in Lomakema's mind and is transferred onto paper through several rounds of initial sketching, until he has it exactly

how he wants it. "If the [Kachina's] arm looks a little awkward, I erase it and make sure it looks like it's doing something," Lomakema explains. After his sketch is final, he then goes through several more processes of coloring and adding outlines.

Recently, Lomakema donated one of his drawings -titled "Rewards of Labor"- to the HEEF and it will be up for bid in our upcoming silent auction. He made the donation because his daughter, Cheryl Lomakema, benefitted from HEEF funding. Cheryl graduated from ASU in 2015 with a bachelor's degree in social work (we featured her in our newsletter in 2015). Lomakema is one of many Hopi artists who have donated artwork to the HEEF to support our fundraising efforts.



"Rewards of Labor"

Kwakwhá/Askwali (Thank You)!

On behalf of the IMAGINE Grantees and all current and future Hopi students, the HEEF would like to express gratitude to the following donors for their generous support in 2017:

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Why Is Hopi Important to Arizona?



Arizona Gives Day (AZGD) is a state-wide, online-giving campaign. This campaign allows people to find, learn about, and contribute to nonprofit organizations that are making great change in the state of Arizona. AZGD began in 2013 and has helped Arizona nonprofit organizations raise over \$10 million. The Hopi Education Endowment Fund began participating in this state-wide initiative in 2014 and last year raised over \$8,000 through AZGD.

This Arizona fundraising effort is important to the HEEF, not only because of the fundraising factor, but also because it allows us to raise awareness of our mission and of the Hopi community.

Why is Hopi important to Arizona?:

- ★ Village of Old Oraibi is considered the oldest continuously inhabited community in the United States, being founded sometime before 1100 CE.
- ★ Louis Tewanima (Songopavi village) is the first American to win a medal (silver) in the 10,000 meter event at the 1912 summer Olympic games.
- ★ Hopi Jr/Sr High School boys cross country program holds the national record for 26 consecutive cross country state championships from 1990 to 2016.
- ★ Diane Humetewa (Hotevilla village) becomes first American Indian woman to serve as a federal judge (appointed in 2014), serving in the state of Arizona, and only one of three American Indians to ever be appointed in that position.
- ★ Executive order made by President Chester A. Arthur to establish Hopi reservation in 1882, before Arizona is made a state in the union.

These are some of the historical accounts in which the Hopi people have made a positive contribution to the history of Arizona. Whether you live in Arizona, or not, we hope you will think about Hopi's role in Arizona, and donate on Tuesday, April 3rd, 2018.

Another great aspect of AZGD is that participating organizations are eligible to receive additional cash prizes for different categories, such as most donations received during a particular hour on Arizona Gives Day ("Power Hour"). Although AZGD is a one-day campaign, participants are able to pre-schedule donations (most pre-scheduled donations is also a prize category).

To make a donation to the HEEF through the Arizona Gives Day campaign, they can be made through www.azgives.org/hopieducationendowmentfund. You can also visit azgives.org and search "Hopi" to see a full list of Hopi nonprofit organizations participating in AZGD.

Contact us at heef@hopieducationfund.org for information on the AZGD campaign.

Invest In the Future through Education!



2018 Q1 NL

The Hopi Education Endowment Fund exists to ensure that future generations of Hopis will have financial access to further their education. We at the HEEF believe that in order for Hopi to survive in today's world and into the future, our children must combine their cultural knowledge with knowledge gained from the outside world. Hopi is a place rich with culture and history, but it is not abundant in many resources. The Hopi Tribe is facing many economic questions that will heavily impact our future and make the education of our children all the more important. Your gift will be an investment in the futures of Hopi children and the Hopi people!

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