

Preparing to Leave the Nest – An Educational Journey

When Kwaayesnom Onsae was only 15 years old and a high school sophomore, she was employed by Kykotsmovi Village as a summer youth worker and placed with the Hopi Education Endowment Fund (HEEF). Recently, HEEF staff chanced upon Kwaayesnom “Eagle Nesting” on the campus of Northern Arizona University where she is a junior pursuing a bachelors degree in Applied Indigenous Studies with a minor in Political Science.



No longer the shy young girl, Kwaayesnom has blossomed into a confident young woman active in a variety of campus activities as a volunteer. Kwaayesnom admits that one of her biggest challenges is balancing her busy schedule while maintaining focus on her long-term goal of completing her degree so that she might one day return home to help the Hopi people and community.

Kwaay, as she is also known, said one of the draws for studying Applied Indigenous Studies (AIS) was an underlying connection she felt with other Native students in the program, like her they all have the aspiration to make positive changes in their communities through policy and education. As she delves deeper into the AIS course work, she finds it enjoyable to become engaged in discussions on what is happening in Indian country culturally, environmentally and politically. As a result Kwaay is motivated to do more for Indian people as a whole.

In addition to her full-time course work, part-time modeling and community service, Kwaayesnom works as a student intern, most recently gathering data for the Four Corners Sustainable Futures Initiative: Agriculture report. She is also a student research assistant working under the Partnership for Native American Cancer Prevention on the 2011-2012 Hopi Survey of Cancer and Chronic Disease. Upon completion of her studies, she would like to continue to conduct research projects on Hopi which could benefit and improve the lives of Hopi people and the Hopi Tribe. She also hopes to help motivate Hopi youth to continue learning Hopi values and to attend college to pursue a degree. She often tells her peers, “Higher education is one of the best things that you can do for yourself and your community. Start early and be determined”.

While working with the HEEF, Kwaayesnom learned the importance of support HEEF donors provide and now as a student she sends her many thanks for all of your support. Kwaayesnom is Atokwungwa (Crane Clan) from the Village of Kykotsmovi, her parents are Marlene Onsae and Eljean Joshevama.



Visit our website: www.hopieducationfund.org for more news and updates. Also follow HEEF on Twitter (<http://twitter.com/HEEF>) and become a Fan on Facebook

Join and Support: HEEF Art Sale Supporting Hopi Students



Building upon the success of last year's event, the HEEF has begun preparations to host their annual Art Sale. For the past 8 years the funds raised from the sale have bought in over \$229,000. However, in spite of the success there are ever growing educational needs of the Hopi/Tewa people which the HEEF is striving to meet.

Taking place at the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona in Phoenix, AZ on Saturday, March 3, 2012 from 9 am to 5 pm and on Sunday, March 4, 2012 from 10 am to 2 pm, the sale will feature art donated by Hopi and other Native artists including baskets, pottery, jewelry, katsina dolls, paintings and more. HEEF Executive Director LuAnn Leonard stated, "This is a great opportunity for our community members to show their thanks and to support the work of the HEEF. Often times they do not have the capacity to donate monetary gifts, but with their talents and skills as artists, the art they donate for the sale results in funds that will be utilized by future generations of Hopi/Tewa students." In addition to the sale the HEEF also hosts a raffle with an average of 40 prizes over the 2 day event.

well as prizes for the raffle. Over the years much of the success can be attributed to these contributions and we invite anyone interested to contact us." He added, "the HEEF makes every effort to help promote the donating artists as well as achieve maximum exposure for sponsors and the sooner commitments are made the better able the HEEF can market and publicize the contributions."

The HEEF welcomes artwork from all media categories and if you or somebody you know would like to donate a piece for the event contact HEEF staff at (928) 734-2275 or samt@hopieducationfund.org All donations are tax-deductible, and you will have the honor of joining other artists in support of education programs for our people.

HEEF Seats New Members

Each year during their annual member meeting, held this year on October 15, 2011, the HEEF welcomes newly elected and re-elected board members. As a board member each is vested with the responsibility of carrying out the HEEF mission, "Cultivating and nurturing the future of our Hopi people through education by growing and safeguarding a perpetual source of funding."

HEEF President Eileen Egan along with current HEEF Board members welcomed the following 11 new members: Jose Acevedo, Michael Adams, Dr. Angela Gonzales, Dr. Matthew Sakiestewa-Gilbert, Jon Joshevama, Teresa Masayesva, Jamie Navenma, Susan Nayatewa, Stephanie Parker, Sara Presler and Bruce Steele. Joining the new members and continuing their service are Romalita Laban and Pamela Powell. HEEF President Eileen Egan expressed the following, "After a decade of success in providing educational resources for Hopi students and community grants, the HEEF is poised to reach new heights. The continuing and new Board members are exceptional and bring vast knowledge, insight and passion to furthering the HEEF's mission. This is a very exciting time for the HEEF, our members, in partnership the community, have ambitious plans to meet the needs of the community and we envision a future where every student has the access and means to pursue their educational dreams."



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In addition to the welcoming of new members, the HEEF also honored and thanked outgoing members for their commitment and service to the organization. Outgoing members included: Marnie Hodahkwon, Vell Joshevama-Davis, Daryl Melvin, Leon Myron, Marissa Nuvayestewa and founding members Dr. Noreen Sakiestewa and Patty Talahongva. Before her departure from the Board, Patty shared the following thoughts, "10 years ago, each of us came to this Board with different ideas and "hidden agendas" on where we felt the organization should focus. Over time, we realized what our role and focus should be. I am proud to have helped build the foundation of the HEEF. I encourage the continuing members and new members to go forth with their work and I will always be a supporter of the HEEF." HEEF Executive Director LuAnn Leonard added, "Their leadership and support were invaluable to the creation and success of HEEF and we thank them for their commitment, time and energy to further our important mission."



Fall 2011 HTGSP Graduates

The Hopi Tribe Grants & Scholarships program and the HEEF are proud to announce the graduates for the Fall 2011! We are very proud of the accomplishments of our students and wish them well on their journey to putting their education to work!

Andrew Qumyintewa
Hale Kahe
Jonathan Lomaquahu

Northern Arizona University
 DeVry University
 University of Colorado, Denver

Master's in Human Relations Counseling
 A.S. in Computer Technology
 Bachelors in Theatre, Film/Television

SEEDS 4 HEEF – Monthly Giving Program

As we approach the end of the year, many Hopi farmers are looking forward to the next year. Their thoughts are on storing and cleaning their seeds for spring planting. As they do, the Hopi Education Endowment Fund also looks forward to providing funding for our seeds – our Hopi students.

One way we ensure a stable fund for our students is through our monthly giving program – SEEDS 4 HEEF. SEEDS 4 HEEF provides a steady and cost-effective source of income to the Hopi Education Endowment Fund year-round. Through SEEDS 4 HEEF, you can make a gift to the HEEF in regular monthly installments (or as timely as you desire) from your credit card or checking/savings account.

Enrolling in SEEDS 4 HEEF is an easy way to meet your philanthropic goals and means you won't have to worry about writing and sending a check. Once you join, a record of each gift will appear on your bank or credit card statements and you will receive an annual receipt from the HEEF in January for all SEEDS 4 HEEF gifts during the previous calendar year for your tax records.

To enroll in SEEDS 4 HEEF Monthly Giving Program, please complete the attached form and return to Hopi Education Endowment Fund, Attn: Vernon Kahe, PO Box 605, Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

Your Name(s) _____
 Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Daytime Phone _____ E-mail: _____

I (We) would like to support the HEEF by enrolling in SEEDS 4 HEEF:

I will send a check to the Hopi Education Endowment Fund on the of _____ each month or (bi-weekly) _____

Please charge my credit/debit card (Visa/MasterCard): \$ _____ on the _____ of each month or (bi-weekly) _____

Card #: _____ Exp Date: _____ AVS: _____

I (we) hereby authorize the Hopi Education Endowment Fund to charge my credit card account monthly (or as timely as desired) in the amount listed above.

Signature(s) required to authorize credit/debit card:

Signature _____ Date _____

Message from HEEF Executive Director



Greetings,

Each Fall/Winter we look forward to welcoming new board members to the HEEF as they bring new ideas, motivation and creative energy that tends to re-energize the Board as a whole. You've been introduced to this group earlier in this newsletter. This incoming group is unique as they are diverse in areas such as age, residence, and occupation but they share the common goal of wanting to use their abilities and skills to assist the HEEF in succeeding to fulfill our mission. We look forward to mobilizing them to enhance our efforts. As these new members join us, others depart, leaving us with a legacy of committed service and we wish them well in their new endeavors and remind them

that they will always be members of the HEEF family.

During 2011 we were able to award 266 qualified Hopi/Tewa students across the US financial support through grants and scholarships. Additionally we provided financial support to local groups who provided programs focused on Hopilavayi (language), Hopi arts and educational programs. Although we have served many we remain cognizant that our work is never done as there are many other eligible students who need our support.

As enter the Holiday season let us remember to give thanks. We at the HEEF are sincerely thankful for our donors, members, artists, sponsors, friends, family and the Hopi and general public for your generous support that enables us to serve the Hopi people to the best of our abilities.

In closing I'd like to share that there is a Hopi proverb that translates to say:

*Work Hard
Keep the ceremonies,
Live peaceably,
And unite your hearts*

What better guidance can we have as we prepare to begin the New Year...

Happy Holidays,
LuAnn Leonard, Executive Director