

## Cheryl Lomakema - Reaching Beyond!



"I truly believe that mentoring is a big part of success in reaching educational goals. Sandi Berry-Crawford, my field instructor was very helpful in making clear all the questions I had regarding social work."

At age 52, Cheryl from the village of *Sichomovi* and member of the *Kookopwungwa* (Fire Clan) graduated in the spring of 2015 from Arizona State University with her Bachelors degree in Social Work. She graduated Magna Cum Laude and made the Dean's list twice. Cheryl now has plans to enter a Master's program in Advanced Standing for Social Work this upcoming May. Her parents are the proud Wallace and Claudina Lomakema.

### What was an obstacle or challenge you overcame to continue your educational journey?

My biggest obstacle was my addiction to alcohol and the biggest challenge was changing my alcoholic behaviors. After I graduated from Winslow high school in 1981, I didn't have any idea of what I wanted to do. I liked to have fun and that fun ended up turning into trouble and hard times. I was able to change my alcoholic behaviors through prayer, faith, discipline and my desire to live my life to the fullest. When I was a young girl my grandmothers Lucy Nahee and Emogene Lomakema laid a premise of self-worth, values and beliefs for me. Through their teachings I realized that all people have purpose and matter. I found that helping others was one of my passions and to effectively help others I had to look toward higher learning to accomplish this. In 2012, I was encouraged to take classes at Northern Pioneer College (NPC), there I realized I could do more and applied to ASU. When I was accepted, I made it a goal to finish school, and I did.

### How do you see your life changing by completing your educational goals?

A friend recently told me, "You proved everyone wrong when you received your degree." That offended me in a small way but my response to her remark was, "I was not out to prove anyone wrong, I was out to prove myself right." Through hard

work, determination and self-discipline I was able to accomplish my educational goals. My motivation has been to rise to a peak only imagined in my dreams, but is now my reality. I plan on entering the Advanced Standing Program for social work this coming May. This means I can accomplish a master's degree in social work in one year. Life for me is improving and changing and the sky is now the limit.



Cheryl stands proudly with her parents.

### How is being a part of Hopi special for you?

I am a very proud member of the Hopi Tribe and culture. Although, I was raised and practice Christianity, I respect Hopi traditions. I am proud to be from a culture that values humility, respect, and is based in a collective system around family. The support I have received from not only my immediate family but from my clan and extended family has carried me throughout my life and educational endeavors. I am thankful. Each day is a learning process for me when it comes to the Hopi way of life. I would love to speak the Hopi language fluently one day. My father is my mentor to the Hopi way of life.

### If you were to meet the donor who helped fund your scholarship, what would you say to that person?

Thank you to the Hopi Tribe and all the entities that make funding possible and available to Hopi students. *Askwali!* Scholarship funding has been very helpful in paying my rent, internet, food, bus fares, and books.



Cheryl poses with some of her church members.



# \$195,000 Check Presented to Hopi Tribe for Education



Salt River Project (SRP) and Peabody Energy were the title sponsors for the sold out Gala event “Honoring 15 years of Giving and Receiving” on Friday, October 23, 2015 at the Arizona State University (ASU) Carson Ballroom. In addition to sponsoring the event, SRP and Peabody presented a check for \$195,000 to be used for Hopi education and deposited into the Hopi Education Endowment Fund (HEEF). The special event marked the 15th year since HEEF’s inception. It also offered an opportunity to recognize Hopi students in the Phoenix/Metropolitan area, as well as create a unique experience to acknowledge HEEF donors.

The gala event served as a fundraiser as tables and tickets were sold prior to the event. A silent auction of around 25 art pieces, donated by local Hopi artists, occurred throughout the course of the program. HEEF board member, Dr. Angela Gonzales, served as the night’s emcee welcoming honored guests such as Hopi Chairman, Herman Honanie; former member of the Arizona Board of Regents, Mark Killian; Special Advisor to the ASU President, Dr. Bryan Brayboy; first HEEF President, Barbara Poley; and many more donors and friends of HEEF.



Left to Right: SRP rep. Bob Roessel, HEEF Exec. Dir. LuAnn Leonard, SRP rep. John Hoopes, Hopi Chairman Honanie, HTGSP Director of Education, Dr. Noreen Sakiestewa, and Peabody rep. Audry Rappleyea.

Special recognition was given to Arizona Board of Regents member and HEEF Executive Director, LuAnn Leonard, for her eight year service as a Regent voicing concerns for AZ rural communities. LuAnn was taken by surprise as the HEEF board and staff planned the special recognition and presented her with a special gift for her dedicated service. Regent Killian shared that LuAnn’s presence as the first Native American Regent has given much deserved attention to Indian communities among Arizona and referred to her as his Hopi sister. 2015-2016 Miss Hopi, Auri Roy, shared a special performance for the guests. She encouraged all the attendees to keep Hopi education strong for the communities and to reach for your goals.

The event’s featured speaker was, Dr. Pearlyn Tomosie from the village of Sichomovi and representing the water clan. Dr. Tomosie shared her incredible journey to become a medical doctor. She talked about growing up with her family and overcoming obstacles in order to attain her childhood dream. Dr. Tomosie is currently completing her residency at the University of New Mexico and flew into Phoenix for this special talk. At one point in her journey, Dr. Tomosie shared her experience of dealing with patients, “I walk into the room to see the patient and they ask, “Are you my nurse?”, she kindly replied “No, I am your doctor!” Dr. Tomosie received a warm round of applause as she delivered this emotional experience she continues to face as a female Hopi doctor. Her family stood proudly in the audience to celebrate and support her as she addressed the audience. The beautiful evening wrapped up with a special recognition of 28 Hopi students who are currently in pursuit of their educational degrees in the Phoenix/Metropolitan area. Lastly, Northern Arizona University was announced as the winner of the 2015 Alumni Challenge with a total of \$2,370. U of A came in second, AZ Crushers third, and ASU finished in fourth place. This friendly rivalry among the 3 in-state universities and the AZ Crushers challenged 4 groups to a fundraising challenge pooling together Alumni to support Hopi education.



Dr. Tomosie shares her amazing journey.



## New Faces, New Energy for HEEF



Meet the new Executive Committee.

Committee with Vice President, Romalita Laban; Treasurer, Brent Hines; Secretary, Dr. Pam Powell; members Debbie Nez-Manuel, Stephanie Parker, and Tim Evans. The committee will play an important role in guiding the HEEF as it surpasses its 15th year in operation.

During the HEEF annual meeting, the board came together for a special day of strategy, engagement, and planning as the members set the tone for 2016. New members were engaged as they participated in the various activities. New HEEF board members included: Diane Albert, Lynn Fredericks, Justin Hongeva, Dr. Laura Huenneke, and Theresa Price. Returning board members include: Darold Joseph, Tim Evans, and Stephanie Parker. Each member will share their resources and expertise on one of four committees, that include: Nominating Committee, Resource Development Committee, Finance/Investment Committee, and the new Marketing-Communications Committee. Each committee has a specific purpose and are tasked with particular challenges to solve

On Saturday October 10th, on the Hopi reservation, the HEEF elected a new president to lead the 2015-2016 year. Dr. Kim Kahe-Corkin, former vice president will guide the HEEF efforts in the new year. She joins her team on the Executive

throughout the year. The committees all share the mission of fundraising and growing the fund that supports Hopi education into perpetuity.



HEEF members are challenged with creating effective strategies for the future.

### HEEF 2015 Alumni Challenge a huge success!

This year, the board members participated in a particular challenge, called the HEEF Alumni Challenge. In prior years, the Alumni Challenge was a month long online campaign that encouraged a friendly rivalry between ASU, NAU, U of A, and the "other". However, this year the "other" received a new name called the "Arizona Crushers", whose purpose was to out raise the 3 Arizona universities within 2 weeks. The board was separated into the 4 groups: ASU, NAU, U of A, and AZ Crushers and were challenged to create their own fundraising strategy. Their efforts resulted in the most successful Alumni Challenge, raising a total of **\$9,325.00 in total** over the 14-day period. We look forward to the 2016 Alumni Challenge.



New members smile with pride. Left to right: Dianne Albert, Lynn Fredericks, Ex. Dir. LuAnn Leonard, Dr. Laura Huenneke and Theresa Price.

## A Single Seed - Join SEEDS4HEEF

Within a seed, there is great potential. SEEDS4HEEF is a monthly giving program that provides supporters like you, the opportunity to make a commitment year-round. SEEDS4HEEF is an easy way to provide a continuous stream of support, and is a smart way to meet your philanthropic goals without overtaxing your budget or waiting until the end of the year. **SEEDS4HEEF donor, Janet Regner said, "SEEDS4HEEF is a small, but powerful way to contribute to the education needs of Hopi students."** Please consider joining others by completing the following form:

☐

Yes, I wish to enroll in the SEEDS4HEEF giving program.

☐

I will send a check to the Hopi Education Endowment Fund on the \_\_\_\_ of each month or \_\_\_\_\_

☐

Please charge my credit/debit card: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_ of each month or \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that this donation is tax-deductable to the fullest extent of the law, and that as such, I will receive correspondence stating so at the end of each year.

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Expiration Date:-----

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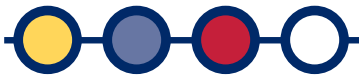
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*"Cultivating and nurturing  
the future of our Hopi  
people through education  
by growing and  
safeguarding a perpetual  
source of funding."*

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## Message from New Board Member, Lynn Fredericks



Lynn Fredericks (Village of Shungopavi)

Greetings,

As a writer and English teacher at Hopi Jr./Sr. High School. I have lived and taught in my Hopi community for over nineteen years. I have witnessed many young people with unfulfilled dreams. Those who are successful tend to be those who are informed on educational opportunities, have college and career readiness skills, have access to quality education, assistance in planning, support, and the financial resources to make their educational dreams of college a reality. We must come together and assist students, in every way that we can, and meet their needs so they can be successful. This often takes a community effort and contributions from many who value the idea of education as being the key to our children's future.

Fortunately and with gratitude to HEEF, Aidan Fredericks, my son, is fulfilling his educational dreams at NAU in engineering with the scholarship assistance from HEEF and the Hopi Tribe. He is one of many who need support. The reason for me becoming an active member in the HEEF organization was about giving back in order to support and shape the future, by empowering our youth because it is vital. Young people comprise a large percentage of the population globally. This is true for our own Hopi community. Therefore, it is important to recognize the younger generation as a distinct important group who will significantly play an important role in shaping our future. Yet, it has been found that many youth today lack quality education, lack the support/resources, skills and job training, which will limit their future. We need to assist and support the needs of our young people and their future so that they in turn can contribute to the health and well-being of our Hopi people and society in the future."

HEEF believes in education as the key to our children's future and is shaping lives by financially supporting young people's educational efforts. If we give, we always get back great rewards.

- Lynn Fredericks,  
2015 HEEF Board Member