



Kyla Silas - Being a Relative to Everyone

Kyla Jade Silas is currently a sophomore at Arizona State University (ASU) pursuing a bachelor's degree in Family and Human Development. She graduated from Kingman High School in 2017. Kyla is Piqöswungwa (Bear Strap Clan) from the village of Shungopavi and her parents are Omauw Joshevama and Kris Silas. Kyla's Hopi name, Paa'tsava'inmana comes from "the katsina lady who stands on top of the kiva with different seeds in her basket. Her purpose is to

make sure we live a long and healthy life and also to remind men that planting is a way of life." Recently, Kyla was named to the Dean's List for Spring of 2018, crowned "Miss Indian ASU 2018-2019", and travelled to Washington, D.C. and New York City with the Cultural Preservation and Leadership Program.

How did you become interested in your major?

What drew me to my major is it was a little bit of both psychology and social work. I like the way our minds work such as knowing our impulses and the various emotions we have throughout the day. More specifically, I enjoy looking at how we treat each other. That's where the social work aspect comes into play. In my major I am able to learn about the relationships we have with each other and why they are so crucial. I've worked with kids for three years now so I guess I've always wanted to know how to be a better resource to them when they have questions or need advice about their life.

What's a class you've really enjoyed?

I think my personal favorite class has been this debate class. [The professor] would give us different topics and he'd debate the class or we'd watch videos on how people debate and take notes. But that's really where I started going in -because by the end we were able to pick our own debate and we had to write two papers, one affirming and one negative. I wrote two papers on GMOs and all of that had to come from our ASU library search so that took a lot of research and that's where I got into researching and looking at policies, what is allowed and what isn't allowed, different lands with GMOs planted and how the pollination moves. That was one of my better classes. It was a tough class. At times it really made me frustrated but at the end it supplied the knowledge I needed to know how to do certain things.

What do you plan to do with your degree?

With Social Work, as many people know, there are a lot of outlets you can go into. At first I wanted to be a social worker within a school setting -a social worker that goes on numerous campuses, and works with the students there. But the whole reason I feel like I got into the Cultural Preservation and Leadership Group was because I mentioned that I wanted to be a lobbyist. So there are social work lobbyists that do work on

Capitol Hill. I'm kind of still looking around but so far it's either working in a school setting or working as a lobbyist because I'm really into different policies and laws. Being at ASU has given me an opportunity to look at Native issues and how we're underfunded in a lot of different areas that were supposed to be provided by the government, as stated in our treaties. With me going into that kind of work, hearing about and knowing that we're not being treated fairly, it lights my fire. When I hear what lobbyists do and the tasks they have to take on, it's similar to what I want to do.

Do you enjoy helping people?

Oh yeah! I don't know what it is. It's just easy for me to help people I think. I don't know how to describe it. I don't know why I'm the way I am but I like helping people and if there's a way that I can help a person, then I'm going to because we were taught growing up -and I even heard it on the trip- you have to be a relative to everyone even if they're unkind to you. That's the one thing that I always carry with myself is always be kind and be a relative to people even if they're not the same tribe as your own, they're still Native people, indigenous people.

Who encouraged higher education in your family?

All of my moms and So'oh! I remember when I was 13, my mom's sisters, my mom, so'oh (grandma), and myself were outside cleaning corn. We were having a conversation about school and how we need more doctors, nurses, teachers, etc. in the community. Somehow the conversation turned to me and they told me I needed to pursue a higher education and travel the world for them because they were never given that opportunity. Ever since then, I was encouraged by all four of them to go to college.

How are Hopi culture and traditions important to you?

Growing up I was constantly reminded of who I was as a Hopi. Reminded to carry myself humbly, to help others when they need help and not to expect anything in return, to respect everything and everyone on this earth. Not only those things but more, and I feel like it has rooted me as a person. When I get homesick I go for long runs because I was always told that Hopis were runners and in that way I put myself in my comfort zone or put myself back into neutral when everything around me is spiralling. Being Hopi is special to me because I am now realizing not too many



people have their traditions and in that way we are rich with our own culture. I am still learning and have a long way to go but I am willing to continue our Hopi way of life.



Message from HEEF Executive Director, Dr. LuAnn Leonard

Dear Friends,

Summer 2018 has been a challenging time for not only the HEEF but more importantly the Hopi farmers. Usually by now we would be seeing fields green with corn, beans, and squash. The dramatic climate change that we are all experiencing has made planting more challenging. Many farmers lost the first crop to the thirsty and hungry animals while others decided not to plant at all. Fortunately, like our ancestors, many Hopi families prepared for hard planting seasons by drying and storing their corn for future use. This hard summer teaches all of us a valuable lesson about the importance of preparing and saving for the future.

I'm proud to share that with hard work, constant attention, and thoughtful decisions, the Fund remains valued at \$24 million. Although that is a healthy figure, our work is never done. The HEEF Staff and Board work year-round to create fundraising opportunities that will reach new donors. We continue to work to enhance the *Seeds 4 HEEF* monthly giving program as well as prepare for the Fall 2018 *Alumni Challenge*, Holiday Appeal, and 2019 *Silent Auction*. As you receive information from us on these various activities please help us by sharing with your colleagues and encouraging them to support our mission of "Cultivating and nurturing the future of the Hopi people through education . . ."

Thank you for your support this summer as we work to locate office space on the reservation. We have had to change our office hours and we appreciate your patience as the summer progresses. Along with the new space, other changes include the resignation of our Marketing and Special Events Manager, Ryan Tafoya, who is leaving to pursue other interests. He shared, "Working for the HEEF has been memorable, meaningful, and enriching. One of the biggest takeaways from my time here will be the community of inspirational individuals I got to know, including my fellow staff who are extremely dedicated to the work they do, the HEEF board members who give their time freely in pursuit of our mission, donors who love the Hopi people and want to ensure their survival, and students who have unselfish dreams of getting an education so they can better the lives of their families and their people. Kwa'kwai to all of you!"

We will intentionally not recruit for Ryan's replacement nor for the Nonprofit Assistant until we have secured and settled into a new office space. We all wish Ryan well in his new endeavors.

Finally, I'm pleased to report that my granddaughter, Amelia is a healthy, happy, and strong eight-month-old baby. She is getting close to walking and continues to bring happiness and joy to my family. With careful preparation and good decisions, we at the HEEF hope to be able to provide for all Hopi babies now and into the future. As always thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you soon.



LuAnn with her granddaughter, Amelia

Askwali!
Dr. LuAnn Leonard
Executive Director, Hopi Education Endowment Fund



Fall Brings the HEEF Alumni Challenge!

In Hopi villages, fall brings social dances such as the butterfly dance, preparation for upcoming women's ceremonies, and most importantly, the fall harvest. For sports fans, and members of the HEEF, fall brings the football season and the football season brings the HEEF Alumni Challenge! In 2017, the HEEF Alumni Challenge proved to be the most successful in this campaign's history. The HEEF board, and collective alumni of Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University, the University of Arizona, and other various universities throughout the United States raised a total of \$10,705. For the first time in the history of this competitive campaign, *Team ASU* raised the most money, with a total of \$3,010. Coming in second, *Team NAU* raised \$2,670, barely beating *Team AZ Crushers* (non-Arizona state schools), who had raised \$2,665. Team U of A put forth a valiant effort in raising \$2,160.

Sporting rivalries are very popular on the Hopi reservation. Community members have much pride in the local schools, primarily for the Hopi High School Bruins. With the expansion of education off the reservation, in Hopi villages we see Hopi members touting shirts for the Tuba City Warriors, Winslow Bulldogs, Flagstaff Eagles, Holbrook Roadrunners, etc. High school sports' rivalries on the reservation are full of energy, have high community participation, and demonstrate support for our students. Therefore, why not use that energy as a means to fundraise for our children's education?

The 2018 HEEF Alumni Challenge will run from **October 15 - October 29**. This year's competition will be the 14th consecutive year for the HEEF Alumni Challenge. As our current high school seniors are preparing for application and enrollment into colleges and universities throughout the nation, we hope to have continued success in this campaign to provide scholarships to expand our love for school rivalries into the higher education arena. We hope that you will consider participating and encourage your friends and family to participate as well. Donations can be made by phone, check, in-person, or online. For more information, please contact our Resource Development Manager, Justin Hongeva, at jhongeva@hopieducationfund.org.

Reasons to participate:

- ★ Show pride in your alma mater
- ★ Celebrate the success of a loved one's academic accomplishment and make a donation in the name of their school
- ★ Help to increase scholarships for Hopi students currently enrolled at Arizona state and non-state universities



2018 HEEF ALUMNI CHALLENGE



Boisiu Dewangyumptewa – Philosophy, Politics, and Law Student



Boisiu w/ his school mascot,
Louie the Lumberjack

Boisiu “Bo” Dewangyumptewa is Iswungwa (Coyote Clan) from the village of Hotevilla and his Hopi name, Uuhtu’huti, roughly translates to “It’s hot”. He is currently a sophomore at Northern Arizona University (NAU), majoring in Philosophy, Politics, and Law and minoring in Criminology and Criminal Justice. His mother is Carrie Dewangyumptewa. Bo graduated from Hopi Jr/Sr High School in 2017. He is serving as a Native American Student Services Peer Mentor for the 2018-2019 school year within NAU’s Native American Cultural Center, and recently travelled to Boston with the David Potter & Ed Furshpan Native American High School Summer Program.

What drew you to NAU? Being reintroduced to Hopi culture really has taken a hold of me so I can’t just get up and leave and expect it to work out. Having already gone through certain [ceremonial] things, it’s your responsibility to keep doing those things within the year. Knowing what you’re doing is for the benefit of not just yourself but all the people; that idea sort of is why I was drawn into the philosophy here. Because really it’s just like having a different way of thinking in terms of thinking more Hopi-like to apply it to a white man’s way of living. It’s something different. It’s cool I think.

is powered by generator. But it took a year and a half of just trying to survive in those conditions. It teaches you to be humble and to just really appreciate things more. Which is something good because the white man way of living has transitioned to be solidly on materialistic things. Whereas Hopi is being thankful for what you have and taking care of what you have. That “taking care of what you have” idea really helps (I think for myself) focus in on why higher education is important.

What drew you to your major? I’ve noticed that there are many people on Hopi who have preconceived ideas of government, and this leads to no cooperation between the villages, people, and tribal government. There are multiple resources that are there for us, but not everyone can agree due to relying on their side only. Having someone to mediate between two opposing sides and listening and creating something beautiful from the two sides’ ideas is what I wish to do in the near future. I guess it was really the idea of seeing how people already had these preconceived notions of how things have already worked and it’s set in stone and nothing can be done because this law and whatever procedure says that you can’t do it; but the people have more power to do specific things if they work together and put their minds to it.

What are you enjoying about college life? One of the highlights of being in the college setting is being able to network with individuals and actually make friends with them. I’d never have thought that I’d have a friend from Alaska, which is pretty cool. Being able to learn little things from what they’re working on, their classes, sharing different ideas. Really just being open to growing. Just those little things. I think that’s been pretty cool so far.



Boisiu studying
microscopic worms

What Difference Does Education Make?

If you search the Internet for “benefits of education”, many of the results will give statistics on the differences in salaries that individuals make based on their highest level of education. What’s a little harder to find, however, are the statistics on the impacts education has on families and communities. Education has positive affects on poverty rates, economic growth, overall health, and much more. Our Hopi students are not just earning degrees to get jobs, they are gaining power to improve their community.

Yes, I want to make an impact in the Hopi communities!

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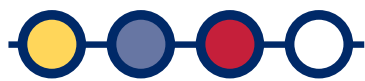
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March 1, 2019

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



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2018 IMAGINE Grant Recipients

For the past 14 years, the HEEF has funded projects/programs benefiting Hopi communities through HEEF IMAGINE Grants. This year, a total of \$24,202 was granted to five different programs, bringing the total of IMAGINE Grant funding to \$202,855. Each of these programs were selected based on grassroots capacity building, effectiveness, cultural relevance, transferability, sustainability, and incorporation of Hopi language and culture.

Hopi Jr.-Sr. High School was funded a \$5,000 IMAGINE Grant to implement "Teaching the Teachers: Hopi Cultural and Language Preservation through Professional Development". This grant supports staff in-service sessions on Hopi language and culture that are designed to enhance understanding of Hopi culture. Fostering better relationships and improving service to the students are the two major goals.

Hopitutuqaiki - Recognizing that the creation of garments for ceremonial as well as everyday use is an important part of Hopi life, Hopitutuqaiki—the Hopi School— proposed for and was funded a \$6,324 IMAGINE Grant to support a variety of garment making classes. Classes such as Dress Making, Shirt/Vest Making, Hand Machine Applique, Quilt Making, as well as machine maintenance classes have been offered throughout the spring and into the fall for students of all ages.

The Hopi Ancestral Lands Program was awarded an IMAGINE Grant of \$ 5,000 to fund a crew to support a follow up mitigation project in partnership with the 1st Mesa Inaugural Clean Up event. The crew will work to address areas of high erosion risk from wind and rain at First Mesa. The erosion mitigation crew will help stabilize the soil using a series of natural material berms and revegetate the area to stabilize the area long term. The Hopi Ancestral Lands Program (HAL) believes that it is important to support projects and work that is happening locally and community-driven. HAL supported the 2018 Earth Day clean up event by providing supplies, vehicles with trailers, manpower, and facilitation.

The Hopi Food Co-op was awarded a \$3,628 IMAGINE Grant that will enable them to offer a monthly series entitled "Garden Parties". These "parties" are one-hour, hands-on training sessions on a variety of gardening techniques and skills. Founded in 2013, the Hopi Food Co-op believes we have all the answers from within to create positive change. The Co-op self-organizes and develops opportunities that teach people how to grow, preserve, cook, and eat more local foods.

Hopi Cancer Support Services received an IMAGINE Grant of \$4,250 to assist in the implementation of the annual "Men's Night Out" (MNO) event. The 2018 theme is "Grow into Good Health through a Strong Foundation". The event will include information sessions, booths, speakers and entertainment all focused on early cancer detection, supportive services, and health information. MNO is scheduled for September 13, 2018.