

Going to College in the Year 2020 - A House Divided

Are you still excited to go to college? What has changed for you this year? How do you feel? These are questions students are asking themselves as well as their families. For incoming freshman, Hope Honani, and continuing student, Jaeda Honani, these sisters are gearing up for their college journey. With the novel Corona Virus sweeping the nation, Hopi students like Hope and Jaeda are still preparing to move forward with their educational plans. These sisters call Kykotsmovi, AZ their home and are Dawa'wungwa (Sun Clan). Both are feeling confident to take on the Fall semester despite changes that have been caused by the pandemic. Hope will be attending Arizona State University (ASU) as a Freshman pursuing Photography. Jaeda will be a transfer student attending the University of Arizona (UA) pursuing Pharmaceutical Sciences. Both eager to go to college, they share their perspective about being college students during a pandemic.

Going to college is a monumental moment for students, and their families. Typically, students are excited about moving onto a college campus, reviewing their class schedules, and planning their extracurricular activities. Hope explained the process that ASU had set in place in order to move into the dorms. She relays, for the first time students are required to get tested for COVID - 19 before they can move into their dorm. Fortunately for Hope, she will be living alone in her dorm room. Jaeda shares that she must also be tested for COVID-19 on the day of her move in. If a student tests positive, they must self-isolate prior to moving in. Both are optimistic that they will be able to move into their dorms without a problem. Although nervous, Hope expressed, "I'm excited to be independent." Her enthusiasm for moving into her dorm was a sign of a positive outlook for beginning her college journey.



Pictured: Hope Honani

Jaeda and Hope both agree that their biggest supporter is their mom. Sharing that their mom, "encouraged them to do good in school and that college is worth it." Their mom has always pushed them to do their best in classes and has been good at being there to help them when they need it most. They both look up to their mom and hold her in high regard. They shared that she is a good person, someone they both want to be like. Hope and Jaeda state, that they were each other's support system, guiding and encouraging one another. Hope shared a moment of vulnerability saying that she never imagined herself going to college and didn't quite make the grades she wanted in high school. "My sister (Jaeda) would always have straight A's and when I would hit a slump in high school she would help to get me out of that slump and wouldn't let me give up." Jaeda shares "Hope looks up to me and I also look up to her a lot, she's like my best friend. I want to be able to motivate her with what I am doing now." Both hope to continue to be role models for each other and continue to support one another throughout their college years.



Pictured: Jaeda Honani

When asked about their respective colleges Hope chose ASU largely because her mom went to school there. Her initial school of choice was UCLA and later made the decision to attend ASU. Her dream is to be like her mom and follow in her footsteps by attending ASU. For Jaeda, her grandpa was a big influence on choosing UA. She grew up watching UA sports games with him. She wanted to be different, knowing that her mother, step-father and now sister attended ASU and holds a sense of pride knowing that she will be going to a different school. In addition, she has always been a UA sports fan, making the UA her school of choice. She feels the UA is a good fit considering her dream is to attend the College of Pharmacy, and the UA is the only state university with a pharmacy school.

Hope and Jaeda are coming to terms with the circumstances and new accommodations that they will have to make when arriving to campus. In particular, Jaeda is curious to see how much access she will have to the campus once school begins since there will be new procedures in place for students. "I just hope I'm not trapped in my dorm all semester," a thought many college students have during this time. Despite not knowing, Jaeda is still looking forward to the college experience. "It's an adjustment, but we are getting used to it." For both, their classes will either be completely online or hybrid courses (in-person and online). Both sisters feel prepared and are confident that

they will be able to be successful in the implemented classroom format. For Jaeda, her major consists of science lab courses and she is curious to see how those will take place.

In Arizona, ASU and the UA are big time rival colleges, especially in the realm of sports. Both sisters will be gearing up to represent their respective colleges, but will always be supportive of one another throughout their time at school.

Each expressed gratitude to our donors by making these statements:



"Thank you for helping me to have the opportunity to do what I love (photography). I am happy I don't have to rely on student loans and will minimize the stress of having to pay for school. I can move forward with my major without having to worry about the cost of school." - Hope

"It's a really big help and helps me be more motivated to do well in school. It has helped to pay for my classes, books, and extra resources that I need. It will help me to focus on my studies and do better with my major. I appreciate it and wouldn't have the things I have now without donors supporting my education." – Jaeda

Pictured Left to Right: Hope & Jaeda Honani

Message from Executive Director - LuAnn Leonard

Dear Friends of the HEEF,

On behalf of the Board and Staff, we hope that this finds you and your loved ones safe and in good health. Last year it would have been hard to imagine that the Hopi Tribal Government would be in the midst of a global pandemic and enduring what has become a 5-month shut down. Life has changed in so many ways for all of us, but I'm glad to report that some things don't change. Babies are born, birthdays/anniversaries are quietly celebrated and the blue corn that our Hopi men planted when the pandemic started in the Spring is now growing and coming up as it has for centuries. As they say, life goes on.

We are fortunate that the HEEF office is located away from the main tribal office, so we have the flexibility of working from home. This shutdown period has been productive as we have just about completed our audit (all done via computer), kept on track with our Social Media messaging, conducted HEEF Committee meetings including Executive Committee meetings, partnered for new scholarships, kept on top of our investment account (which appears to be recovering from the March market) and planned for future fundraising activities. Navigating this new fundraising environment has been challenging but rewarding.

This summer we launched the Hopi Higher Education Emergency Fund (HHEEF) fundraising campaign. I am happy to report the "Spirit of Giving" is alive and well as we have raised over \$23,000 to date. The majority of donations were made by individuals, like you who value education. We are continuing to accept donations as we recognize the needs will continue into the Spring 2021 semester and possibly beyond.

On November 20th, the HEEF will celebrate our 20th birthday as we were created by the Hopi Tribal Government in 2000. The pandemic has caused us to rethink our original plans and we are working on an alternate event that will commemorate this milestone. We will keep you posted.

Askwali-Thank you to all who have all worked to help us to be productive during these challenging times. With the help of Founding HEEF Member Dr. Sheila Nicholas and Mrs. Bernita Duwayhoema I share the following good thoughts from our Board and Staff:

Uma qa hiita akw okiwhinkyàakyang naavaasyani
Be well, be safe

Note: Hopi language is all encompassing, literally this means - You [all] go along without being in an unfortunate way and take care of yourselves (including being safe)

Hopi Higher Education Emergency Fund

When the COVID-19 pandemic began, no one could have predicted the effects it would have on our communities specifically our children's education. Classrooms were emptied and schools worked diligently to figure ways to create distant learning programs for their students. The pandemic took its effects on our communities similar as many places. The Hopi Tribal offices have been closed since March, with many tribal employees working from home. Businesses were forced to limit their hours of operations and curfews were set in place to keep people in their homes. Fortunately, our community members on and off the reservation banded together, including friends/supporters of Hopi. Several relief efforts were kick started to bring in supplies needed by our community members.



Photo Credit: Hopi Tutuveni

Seeing what these efforts brought to our people, we recognized that our students needed a different kind of assistance. This is when we had the idea to create the Hopi Higher Education Emergency Fund (HHEEF). When the country shutdown, this included many colleges and universities that moved all students to an online classroom format. Many of our Hopi students were not prepared for this drastic shift as some did not have computers of their own. We created a survey, that we issued in the Spring, to get an idea of what our students had experienced and how they had been affected. Many students reported that they had difficulties adjusting to online learning either because of the lack of technology in their possession or difficulty accessing a quality WIFI connection.

We got to work as quickly as we could and began soliciting donations for the HHEEF in late-July. We were elated to the response, as we initially set a goal of \$20,000. In early August we have eclipsed that mark by raising \$23,000+ in donations. With the amount raised, we anticipate helping approximately 88 students with funding to help them purchase laptops, WIFI services or additional equipment that they need to be prepared for distance learning in the Fall 2020 semester. We would like to continue this fund for the Spring 2020 semester therefore we will continue our fundraising for this effort to ensure that our students can continue their educational journey's in their pursuit of a college degree.

To donate to the HHEEF please send a check indicating it is for the HHEEF campaign or you can make an online donation at <https://hopieducationfund.org/hheef>

COMING SOON - Summer Art Sale!

As we get to that latter part of summer and our college students prepare to go back to school, we would like to continue our support of their educational dreams. From August 31st to September 11th we will be hosting a Summer Art Sale featuring beautiful paintings and authentic American Indian jewelry. Hopi and American Indian artists have been generous donors and supporters of our mission to provide the opportunity of higher education for every Hopi individual.

Our art sale will feature work from well-known artists such as Kevin Quannie, Nocona Burgess, Donna Navasie Robert, Mary Rosetta and many others. This art sale will be the prelude to our larger celebration coming in November which will then feature our renown Silent Auction.

Proceeds from this art sale will go towards the Hopi Higher Education Emergency Fund, that helps students purchase laptops, WIFI services and other technological needs to be prepared for online learning.

For more information about this sale, please call our office at 928-734-2275 or email hheef@hopieducationfund.org. Continue to check our website for when these items will go on sale!





Hopi Education Endowment Fund
PO Box 605
Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

Ph: 928-734-2275

Email: heef@hopieducationfund.org

"The Hopi Education Endowment Fund grows and protects financial resources to provide every Hopi the opportunity to pursue their educational dreams to assure the future of our sinom (people)."



Be sure to follow us on Social Media!

Donate to the HEEF

The need for education will always be present and your donations to the Hopi Education Endowment Fund provides educational opportunities for our Hopi sinom (people) to pursue a college education. With your gift our students are able to move forward with their educational goals and aspirations.

We value your continued support through these unprecedented times, as a result of the ongoing pandemic.

Yes, I want to make an impact today!

Charge ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Please accept my donation of ☐\$10 ☐\$25 ☐\$50 ☐Other _____

Check & Money Orders can be made payable to:

Hopi Education Endowment Fund

PO Box 605

Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

Card Number: _____

Name: _____

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Address: _____

Vcode (3 digits): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____