

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & GRADITUDE

The Miss Navajo Council would like to thank:

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Elemental Talks & Dialogues on

LAND



WATER



AIR



FIRE



**OCTOBER 30 & 31, 2017
WINDOW ROCK EDUCATION CENTER
AUDITORIUM**



HISTORY

In the fall of 2004, Sarah Johnson Luther (Miss Navajo 1966-1967) and Sunny Dooley (Miss Navajo Nation 1982-1983) reached out to former Miss Navajos (from 1952 to the present) who have successfully completed their year of reign and began the process of forming an organization of former titleholders. Both strongly felt all 64 former Miss Navajos, who are well versed in the Navajo language, culture, tradition and in the contemporary world, would make a unique resource and could be of service to the Navajo Nation. Many of the former titleholders are homemakers with children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. They also represent many professional careers as doctors, educators, nurses, administrators, storytellers, linguists, ranchers, artists and some have served with distinction in the armed forces.

MISSION

- ◇ To promote the preservation of Dine/Navajo language, culture, and tradition; more specifically to advocate for the enduring qualities, which identify Dine/Navajo woman as the foundation, strength, and keeper of cultural teachings as established by Yoolgaai Asdzaan-White Shell Woman and Hotaa' Baazhni'aazh—Hero Twins' Journey to the Sun.
- ◇ To promote and foster partnerships between former Miss Navajo Nations and Dine/Navajo community including elders, youth, students, educators, government entities, and businesses.
- ◇ To perform all other usual customary functions of a corporation.



Miss Navajo Council, Inc. is a 501(c)(3)

FIRE



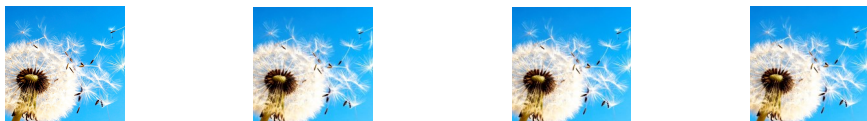
Perry Charley has over 38 years of experiences in education, research, reclamation remedial and legislative activities on impacts resulting from past nuclear industries on Navajo lands. In his capacity as Principal Investigator of numerous research projects, he applies Traditional Ecological Knowledge employing traditional values, concepts and their application to Western educational curriculum and research strategies. He has served on several US EPA Advisory Committees. He has served as a Distinguished Fellow with the Quality Education for Minorities- Leadership Development Institute, Tribal Colleges and Universities Programs. He also serves as Commissioner with the Diné Uranium Remediation Advisory Commission. Professionally and academically, he refers to himself as a Diné Shepherder with a little more education.

Chrissy Dart is an educator, storyteller and T'ai Chi instructor. She has been practicing the Asian martial and healing arts since 2000, focusing on proper body alignment and breath for optimal movement, balance, and stress reduction. The more she teaches, tells and practices, the more she realizes that T'ai Chi movements intertwine with story and the story that they tell is one of beauty, reconciliation, and connection. Chrissy currently teaches movement and T'ai Chi for the Muhammed Ali Parkinson Center in Phoenix, AZ.

Adriel Luis is a musician, poet, visual artist, curator and coder from the California Bay Area. Adriel is currently based in Washington, DC as the Curator of Digital and Emerging Media at the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center, where his team has been developing a series of "culture labs" as community-created alternatives to traditional museum exhibitions. He is also a founding member of the psychedelic spoken word collective iLL-Literacy, and moonlights on design projects with artists and non-profits.

Lovely Umayam is a Research Analyst and Project Manager at the Stimson Center, a non-profit, non-partisan policy research center in Washington, DC. At Stimson, Lovely leads projects focused on nuclear security – practices and procedures to secure nuclear materials to prevent or deter their misuse. Prior to Stimson, Lovely worked at the U.S. Department of Energy - National Nuclear Security Administration, where she implemented nuclear safeguards projects in Southeast Asia and Latin America. Lovely is also the founder of Bombshelltoe, which examines the intersectionality of nuclear history, art, and culture to expose the humanity typically forgotten or silenced when discussing nuclear policy. Her quirky and creative explorations in nuclear pop-culture was recently featured in Foreign Policy Interrupted (FPI) where she was lauded as an "emerging interruptor" in the nuclear security field.

AIR



Shebana Coelho is a writer, and director, originally from India, now living in New Mexico. She received a Fiction Fellowship from the New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA), and a Fulbright grant to Mongolia to experience and record sounds of nomadic communities. Her poems and stories have been published in US and international journals; Her documentary work has been broadcast on Public Television, National Public Radio, The Discovery Channel, and BBC Radio Four and has received a Telly award and a South Asian Journalists' Association (SAJA) Best Documentary Award. She is currently developing a series of performance pieces called The Good Manners of Colonized Subjects.

Chris Diehl, Ph. D is a data scientist and systems designer with a passion for integrating age-old wisdom with modern technology to empower individuals and communities. After spending a decade in the U.S. national security community, and two years in the commercial sector, he co-founded The Data Guild, a mission-driven product development network, to address the toughest challenges of our time. The Data Guild brings together diverse teams of scientists, engineers, and designers to develop impactful solutions in domains such as healthcare, clean energy, and life sciences. He holds a Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University.

Crystal Frazier is a research Engineer with Atmospheric & Space Technology Research Associates (ASTRA) in Boulder, Colorado. She began working in the aerospace industry after she received her bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from Utah State University in 2012. Recently, her work has focused on developing innovative space sensor mechanisms and spacecraft bus design for the small satellite industry. Just prior to joining ASTRA, she served as a Space Systems Engineer for the Visible Calibration Target instrument that is planned to launch on the upcoming JPSS-2 NASA mission. Ms. Frazier is Kinłichíí'nii and born for Hooghan Łání. 'Áshjįhí are her maternal grandfather's clan and Tsé Nahabiłnii are her paternal grandfather's clan. She is from Table Mesa, NM.

Miles Washington is a Virtual Reality Developer with over 17 years of experience in the interactive media design and development industry. He has experience across a wide variety of disciplines such as: visual design, exhibit design and development, web design and development, virtual reality development and motion graphics design. With both a technical background and a passion for artistic expression, Miles has assumed a variety of roles throughout his career. Currently, he is a Technical Lead at the Learning and Communications Solutions group within Northrop Grumman Corporation based in Albuquerque, New Mexico. His primary role is developing VR-based training along with co-managing a team of 3D artists, developers and instructional designers. Miles graduated from California State University Fullerton in 2000 with a B.A. in Communications.

PROGRAM

Monday October 30th

Registration—8am

Welcome and Overview—Sunny Dooley

Navajo Journey Song—Michael Begay

Introduction—Deon Ben, Native America Program Manager, Grand Canyon Trust

9am—12pm

Land Group

Holly Barton

Willie Greyeyes

John Olivas

Chili Yazzie

1pm—4pm

Water Group

Deborah Anyaibe

Heather Fleming

Marshall Johnson

Bruce T. Milne, Ph. D

Tuesday October 31st

9am—12pm

Air Group

Shebana Coelho

Chris Diehl, Ph. D

Crystal Frazier

Miles Washington

1pm—4pm

Fire Group

Perry Charley

Chrissy Dart

Adriel Luis

Lovely Umayam

Closing Comments and Affirmation

LAND GROUP



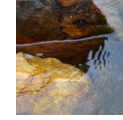
Holly Barton is the Tribal Climate Science Liaison working with tribes on climate change adaptation within the Southwest Climate Science Center service area (AZ, CA, NV, UT). She is a member of the Navajo Nation from Dilkon, Arizona. Prior to this position, she was the Ecologist for the Tohono O'odham Nation and completed her term as a School Board Member for Seba Dalkai Boarding School. She is currently serving on the Dilkon Community Land Use Planning Committee. Holly has a Bachelor of Science in Sustainability from Arizona State University and will be pursuing a Masters in Environmental Planning & GeoDesign at the University of Arizona in the fall.

Willie Grayeyes, was born on Paiute Mesa, Navajo Mountain Chapter, San Juan County, Utah. He was raised as a shepherd and attended San Mateo Community College and Northern Arizona University where he pursued a degree in early childhood development. Willie serves as the Board Chair of two organizations; Utah Dine' Corporation and Utah Dine' Bike'yah. He is Board Secretary for the Navajo Mountain Community Land Use Planning Committee and also on the School Board for Naa Tsis Aan Community School. In addition, Willie serves as Chairman to the Navajo Mountain Soil and Water Conservation District on the Navajo Nation, on the State of Utah's BLM Resource Advisory Council, and on the board of the Indian Nation Conservation Alliance (INCA).

John Olivas is the former Chairman of the Mora County Commission (2010-2014) in northern New Mexico and was the sponsor of their Community Rights Ordinance known as the Mora County Community Water Rights and Local Self Government Ordinance. Mora County was the 1st County in the United States to ban hydrocarbon and petroleum exploration from within their borders. He holds a Bachelors Degree in Biology and a Masters Degree in Environmental Science. John currently works with a conservation organization in New Mexico and is their Traditional Community Organizer who works on protecting public land from major development like mining, oil and gas development and commercial logging.

Chili Yazzie has served the Shiprock community and the Navajo Nation for 42 years and is the Shiprock Chapter President. His clans are Ashiihi`, Toh aheleeni`, Kinyaani and Tacheeni. He has served in many capacities that gave him the opportunity to advocate for the civil and human rights of Indigenous peoples he has stood up many times against racism and discrimination against Native peoples. Chili continues to advocate for the protection of sacred sites, defending Native lifeways, natural resources and water issues. Chili is extremely concerned with the health of the earth with climate change and the kind of world we are leaving for our children.

WATER GROUP



Deborah Anyaibe has over three years of experience working with tribes and Pueblos specifically in relationship to water sustainability and monitoring. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Planning and Design, a Master's Degree in Water Resource Management and a Master's in Environmental and Natural Resource Planning. She currently works with the Pueblo of Zia as the Director of Environmental Resources. For the past 10 years Deborah has worked extensively on place based water projects, assessments and solutions. Her passion lies in sustainable water solutions, based specifically on place, tradition and culture.

Heather Fleming is Dine' and the CEO of Catapult Design, a product and service design firm partnering with international organizations to develop sustainable, market-based solutions to poverty. Heather has over a decade of experience in product design consulting and was formerly an Adjunct Lecturer at Stanford University and Senior Lecturer at California College of the Arts. In 2010 the World Economic Forum included Heather in their class of Young Global Leaders, a prestigious community for leaders under the age of 40. She is a prominent speaker and advocate for the role of design in international and economic development initiatives.

Marshall Johnson works with To Nizhoni Ani (TNA) "Sacred Spring Speaks", which began with one mission: "To preserve and protect the sacred sole source aquifer of Black Mesa, the Navajo Aquifer". This Navajo Aquifer (N-aquifer) has been integral in energy generation for more than 4 decades in Arizona. Black Mesa coal has been the sole fuel supply for Mohave Generating Station (MOGS) for over 35 years and the Navajo Generating Station (NGS) for over 40 years now. The MOGS has stopped operations in 2005, due to the work of TNA. The NGS contracts are being renegotiated now and the proposal is to extend the operation for another 25 years.

Bruce T. Milne, Ph. D holds the W.K. Kellogg Endowed Chair in Sustainable Environmental and Food Systems and is Professor of Biology at the University of New Mexico. In the mid-1980s, his post-doctoral teaching experience at Harvard's Graduate School of Design cemented the central notion that the psychological, cultural, aesthetic, and economic aspects of humanity are dominant forces in local ecosystems that constitute the biosphere. The International Association for Landscape Ecology recognized him in 2006 as Distinguished Landscape Ecologist for work with spatial analysis of landscapes and species habitats at multiple scales. In 2004 Dr. Milne responded to challenges facing the biosphere by founding the Sustainability Studies Program at the University of New Mexico to serve hundreds of passionate undergraduate students from across the entire campus.