

2008-2009 Rosenzweig Scholars



Cheston Bailon

Major: Marketing

My name is Cheston Bailon, I am Navajo and Santo Domingo Pueblo. I am 23 years old and a senior at ASU. My motivation and sense of responsibility come from my close relationships with my family, which consists of my parents, older brother, and two younger sisters. I have accomplished much in my life, including getting my senior class out of debt as a Senior Class President in high school to my service in the military. I was deployed to Iraq with the hardest hit unit and was subsequently promoted to Corporal. I wish to use my experience and education to help my family and people. Upon receiving my undergraduate degree in business I will continue on with graduate school to pursue a Master's in Business Administration and hope to fulfill the goal of establish a youth center in my home community of Shiprock, NM.



Poncho Dickson

Major: Mechanical Engineering

My name is Poncho Dickson, I was born in Tuba City, AZ and raised in northern AZ. I am of the Many Goats Clan born for the Coyote Pass People. My father is Navajo and my mother is Navajo and Cuban. I am a junior pursuing a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. I plan on giving back to my community by using what I've learned in college and hope to help increase the number of opportunities for other up and coming community members. I volunteer as a tutor on subjects of calculus and physics and feel pretty good about it. Tutoring also helps me see my studies in a whole new light. It made me realize how difficult it is to teach and has forced me to reword, revisualization, and reevaluate my whole thought process in order to make physical concepts clear to others. My next goal after graduating from ASU is pursue graduate school at MIT and earn a masters degree in mechanical engineering and a doctorate in physics or engineering. I want to change the world with my latest innovations.



Nikole Dixon

Major: Political Science

Hello. My name is Nikole Lee Dixon. I am Navajo and originally from Shonto, Arizona. I am of the Red House People Clan and born for the Towering House Clan. My maternal clan is the Bitter Water Clan and my paternal clan is the The Leaf People Clan. I am a Political Science major and I am currently a senior at Arizona State University. I anticipated graduating in May 2009. I plan to attend the Sandra Day O'Connor Law School at Arizona State University to study Indian Law, Water Law and Environmental Law. I currently have an internship with The Sparks Law Firm, P.C. I am committed to making a life long effort to assist Native American communities to develop policies, plans and successful strategies to meet the challenges of the 21st Century.



Stephen Haskie

Major: Geography

My name is Stephen Haskie and a senior majoring in geography. I am Navajo from Crownpoint, New Mexico and aside from studying geography; I also study two languages; Russian and Uzbek. My interest in languages sparked from learning about various unique cultures around the world. In the future, I intend to further develop my language capacity by traveling. I aspire to live abroad and enrich my understanding of multiple cultures. Currently I have a p/t job with Abercrombie & Fitch. After a year and a half of employment, I still find ways to have fun while folding clothes. I also participate in lots of community service projects. This will be the second year I am mentoring a refugee high school student. As far as career choices, I desire to pursue a career with the U.S. Department of State as a Foreign Service Officer or the Central Intelligence Agency as an analyst abroad. After spending a summer interning with the U.S. Dept. of State, I have found other opportunities to serve my country. That enables me to combine my geographical background and language skills for the best interests of this country. My biggest goal in the future is to return to the Navajo reservation in hopes to encourage, support and educate people about various opportunities and global issues. Although I haven't decided what I'll do upon my return, I know I'll do my best to make the Navajo Reservation a better place.



Natasha John

Major: Interior Design

My name is Natasha John and I am a member of the Navajo Nation. I am of the Mexican Clan, born to the Red Bottom Clan. My maternal family is from Steamboat AZ, and my paternal family is from Upper Fruitland, NM. As for myself, I am originally from Shiprock, NM, primarily raised in Phoenix, AZ. Currently, I am a third year at Arizona State University majoring in Interior Design. As a kid, I grew up with a father that worked in construction and a mother that studied Art History. From this upbringing, I was exposed to the technical and the aesthetic components of architecture/design. From this experience, I developed a strong passion for design.

Ultimately, I wish to finish my undergraduate studies with a Bachelor's of Science in Design. After which, I plan to pursue a Master's of Science in Design-with an emphasis in Residential Design. I would like to use Interior Design as an opportunity to work abroad, providing housing opportunities for refugees. On the other hand, I intend to use my experience and education to serve my people on the Navajo Reservation. I would like to provide assistance in housing development with an overall goal of helping to develop healthier/ livable communities on the reservation.



Brandon McLevain

Major: Kinesiology/Pre-Med

My name is Brandon Kyle McLevain, 18 years old, Dine (Navajo) from Chandler, AZ. 2008 graduate from Corona Del Sol High School, Tempe, AZ. Also transfer student from Mesa Community College and Rio Salado College. I'm a freshman majoring in Kinesiology at A.S.U. My personal goals are to serve my two years of L.D.S. mission, obtain a Bachelor Degree in Science, then serve my country in the NAVY and continue my education in the field of Medicine. My personal passion of sports has helped me narrow my career choice in the field of medicine and my interest on how the human body functions throughout one's life. I plan to become a fitness instructor and rehabilitation assistant, while I continue my studies. Later I plan to return to Indian reservation to do my residency and educate our people about the importance of exercise and dieting to maintain a healthy life. I hope to become a physician. I like to give back to my

native people by aiding them through medicine and guidance from the knowledge I obtained throughout my education.

In the meantime, I am a full time student and working part time in the retail business. I am currently involved with Nations club. Occasionally participate in Pow Wow circle as a Southern Straight dancer and guard dance to honor our people whom had served and now serving in the armed forces. These teaching came from my parents, grandparents and mentors of all nations. I am honored to receive the 2008-2009 Rosenzweig Scholarship.



Arrol Perry

Major: Microbiology

My name is Arrol Perry. I am from Saint Michaels, Arizona located on the Navajo Nation. My clan is Tsinaajinii, born for Nakaa dine, my maternal grandfather's clan is Honaghaanii and my paternal grandfather's clan is Taachinii. I am fortune to have a strong foundation of Navajo traditional and cultural knowledge to maintain a positive identity. I am maintaining close ties with my family and relatives back on the reservation. I participate in various traditional ceremonies. My family is my backbone and a significant support in my life. My traditional values allow me to be strong and to value life. I am currently a senior at Arizona State University. My major is Microbiology and minor in American Indian Studies. I am also completing coursework for Pre-Pharmacy and I plan to eventually pursue a doctoral degree in Pharmacy. My long term goal is to complete my degree in Pharmacy and return to the Navajo Nation. I intend to work with the Indian Health Services to assist in meeting the demands for pharmaceutical services on the Navajo Reservation. This field of study is rigorous but I envision a successful outcome for myself. I want to become a knowledgeable, skilled, and licensed professional Pharmacist. I am confident and committed to complete my studies and to maintain focus on my goal.