

**EDUCATION BRIEFS**

**Eve's Fund awards \$16,000 to 16 Navajo Prep students**

**FARMINGTON** — Eve's Fund for Native American Health Initiatives has announced that \$16,000 in scholarships were awarded to 16 students attending Navajo Preparatory School for the current academic year.

The awardees are senior Joshua Begay, White Rock, New Mexico; junior Uriel Benally, Fruitland, New Mexico; sophomore Genesis Clark, Kirtland, New Mexico; sophomore Luke Damon, Albuquerque; sophomore Wallen Descheeny, Klagetoh, Arizona; senior Jillian Garcia, Dulce, New Mexico; junior Lucius Hale, Kirtland; sophomore Orion King, Rock Point, Arizona; and sophomore KayDence Low Dog, Casamero Lake, New Mexico; sophomore Winnie Morgan, Crownpoint; senior Naomi Peshlakai, Counselor, New Mexico; senior Alana Smith, Farmington; senior Madison Smith, Sonsela, Arizona; senior Kalani Williams, Shiprock; senior Kimberlynbah Yazzie, Standing Rock, New Mexico; and junior Natalyn Yazzie, Fort Defiance.

Students were selected based on demonstrated financial need, academic potential, and leadership skills. Each award covers the school's required academic and residential fees.

Nine of the students receive the scholarship for the first time, and seven students continue from previous years.

Since the scholarship program was established in 2011, Eve's Fund has awarded \$87,250 to 57 Navajo Prep students, some of whom received the scholarship in their four years at the school.

Shawna Becenti, head of Navajo Prep, said, "These scholarships help relieve the financial burden on families, so many of whom have been negatively impacted by the pandemic."

"Upon completion of their studies, these 16 exceptional young men and women will be well prepared for success in college," she said. "Ahxheeh' Eve's Fund for investing in the education of these future leaders."

The founders of Eve's Fund for Native American Health Initiatives, the late Dr. Robert Crowell, and Barbara Crowell



(COURTESY PHOTO | EVE'S FUND)

The Eve's Fund scholarship winners are, top row, left to right, Joshua Begay, Uriel Benally, Genesis Clark and Luke Damon; second row, from left, Wallen Descheeny, Jillian Garcia, Lucius Hale and Orion King; and third row, KayDence Low Dog, Winnie Morgan, Naomi Peshlakai and Alana Smith; and bottom row, from left, Madison Smith, Kalani Williams, Kimberlynbah Yazzie and Natalyn Yazzie.

Roy, established the scholarship program to honor the memory of their daughter, Eve Erin Crowell. They created the scholarship to address the significant educational needs of high school students in the Navajo Nation.

Feb. 24, 2022, marks the 17th anniversary of the passing of Eve Crowell and the 11th anniversary of the scholarship program established in her memory.

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