

**EDUCATION BRIEF**



COURTESY PHOTO | NAVAJO PREPARATORY SCHOOL

**These students were selected based on demonstrated financial need, academic potential, and leadership skills. Each recipient's award covers the school's required educational and residential fees. The scholarship program was established in 2011 with an initial funding of \$3,000. Pictured from left to right, top row: Kierra Antonio, Laci Antonio, Alexis Ball, Starlit Begay, and Thomacita Begay. Middle row, from left to right: Luke Damon, Wallen Decheeney, Christopher Francis, Orion King, and Nanabah Largo. Bottom row from left to right: Brooke Martin, Winni Morgan, Joelle Morris, Cadince Woody, and Natalyn Yazzie.**

**Eve's Fund awards \$15,000 in scholarships to 15 Navajo Prep students**

Eve's Fund for Native American Health Initiatives has announced that it has awarded \$15,000 in scholarships to 15 Navajo students attending Navajo Preparatory School in Farmington for the current academic year.

Ten of the students are receiving the scholarship for the first time, and five students are continuing from previous years.

**THE AWARDEES ARE:**

- \* Freshman Kierra Antonio (Pueblo Pintado, New Mexico)
- \* Sophomore Laci Antonio (Pueblo Pintado)
- \* Freshman Alexis Ball (Shiprock)
- \* Junior Starlit Begay (Fort Defiance)
- \* Junior Thomacita Begay (Tuba City)
- \* Junior Luke Damon (Albuquerque)
- \* Junior Wallen Decheeney (Klagetoh, Arizona)
- \* Senior Christopher Francis (Bloomfield, New Mexico)
- \* Junior Orion King (Rock Point,

- Arizona)
- \* Sophomore Nanabah Largo (Casamero Lake, New Mexico)
- \* Freshman Brooke Martin (Crownpoint)
- \* Junior Winni Morgan (Crownpoint)
- \* Freshman Joelle Morris (Window Rock and Sheep Springs, New Mexico)
- \* Sophomore Cadince Woody (Aneth, Utah)
- \* Senior Natalyn Yazzie (White Clay, Arizona)

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

The scholarship program was established in 2011 with an initial funding of \$3,000. Since then, Eve's Fund has awarded \$102,500 to 65 individual Navajo Prep students, some of whom received the scholarship in their four years at the school.

To qualify for the scholarship, students must also write a short essay on "What I want to do with my education" or "How

a good education will help me achieve my goals."

"We are deeply grateful to Eve's Fund for their generous donation of \$15,000 for scholarships at Navajo Prep. These scholarships will alleviate financial burdens for our students and their families and enable them to fully engage in their education, community, and leadership opportunities," said Shawna Becenti, head of school at Navajo Prep. "We are incredibly proud of our students for their accomplishments and leadership in their families, communities, and beyond. Eve's Fund has been a long-time supporter of our school, and we cannot thank them enough for their continued dedication to our students' success."

Approximately 90% of Navajo Prep students graduate successfully. Of these, over 90% go on to enroll at a four-year college or to serve in the military, including some accepted to the highly competitive military academies.

February 24 will mark the 18th anniversary of the passing of Eve Crowell and the 12th anniversary of the scholarship program established in her memory.

"This scholarship is a fitting tribute to my beloved daughter who truly understood the value of education," said Eve's mother, Barbara Crowell Roy, president of Eve's Fund. "She would be so pleased to know that her memory and legacy are being carried on through these scholarships to these well-deserving Navajo high school students."

She added, "If there were ever any doubt that her memory has been forgotten, read the personal biographies of the award recipients. Each student expressed their gratitude for the scholarship, and many expressed a desire to make both Eve's Fund and Eve proud. Eve's Fund is honored that, thanks to the generosity of our donors, we can continue this mission in Eve's name and memory."

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