

## EDUCATION BRIEF

### Three St. Michael Indian School grads awarded legacy scholarships

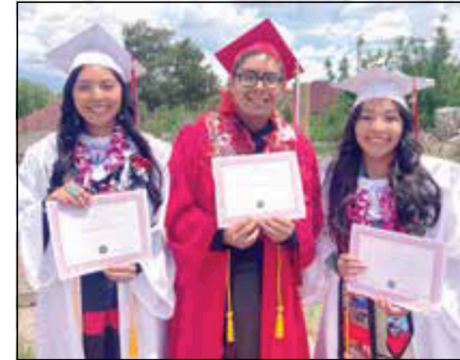
**SAINT MICHAELS** — Three Saint Michael Indian School graduates were honored as recipients of the school's Legacy Awards during its 73rd commencement Saturday, June 3, held on the school campus.

The graduation coincided with the school's 120th-anniversary celebration, a testament to its enduring commitment to education since its establishment in 1902 by Saint Katharine Drexel. The annual awards, including a college scholarship, were given to graduating seniors Lauralyn Nez, Cecil Begay, and Madison Begay and were made possible through the financial support of Eve's Fund for Native American Health Initiatives.

- Lauralyn Nez received the Saint Katharine Drexel Award, a \$1,000 scholarship given to a student who embodies personal dignity and respect for others. Nez plans to pursue pre-medicine studies at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colo., with a potential minor in business accounting.

- Cecil Begay received the Sister Mary Honora Award, which includes a \$500 scholarship and honors a student for their reverence for the traditions and culture of the Navajo and other peoples within the school community. Cecil plans to pursue general studies at the University of New Mexico in Gallup.

- Madison Begay received the Sister Katharine Barrett Award, a \$500 scholarship recognizing a student's service and loyalty to the school community. Madison will be a pre-med student at the University of Arizona and aspires to become



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From left to right, Madison Begay, Cecil Begay, and Lauralyn Nez.

a gynecologist.

St. Michael Principal Tazbah Yazzie commented: "It's my great privilege to know each of our graduates and celebrate their academic and personal achievements. We are grateful for the support from individual, corporate, and foundation contributors who partner with us for educational initiatives. We congratulate all the graduates throughout the Navajo Nation. Our prayers and blessings go with you in the years ahead."

"We join the Saint Michael Indian School community and President Nygren in wishing Cecil, Lauralyn, and Madison, and all the 2023 graduates, continued success," said Barbara Crowell Roy, Eve's Fund president. She added, "This is the third year we have sponsored these scholarships in support of promising St. Michael School graduates, and we look forward to doing so for many more years to come, thanks to generous Friends of Eve's Fund."

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