



**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**  
SAM SLATER



**DUAL CREDIT LAUNCHED**  
PIÑON, DEAP,  
NAVAJO PREP



**NCAP PROGRAMS**  
SILVERSMITHING BFA  
WEAVING BFA  
CERTIFICATE

# NAVAJO CULTURAL ARTS PROGRAM



**Silversmithing**



**Weaving**



**Basket Making**



**Moccasin Making**



**Pottery**

## Fall 2019 Welcomes Certificate and BFA Students

The NCAP staff is excited to announce the overall increased enrollment of traditional, non-traditional, and dual credit students in the Navajo Cultural Arts Certificate and BFA programs.

This year 9 students have enrolled in the 24 credit hour **Navajo Cultural Arts Certificate** program in the School of Diné Studies and Education.

Jeffrey J. Begay	Mentmore, NM	Certificate Emphasis: Moccasin Making/Weaving
Kayla D. Begay	Navajo, NM	Certificate Emphasis: Silversmithing
Veronica Begay	Crystal, NM	Certificate Emphasis: Weaving
Kalandrea Billah	Page, AZ	Certificate Emphasis: Silversmithing
Nona B. Billah	Tonalea, AZ	Certificate Emphasis: Silversmithing
Nabahe H. Hill	Coalmine, AZ	Certificate Emphasis: Silversmithing
Ray Jr. Redhouse	Tsaile, AZ	Certificate Emphasis: Silversmithing
Jayden R. Sandoval	Many Farms, AZ	Certificate Emphasis: Silversmithing
Willis R. Tsosie	White Clay, NM	Certificate Emphasis: Moccasin Making

Additionally, please give a warm welcome to the artists accepted into the 124 credit hour **Navajo Silversmithing** or **Navajo Weaving Bachelor of Fine Arts** Programs. These BFA emphasis areas are housed in the School of Arts, Humanities, and English.

Carlton P. Ami	Lukachukai, AZ	BFA Emphasis: Navajo Silversmithing
Lyndzey Barney	Kayenta, AZ	BFA Emphasis: Navajo Silversmithing
Sue V. Begay	Dennehotso, AZ	BFA Emphasis: Navajo Weaving
Eliseo Curley	Cove, AZ	BFA Emphasis: Navajo Weaving
Jacob Hardy	Price, UT	BFA Emphasis: Navajo Silversmithing
Tammy Martin	Navajo, NM	BFA Emphasis: Navajo Weaving
Crystal Littleben	Round Rock, AZ	BFA Emphasis: Navajo Silversmithing
Bryan Roessel	Round Rock, AZ	BFA Emphasis: Navajo Silversmithing

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE!** Diné College is an open enrollment institution. If you are interested in any of these programs, you can apply to the College and register for classes from now until January 9, 2020 to start classwork for the Spring 2020 semester. For more information, call 928 724 6616/6878 or you can visit our website at [navajoculturalartsprogram.org](http://navajoculturalartsprogram.org)



## Alumni Spotlight

**Sam Slater, 2016-17 Alumni** (*Kinyaa'áanii, Naayizi Dine'é, Tsi'naajinii, Sq' Diné'é*)

*Sam is a moccasin maker, originally from Round Rock, AZ. He emphasized in the moccasin making and silversmithing during his NCAP studies from 2016-17. He was also awarded a 2017 NCAP Apprenticeship, studying under Master Silversmith, Teddy Draper, Jr. Sam is currently a junior at Columbia University and co-taught the NCA132 Navajo Cultural Arts Materials and Resources class this past summer at Diné College.*

### What did you enjoy most about your NCAP classes?

Our classes were such supportive environments! It's rare to find teachers so dedicated to students' growth, but the NCAP allowed us to work with many elders—such as Harry Walters, Wilson Aronilth Jr., and the late Martha Jackson—who truly treated us as their grandchildren.

### What does being part of the NCAP family mean to you?

The NCAP taught me that the best way to learn is to teach. Being a part of our growing family means being committed to learning and to teaching. Over the past few years I've had some incomparable educational opportunities including, most recently, teaching this summer's NCA Materials and Resources course. With Dr. Christine Ami, I was able to design and implement a class that I had taken as a student three years ago. I'm proud of the students' fast progress and grateful for their faith in me as a knowledge holder.



### Where have the cultural arts taken you since your NCAP graduation?

I can proudly say the cultural arts have not taken me very far. By this, I mean my moccasin making and silversmithing have only deepened my roots in my home of Round Rock. I did not grow up in my home community and am grateful to the NCAP for helping me uncover these skills and knowledge that have allowed me to reaffirm a place for myself back home.

### What up and coming projects, events, or activities do you have scheduled?

I'm excited to bring moccasin making to the Columbia University campus this fall as a part of the Native American Heritage Month events. There are about 15 other Diné students who have asked to learn since I began school here. I'm also looking forward to the Diné Studies Conference next June 25-27, which I'm planning as a board member. You can find more information about submitting presentation proposals at [dinestudies.org](http://dinestudies.org).



## NCAP at the Navajo Nation Art Fair



**Adrian Herder**



**Mikayla Johnson**



**Titus Bert**

Congratulations to all of this year's Navajo Nation Art Show participants - a special shout out also goes to those NCAP alumni, students, and friends who entered, placed or received judge recognition.

## NCAP Ribbon Winners

Pottery - Youth

*Titus Bert*

Pottery - Youth

*Mikayla Johnson*

Pottery

*Adrian Herder*

Pottery

*Jared Tso*

Jewelry

*Lyndon Tsosie*



## Zefren Textile Award

NCAP Alumni, Zefren Anderson created and awarded a new prize for the NN Fair. This year to Congratulations to Mona Laughing for her piece "Crystal Star Burst", the first recipient of the Zefren Textile Award.

# NCAP at Museum of Northern Arizona's Heritage Festival



The NCAP hosted a booth at this year's Navajo Culture and Arts Heritage Festival in Flagstaff. Not only did NCAP alumni and students create pieces to be sold at the weekend long event, but also the NCA136 Navajo Cultural Arts Business Systems Class experienced hands on sales training at the NCAP booth. Students worked the booth along side their instructor, Dr. Christine Ami, and NCAP Coordinator, Crystal Littleben. The NCA136 students made over \$1000 in sales and 100% of the profit went directly back to our NCAP artists. Mr. LeAnder Cly won the sales competition with a \$400 transaction! What a great way to end Summer Session II.



## NCAP Dual Credit Student wins Miss Piñon High School



Miss Piñon High School Princess

Piñon High School Senior and Diné College Dual Credit student, Mikayla Johnson, won the 2019/20 Miss Piñon High School Princess title. Mykala studied Navajo Pottery with Jared Tso this past summer as part of the NCAP Certificate Program. One of her talents included her pottery making. We could not be more proud. **Congratulations, Mikayla!**

# Pottery Puts the -P- and the -O- in Positivity

Over the past 4 years, the Navajo Cultural Arts Program (NCAP) has grown to include 5 emphasis areas. Starting with Silversmithing and Weaving in 2015, Moccasin Making was added on in 2016 and Basketry in 2017. This past summer, the Navajo Cultural Arts Certificate officially grew to include 5 emphasis areas as Jared Tso, 4th generation Navajo potter, SWAIA Ribbon Winner and University of New Mexico MFA student fired back up the Navajo pottery classes here at Diné College. NCA101 Navajo Pottery and NCA201 Advanced Navajo Pottery were offered for the first time in over 5 years. Students from a far as Tempe registered for this unique class and included Dual Credit high school students, NCA Certificate students, and NCAP staff. Mr. Tso dedicated the summer to teaching students how to harvest and make their own natural clay sources, to create pitch and coil pots, and to ground fire and sap pottery. Three of the students went on to submit pieces to the Navajo Nation Art Show in September. All three students and their instructor placed! All in all, these were inspiring classes that we look forward to offering Summer 2020. Thank you, Jared, and study hard this fall semester at UNM!



# Dual Credit: Earning College Credit in HS

Dual Credit allows for high school students to earn college credits while still attending high school. In addition to Navajo Language, Mathematics, English, and Public Health courses, [Navajo Cultural Arts Certificate](#) classes are now available to both Arizona and New Mexico high school students as part of the Dual Credit course offerings. Cost to the dual credit student is \$0.00! Yup, you read that correctly. As long as the students pass their Dual Credit classes with a “C” or higher, there is no cost for tuition. Summer and fall 2019 the following students have taken part in this unique way to earn college credit and learn more about the Navajo cultural arts.

Tavian Amos Nutlouis	DEAP	Dual Credit Emphasis: Silversmithing
Titus Bert	Piñon High School	Dual Credit Emphasis: Pottery
Shawn Bia	DEAP	Dual Credit Emphasis: Silversmithing
LeAnder Clay	Navajo Preparatory School	Dual Credit Emphasis: Pottery
Mikayla Johnson	Piñon High School	Dual Credit Emphasis: Pottery

Do you want to know more about Diné College Dual Credit? Check out our Dual Credit Website page: <http://www.navajoculturalartsprogram.org/navajo-cultural-arts-dual-credit.html> or contact Winifred Bessie Jumbo at 928 724 6922.

# First Fridays: From Sewing to Beading

The NCAP looks forward to continuing its First Friday Sewing Series in collaboration with the Diné College Library System. The series allows for us to work with emphasis areas that our outside of the traditional emphasis of the BFA and Certificate programs. It also allows for the DC libraries to bring forth learned knowledge to compliment their book knowledge. Tsaile Librarian, Rhiannon Sorrell writes specifically about this in her recent publishing “[From JSTOR to Jiní: Incorporating Traditional Knowledge in Teaching Information Literacy at Tribal Colleges](#)” in the [Tribal College Journal](#).

The NCAP team finished up their year long First Friday Sewing Series in August. The staff from NCAP and the Diné College Libraries want to give a tremendous shout out to the sewing workshop leaders, Andrea Sekayumtewa and Debbie Teller for traveling between the Crownpoint, Shiprock and Tsaile to teach community members how to make projects such Blue Bird Aprons, Tobacco Pouches, and Ribbon Skirts. You ladies were wonderfully gracious throughout this unique collaboration.

For this academic year, our First Fridays Series is based on bead work!

# Upcoming Events

Currently	NCAC Application Period Open	<a href="http://navajoculturalartsprogram.org">navajoculturalartsprogram.org</a>
Currently	NCAP BFA Emphasis Application Period Open	<a href="http://navajoculturalartsprogram.org">navajoculturalartsprogram.org</a>
Currently	NCAP Dual Credit Application Period Open	<a href="http://navajoculturalartsprogram.org">navajoculturalartsprogram.org</a>
10/6	NCAP First Fridays: Beaded Earrings	Diné College Tsaile Library
10/22	BFA Pizza and Info Night: Meet the Program	GCB: Art Hallway
11/4	NCAP First Fridays: Beaded Earrings	Diné College Crownpont Library
11/19	Art Walk	Diné College Tsaile Campus
12/4	NCAP First Fridays: Beaded Earrings	Diné College Shiprock Library