

Journal #5802 from sdc 8.4.24

Serenity

University enrolls first cohort from its Tribal College Prep Camp

More September PowWows

University of Nevada, Reno signs agreements with two universities in Italy

UNR students work with startups in the new study abroad program in Warsaw

Exec: GSR arena will seek corporate naming-rights partner

Non-profits offer free computers to community

Legislative committee to sponsor bill to establish dementia care network

Researchers unearthed an array of artifacts indicative of banana farming

Mural Controversy

Join us for "Blue Planet: A History of Water" starting Oct 16

Stanford Pre-Collegiate Studies

New lithium mining method could save ground water resources in Nevada

Minnesota tribes grapple with delayed food deliveries because of USDA 'mistakes'

JFK assassination records still redacted

CIA can withhold Guantanamo information from FOIA request

NV secures \$10 million grant to enhance outcomes for students with disabilities

Ondabuhku: Wa'aipe Nanamainta Camp



PHOTOGRAPH BY HARALD SUND

University enrolls first cohort from its Tribal College Prep Camp

[Impact & Student Success](#) | August 26, 2024

[Emma Lande](#)

Previous camp attendees Kendal Navajo, Isabella Smokey, Soleil Burke and Serenity Phelps (left to right) are now first-year students pursuing degrees in the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology & Natural Resources. Camp attendees learn about college academic programs, applying for college, supportive resources and social skills. Photo by Trevon Tiger Barnes.



Soleil Burke has fond memories of her childhood on the Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation in northwestern Nevada, a tight-knit community located 35 miles northeast of Reno.

“It is a safe and nurturing community with barely any light pollution,” she says. “I grew up watching clear, bright stars at night and beautiful sunsets from our backyard. You couldn’t get that anywhere else.”

But amid this idyllic existence, an empty chair at the dining table served as a quiet reminder of her father; a gregarious and warm man she now remembers only faintly. His life was tragically cut short, leaving her mother a young widow with three small children.

A decade or so later, thanks to the unwavering support and encouragement of her mother, and grandmother who helped raise her and her siblings, Burke graduated from high school near the top of her class, while also earning some dual college credits. After carefully evaluating what she refers to as “strong agriculture colleges,” she chose to attend the [University of Nevada, Reno's College of Agriculture, Biotechnology & Natural Resources](#) to pursue a bachelor's degree in [wildlife ecology and conservation](#).

Thanks to the Native American Fee Waiver provided by the Nevada System of Higher Education and various scholarships, including financial support from the College’s [Tribal Students Program](#) at the University, Burke’s mother can rest easy knowing that tuition and housing at the University’s [Indigenous Living Learning Community](#), are covered. This University housing option offers Tribal students opportunities for mentoring, tutoring, internships, graduate school options, networking and job placement.

Preparing Tribal high school students for college

Burke first learned about the College at the Discover Your Path Tribal College Prep Camp in 2017, a week-long summer camp established by the College’s Tribal Students Program where Tribal high school students learn about how to apply to college and career options. Despite her

initial reservations, her grandmother, who saw the camp's advertisement on Facebook, encouraged her to attend. Since then, Burke participated each year in the annual late-July camp, held at the scenic Nevada State 4-H Camp in Lake Tahoe.



The 2024 Tribal College Prep Camp attendees pose for a group photo at the Nevada State 4-H Camp in Lake Tahoe. Photo by Trevon Tiger Barnes.

Kendal Navajo, whose father is Navajo and mother is Canadian Okanogan, also attended the camp each year from its inception. Now an undergraduate in the College, she is pursuing a [degree in rangeland ecology and management](#). Navajo says the isolation caused by the pandemic, coupled with her natural shyness, made her even more withdrawn after battling COVID-19. Concerned for her daughter's well-being, Navajo's mother, who also learned about the camp through social media and emails from the Clark County School District's Indian Education Opportunities Program, encouraged her to attend the camp and even volunteered as a chaperone.

"The camp made me feel comfortable, as if I were with people who truly understood how I felt," Navajo said. "Being around other Natives in an interactive setting helped me feel at ease and more open to sharing my experiences because we could relate to each other."

Unlike Navajo who grew up in Las Vegas, many Tribal students have been raised in isolated reservations and often struggle to adjust to the bustling atmosphere of a large university.

"At the camp, we want to help students come out of their shells; build their confidence; and provide them with the social, financial and academic information they need to be more informed about college and to ease their transition," said Kari Emm, a specialist with the College's Tribal Students Program who also administers the camp. "We want them to appreciate the value of post-secondary education and be aware of all the university resources available to support their personal and academic success."

To Burke, Navajo, Serenity Phelps and Isabella Smokey, all alumni of the camp and first-year students at the College, Emm is nothing short of a hero. They all agree on one thing: she and her team of coordinators at the Tribal College Prep Camp have been invaluable mentors, guiding them through the complexities of applying to colleges and offering crucial information to which many first-generation students might not otherwise have access. Emm, who is a member of the Yerington Paiute Tribe and grew up on the Walker River Paiute Indian Reservation in Schurz, Nevada, knows firsthand how difficult it is for Native students to access higher education. Through her own experiences, she has developed a passion for underserved student populations.

Smokey, a Native Wašiw who lives in Phoenix, Arizona, says that she is exhilarated to be following in the footsteps of her mother, an uncle and an aunt by attending the University of

Nevada, Reno. She is enrolled in the College and hopes to pursue a degree in [environmental science](#).

Tribal Students Program: Specialized support for Tribal students

The four first-year students will now be part of the Tribal Students Program where they will benefit from scholarly and professional networking opportunities, professional development seminars, and financial and housing assistance at the University's residential housing for the Indigenous Living Learning Community. The program also coordinates internships and job placements with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, other land-grant universities, and federal and local indigenous community development programs, among others.

The Tribal College Prep Camp has grown in popularity since its inception. Applications have surged nearly seven-fold, growing from 17 students in 2022 to more than 110 registered this year, and drawing students from other states, including Oklahoma, California and Arizona. The camp includes a series of breakout sessions where representatives from various academic programs from across the University present their degree programs. The camp's itinerary features a blend of other activities, including polar bear plunges, cabin chores, beach time, cultural performances and games.

Phelps, whose father is a Native of the Duckwater and Yomba Shoshone tribes in Nevada, attended the camp for the first time this year. She will be joining the College to pursue a [degree in veterinary science](#). Upon graduation, she intends to follow in the footsteps of her grandfather and uncle by joining the military, where she eventually hopes to train as a military veterinarian.



Staci Emm, Kari Emm and Daniel Coen (left to right) began the Tribal College Prep Camp in 2022 to prepare Tribal students for higher education. Photos by Robert Moore.

pivotal moment at the camp for Phelps was meeting Daniel Coen, a 25-year military veteran. Coen, the American Indian student coordinator with the Tribal Students Program, leans on his military background to provide mentorship, counseling and guidance to the students at the camp. He and Staci Emm, Extension professor, co-founded the camp when they realized a significant disparity in college preparedness between Tribal and non-Tribal students.

“What we discovered is that many of our Tribal students often don’t know what to expect of college,” Coen said. “Some end up dropping out due to being homesick or because they are unprepared for the academic demands and unaware of the excellent academic support resources offered by the University. That is why our camp is so crucial. It is where we begin preparing them to succeed from day one.”

Future faculty training to bridge gaps for Tribal students

Kari and Staci understand these challenges well, having grown up on the Walker River Reservation. They are aware of the skepticism and sometimes extreme trust issues that pervade the students, holding them back from connecting with their new environment. Together with Coen, the Emm sisters with the College's faculty have often assumed a parental role over the students.

Broad support drives Tribal Students Program and prep camp

Most of the University's academic programs contribute annual funds to the Tribal Students Program, supporting initiatives such as the camp. A few years ago, with the backing of the College's Dean, Bill Payne, the College donated a house previously reserved for offices to accommodate upper classmen Indigenous students. The College funded the remodeling, with the Tribal students dedicating countless hours to transforming the house into a home with free rent and utilities for the students. The house is conveniently located near the [Experiment Station's Desert Farming Initiative](#), which offers regular internships to Tribal students.



Students at the 2024 Tribal College Prep Camp engage in a money management exercise to equip them with basic financial skills for college. Photo by Trevon Tiger Barnes.

"This is a form of scholarship that offsets the cost of attending college for Tribal students in agriculture-related programs," Coen said. "It also frees up funds to accommodate more of our students' Indigenous housing."

Additionally, the University's Graduate School provides scholarships in the amount of \$45,000 a year as matching funds toward federal funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, which supports the Tribal Students Program.

Talented, diverse and driven

The four first-year students from the Tribal College Prep Camp are vibrant and enthusiastic. Phelps excels in a variety of sports and Smokey is an aspiring artist. Burke is a passionate scholar, and Navajo is a budding violinist who has mastered her part in *Anastasia*, the Broadway musical, and once performed at the Las Vegas-based Smith Center for the Performing Arts with the Las Vegas Youth Orchestra.

Their bonding experience at the camp has engendered a form of sisterhood that they say they hope to sustain beyond college.

"My camp friends and I feel grateful to the University for providing such a great learning and bonding camp experience," Navajo said. "Someday along the way, we all hope to bring back what we have gained in school into the world to make a real difference in our communities."

Program supported by friends, family and the federal government

The creation of the Tribal Students Program was also made possible by the Native American Agriculture Fund, which allowed their private funds to match the federal grant award for the creation of the College's Tribal Students Program in 2020. The program has continually expanded with their support and collaboration of the University's colleges and private donors.

Donations for the Tribal Students Program and the Tribal College Prep Camp come from the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology & Natural Resources; Extension; the Desert Farming Initiative; and state agencies such as the Nevada Department of Education's Indian Education Program and the Native Community Youth Project. The program also receives support from the UNLV William F. Harrah College of Hospitality's Tribal Gaming Program and private donors such as Frances C. & William P. Smallwood Foundation and Nevada Gold Mines. Other annual supporters within the University include the [College of Education & Human Development](#), [College of Engineering](#), [College of Liberal Arts](#), [College of Science](#), [Office for Prospective Students](#), [Orvis School of Nursing](#), [Reynolds School of Journalism](#) and [School of Public Health](#).

More PowWows

Sep 21 [Dry Creek Big Time 2024](#) [- Geyserville CA](#)
Begins at 3:00pm Please contact Max Cordova for vendor space (limited space) 707-479-8089

Sep 21 [Gathering of the Waters Pow Wow 2024](#) [- Eau Claire WI](#)
11:00am-6:00pm Free Event Grand Entry: 1:00pm Traditional Pow Wow Indigenous Community & Allies Welcome Health Fair Artist Workshops, Vendors Higher Education Resources Food...

Sep 21 [33rd Annual Fort Omaha Intertribal Pow Wow 2024](#) [- Omaha NE](#)
1:00pm-7:30pm One Heartbeat, Many Nations Free and Open to the Public Dancer Registration
11:00am-1:00pm Emcee: Taylor Chei Begay, Diné Arena Director: ...

Sep 21-22 [Eagle Feather Pow Wow 2024](#) [- Brandon VT](#)
Vendors needed! Some are arriving Sept 19 and 20th to set up. Drums, flute players All welcome! This is an educational pow...

Sep 21-22 [Nottoway Tribe of Virginia Pow Wow 2024](#) [- Surry VA](#)
Nottoway Tribe of VA's Pow Wow is an event for the whole family to enjoy. Learn about indigenous people, shop with amazing...

Sep 21-22 [Trade Mill 5th Annual Intertribal Pow Wow 2024](#) [- Trade TN](#)
Saturday, September 21st - 12:00pm GRAND ENTRY Sunday, September 22nd - 1:00pm GRAND ENTRY Dance competition: Men's traditional, fancy & grass Women's...

Sep 21-22 [48th Annual Honolulu Intertribal Pow Wow 2024](#) [- Honolulu HI](#)
10:00am-4:00pm Come join us for special performances, delicious frybread tacos, keiki crafts, Native vendors, local foods and more! 9:00am Host Culture Protocols...

Sep 27-29 [Comanche Nation Fair Pow Wow 2024](#) [- Lawton OK](#)
SCHEDULE: Friday: 3:00pm Gourd Dance 5:00pm Registration Opens Tiny Tots Contest (5 & under) Jr & Sr Adult Exhibition Jr. Categories (6-12)...

Sep 27-29 [Last Chance Community Pow Wow 2024](#) [- Helena MT](#)
Celebrating 25 Years! Honor the Children Free Admission Everyone Welcome! Grand Entries: Friday: 6:00pm Saturday: Noon & 6:00pm Sunday: Noon Contest Dancing...

Sep 27-29 [Lumbee Tribe of NC Pow Wow 2024](#) [- Maxton NC](#)
Grand Entries: Friday 7:00pm; Saturday Noon & 7:00pm; Sunday 1:00pm Admissions: Adults \$10; Youth Under 18 \$5; Seniors (55+) \$5; Military with...

Sep 27-29 [Medicine Lodge Pow Wow 2024](#) [- Medicine Lodge KS](#)
All are invited to Medicine Lodge Powwow, honoring the 5-Plains Tribes in attendance at the Medicine Lodge Treaty of 1867, the Kiowa,...

Sep 27-29 [Morongo Thunder and Lightning Pow Wow 2024](#) [- Cabazon CA](#)
The Morongo Band of Mission Indians will host their annual Thunder and Lightning Pow Wow September 27-29, 2024 in Cabazon, California. Save the date!! The...

Sep 27-29 [Pabanamanina Pow Wow 2024](#) [- Bishop CA](#)
Welcome To California Indian Days Open to the public! First Grand Entry Friday Night At 7:00pm All Dancers, Drums...

Sep 28 [19th Annual Totah Drums of Fall 2024](#) [- Farmington NM](#)
Dancers, vendors, guests all are welcomed to scan the QR code to sign up for competition and see the specials we have...

Sep 28 [55th Annual AIS Homecoming Pow Wow 2024](#) [- Spencer MA](#)
Gates open at 10:30 am 11 am Craft Circle bring your projects 1 pm break for lunch 2 pm Afternoon Session 5...

Sep 28 [Native American Heritage Celebration 2024 - Springfield, MO](#)
[Gourd Dance 10-11 AM Intertribal dancing 11-1:30 pm Lunch Break 1:30-2:30 pm Gourd Dance 2:30-3:30 pm Intertribals 3:30-6 pm Day money paid...](#)

Sep 28-29 [Tejon Indian Tribe Honoring Our Ancestors 2024](#) [Bakersfield CA](#)
All Singers, Dancers, Drums & Community Members Invited Free Event Open to the Public Grand Entries: Saturday & Sunday 12:00pm Kalpulli Teuxihuitl...

Sep 28 **Lower Eastern Cherokee SC 17th Annual Pow Wow 2024** - **Gray Court SC**
Celebrating 9 years as a State Recognized Tribe. Open to the Public Gates open 9:00am Pow
Wow ends at 7:00pm Grand...

Sep 28 **South Sound Pow Wow 2024** - **Spanaway WA**
1:00pm - 7:00pm Grand Entry 1:00pm Free and Open to the Public All Drums and Dancers
Welcome! Arts & Craft Vendors on...

Sep 28-29 **41st Annual WilCo Pow Wow 2024** - **Lebanon TN**
Gates Open 10:00am Daily Admission: Adults \$10.00 Veterans/Seniors (65+) \$5.00 Children
(6-12) \$5.00 Kids 5 & Under Free *Ticket sales are Cash...

Sep 30 **3rd Annual South Island Pow Wow 2024** - **Victoria BC**
Gates Open at 10 am, Grand Entries at noon & 6 pm. Where: Royal Athletic Park 1014
Caledonia Ave, Victoria, BC...

~~~~~  
**University of Nevada, Reno signs agreements with two universities in Italy**

The international collaborations focus on sustainability, student research and the study of lakes

The University of Nevada, Reno recently signed two international collaboration agreements with institutions in Italy. One is with the Università dell'Insubria (University of Insubria) and the other is with the Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca (University of Milano-Bicocca). These partnerships formalize the academic connection between the universities and will foster research focusing on sustainability, ecotourism and lake water resource use.

Both agreements encourage engagement in scholarly activities where faculty and university programs can formally exchange ideas and develop collaborations. The agreements are designed to expand over time to engage various disciplines and colleges.

<https://www.unr.edu/nevada-today/news/2024/us-italy-partnership-agreements>

- **University of Nevada students work with startups in the new study abroad program in Warsaw:** University of Nevada, Reno students participated in a study abroad program in Warsaw, collaborating with startup founders and gaining insights into global entrepreneurial practices. ([unr.edu](http://unr.edu))
- **Exec: GSR arena will seek corporate naming-rights partner:** The Grand Sierra Resort in Reno is planning a \$400 million arena, which will likely be named by a corporate sponsor. The arena will host University of Nevada, Reno basketball games and various entertainment events, making it a significant local development. ([nevadaappeal.com](http://nevadaappeal.com))
- **Non-profits offer free computers to community:** Dress for Success Reno, in collaboration with TC Energy and Compudopt, is hosting its first Computer Give-away Event on September 5 at the Reno-Sparks Chamber of Commerce. The initiative aims to support community members entering the workforce. ([ktvn.com](http://ktvn.com))



- **Legislative committee to sponsor bill to establish dementia care network:** State lawmakers will consider a bill to create a Nevada Memory Network, involving the University of Nevada, Reno, to improve dementia care with memory assessment clinics and community health workers. ([rgj.com](http://rgj.com))

- ~~~~~  
**Researchers unearthed an array of artifacts indicative of banana farming** at the Wagadagam site on Mabuyag Island, which is located in the Torres Strait between the northern tip of Australia and Papua New Guinea. <https://bit.ly/4dE21LO>

[smithsonianmag.com](http://smithsonianmag.com)

[Traces of 2,000-Year-Old Banana Farm Found in Australia](#)

[The discovery contradicts conceptions of early Indigenous peoples as exclusively hunter gatherers](#)

~~~~~  
[Providence Christian College - Compete for a 100% Tuition Scholarship.](#)

[Learn More About the James Madison Speech Writing Competition](#)

<https://witherspoon.providencecc.edu>

[Apply Now](#)

[Study the classics — Travel the world Witherspoon Honors Program The Witherspoon Honors Program at Providence Christian College provides a foundation in the Western and Christian tradition. Students encounter the roots of their civilization through a classical great-books sequence that begin...](#)

~~~~~  
[Diane W.](#)

Time for change on Piedmont Ave? I need your help and opinion. There is a mural painted by Rocky Baird called The Capture of Solid, The Escape of Soul supposedly depicting the Ohlone people at the time of contact with the Spanish . The artist found it OK to depict this really tall, lanky Ohlone (they were short and mostly stocky) naked down to a rather large penis, can I write that??? He includes naked Ohlone women. Some members of our native community in Oakland protested when the mayor of Piedmont had an open house for this mural in 2006 when it was painted. I have never spoken to another native person who thought this mural was an honorable depiction of the plight of the Ohlone since the Spanish came to Oakland in 1776.

Surely someone can help me and post the mural for all on ND to see? Thanks.

Our community protested this in 2006 during the opening to no avail as there it sits. Please imagine any other race, religion, nationality who would want to see a naked member of theirs on a mural for all to see for decades? The fact that we sit on Ohlone land is enough reason to re-examine this mural and if it really reflects the dignity and respect we owe to the original people of this land. We are talking about the bigger picture of Justice. I think it would be just if this mural were to be painted over and Ohlone people were asked to create something that would honor them and this land. What do you think ND?

## [Stanford Continuing Studies](#)

Take a deep dive into Earth's most vital resource. In this online course, students will learn to appreciate water through a scientific lens. **Join us for "Blue Planet: A History of Water" starting Oct 16!**



## [Stanford Pre-Collegiate Studies](#)

**Stanford Pre-Collegiate Studies, in collaboration with Stanford Continuing Studies, invites students in grades 9-12 to join the Stanford Distinguished Faculty Lecture Series.**

[sto.stanfordtickets.org](https://stanfordtickets.org)

[Join Stanford Faculty for Fall Online Lectures](#)

[Wednesday, November 6, 2024](#)

## **New lithium mining method could save ground water resources in Nevada**

The race for lithium is heating up in Nevada. There are more than 80 lithium projects proposed for the state's public lands, but our arid environment comes with limitations.

<https://www.kunr.org/local-stories/2024-08-30/new-lithium-mining-method-could-save-ground-water-resources-in-nevada>

## **Minnesota tribes grapple with delayed food deliveries because of USDA 'mistakes'**

Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community steps in to help income-eligible tribal members hit hardest.

<https://www.startribune.com/minnesota-tribes-grapple-with-delayed-food-deliveries-because-of-usda-mistakes/601137097>

**JFK assassination records still redacted:** The John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 mandated that the records would be opened in full by 2017. But a [new report from Amy Howard](#) at University College London found that only 39% of the records were fully open, and that records that were redacted averaged 29 blacked-out passages.

**CIA can withhold Guantanamo information from FOIA request:** A federal appeals court ruled that the CIA is able to withhold the existence of information about Guantanamo Bay detainees "because the agency never waived its right to do so," [reports Quinn Wilson in Bloomberg Law](#).

## NV secures \$10 million grant to enhance outcomes for students with disabilities

<https://www.publicnewsservice.org/2024-09-04/disabilities/nv-secures-10-million-grant-to-enhance-outcomes-for-students-with-disabilities/a92143-1>



**SEPTEMBER 13-15, 2024**

**\*MEET SEPTEMBER 13TH AT 3PM\***

**4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**

## **Ondabuhku: Wa'aipe Nanamainka Camp**

This camp is an all-Shoshone woman and girls' camp with the intent to connect girls back to our culture through the coming-of-age ceremony where Shoshone elders prepare girls for the transition into womanhood.

This space is curated to be conducive to sharing and healing with an emphasis on showing kindness and respect for one another. Presenters have been invited and are cultural teachers in their own respective community but if you are interested in presenting – please contact me first. The camp is meant to support the growth of our girls with the idea of building them up which means we need to have their parents, aunties or grandmothers involved in this multi-generational effort. **All minors need to be accompanied by a chaperone for the entire weekend.**

### **Mill Creek Campground**

The Mill Creek Recreation Area turnoff is located **20 miles south of Battle Mountain** on SR305 & is signed. From the turn-off you will travel 4 miles on a maintained gravel road to the recreation site entrance.

Plant ID Hike  
Sunrise Ceremony  
Talking Circle Cultural Activities  
Newe Daigwa

MEALS PROVIDED

REGISTER HERE:



CONTACT:  
MARISSA WEASELBOY  
WEASELBOYM@GMAIL.COM  
775-294-5708