

NATIVE FORWARD

SCHOLARS FUND

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

**VALENTIN CONTRERAS, PALA BAND OF MISSION INDIANS
& IIPAY NATION OF SANTA YSABEL**



OUR MISSION

We provide financial support for American Indians and Alaska Natives seeking higher education and support them in obtaining undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees. We partner with Tribes, the federal government, foundations, corporations, and individuals to ensure the growth and sustainability of scholarships.

OUR VISION

Building on a 50-year legacy, Native Forward will continue to be the premier national resource in funding and empowering the next generation of Native leaders across all sectors, by meeting the unmet need of every Native student.

OUR CORE VALUES

Excellence • Impact • Respect • Empowerment • It's Personal

2022

AT A GLANCE

AVERAGE UNMET NEED

\$24,097.68

AVERAGE AWARD

\$8,499.25

TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED

\$11,414,488.96

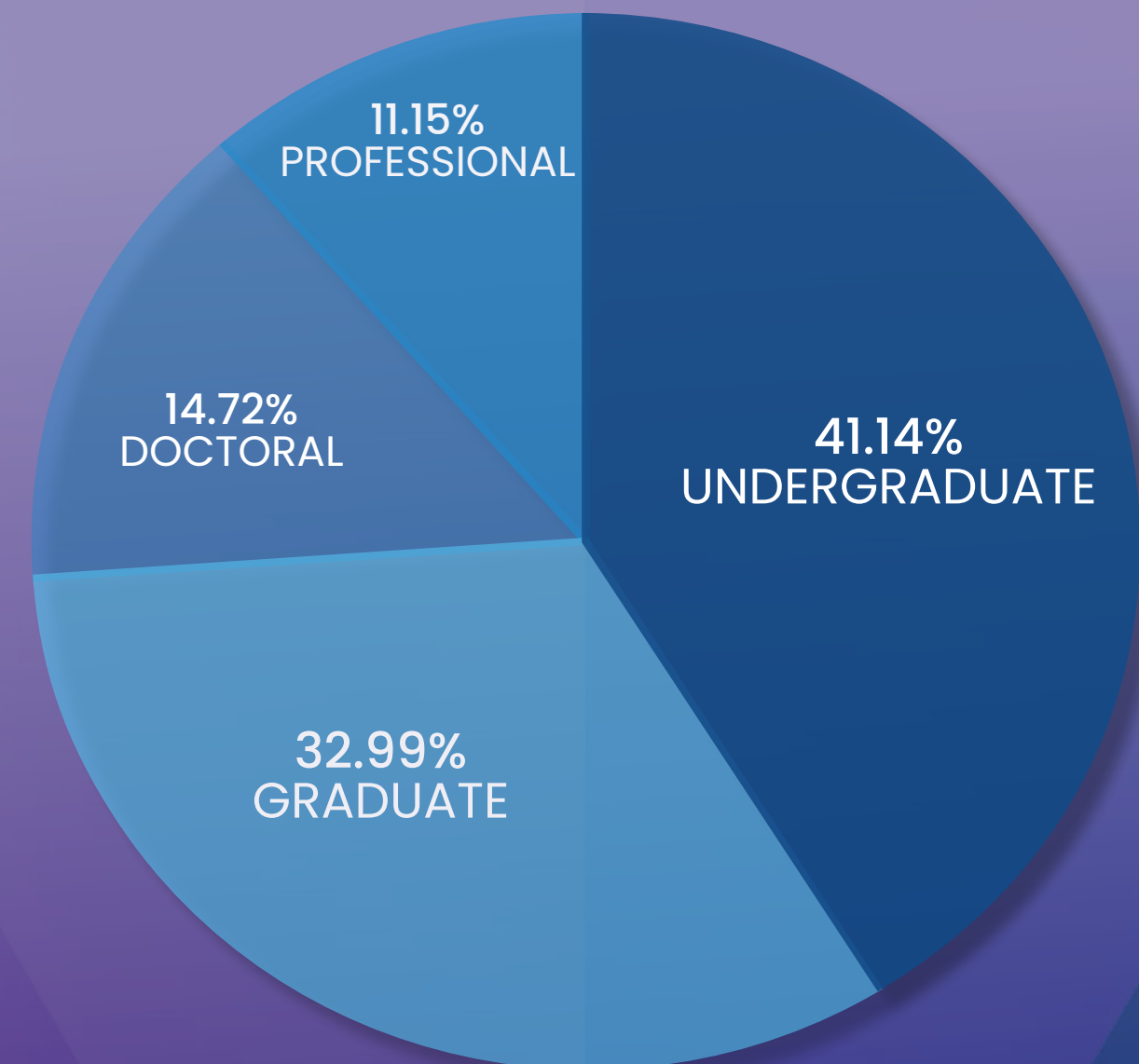
HIGHEST SINGLE AWARD

\$52,434.42

TOTAL NATIVE SCHOLARS EMPOWERED

1,760

ACADEMIC CLASSIFICATION BREAKDOWN



TOP 10

TRIBES

Navajo Nation
Cherokee Nation
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians of North Dakota
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
Oglala Sioux Tribe of the Pine Ridge Reservation
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Chickasaw Nation
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Michigan
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe of the Cheyenne River Reservation
Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation

HOME STATES

Oklahoma
Arizona
New Mexico
North Dakota
Montana
South Dakota
California
Washington
Arkansas
Oregon

AREAS OF STUDY

Education
Public Health
Business
Law
Engineering
Psychology
Medicine
Biology
Nursing
Social Work/Welfare

INSTITUTIONS

University of Oklahoma
Arizona State University
University of New Mexico
Northern Arizona University
Oklahoma State University
University of Arizona
University of North Dakota
Northeastern State University
University of Montana
University of Washington



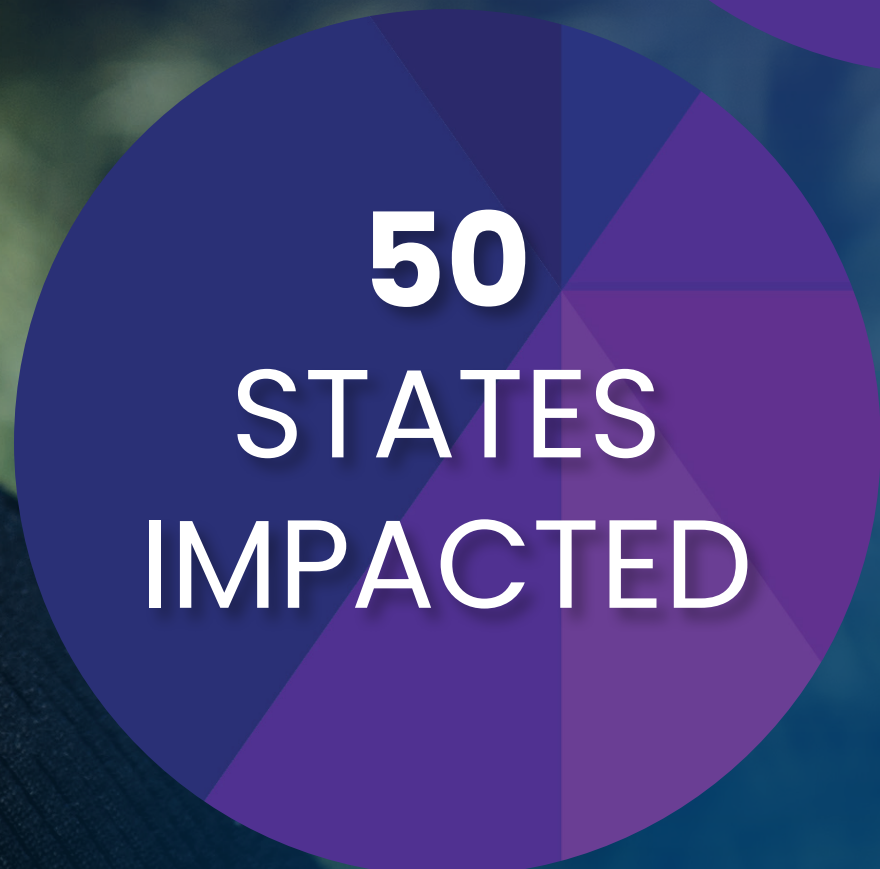
ALEXIS DURO, TONGVA NATION

A portrait of Sheila Corbine, a woman with dark hair, wearing glasses and a black top, smiling. The background is a blurred green foliage.

NATIONWIDE STATISTICS

A circular infographic divided into eight segments of varying shades of purple and blue.

188
TRIBES
REPRESENTED

A circular infographic divided into eight segments of varying shades of purple and blue.

50
STATES
IMPACTED

A circular infographic divided into eight segments of varying shades of purple and blue.

326
INSTITUTIONS
ATTENDED

SHEILA CORBINE, LAC COURTE OREILLES BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR CHIPPEWA

STUDENT OF THE YEAR

SAXON METZGER, OSAGE NATION GRADUATE

As a member of the Osage Nation, I've been honored to work with Native Forward Scholars Fund for several years. They've supported me in my academics, my professional career, and in helping me grow as a person. Through their continued financial and institutional support, I've been able to graduate with my Bachelor of Science in Economics and will graduate at the end of this semester with my Master of Business Administration.

Through their support, I've received numerous industry certifications and attended professional workshops that have opened doors for me to enjoy my career as a project developer for solar array installations in the Midwest. Native Forward staff made me feel like I belonged and was believed in, which helped me, not just accomplish many of my goals and dreams, but also to heal something deep within myself that I've only recently understood as a deeply rooted historical phenomenon.

Our people have been exposed to generations of organized patterns of violence intended to break us apart and push us to the periphery until we disappear entirely. Within my own family, Mary Denoya-Bellieu-Lewis was murdered in front of her own daughter to secure financial gain during the Osage Reign of Terror. The beauty of our people is that, despite these legacies of scars across the fabric of our culture, we continuously serve as a model for loving and supporting each other and guiding the world. Native Forward is a prime example of this commitment to one another. It is not in our culture to be marginalized, but to continue to stand upright as a people and a collection of tribes to serve to better the world and grow ourselves.

May we continue to learn how to support each other's growth, conscious that we are the descendants of centuries of recent trauma. May we continuously serve and support our families, communities, tribes, and the world around us. May we become stewards of our sacred history, to weave the memories of our ancestors into loving action in the present to create a future for our people that would make them proud.





STUDENT OF THE YEAR

MATTHEW HOLGATE, NAVAJO NATION UNDERGRADUATE

I am Diné from the Navajo Nation and originally from Navajo Mountain, Arizona. I am Many Goats born for Bitter Water, my maternal grandfather is Mexican Clan, and my paternal grandfather is Many Goats. I am a senior at Vanguard University of Southern California attaining my Bachelor of Arts in Communication with an emphasis in Emerging Media and Technology. I am also pursuing minors in journalism, digital media, and religion along with an Anti-Human Trafficking Certificate. I currently serve as the Student Body President at Vanguard University.

I plan to use my education to continue bringing awareness and resources to anti-human trafficking among Native American people. I also serve as an intern with the Global Center for Women and Justice working to provide prevention practices for anti-human trafficking. I want to work in higher education to help Native American students develop professionally and in their personal communities. Once I finish, my undergraduate degree, I plan to get a master's degree in clinical counseling.

Being a Native Forward Scholar is more than just getting monetary funds, but it takes a lot of work and by having the support and opportunity, I can live out my dreams to give back to my own community. The scholarship I received has changed my perspective and made me feel that I have a team that supports my overall goal and motivates me to do more. The scholarship means I can expand my abilities by helping people. Attending college has given me the opportunity to learn about the various career fields out there and what job fits well with my skillset. This is where I fell in love with public safety and anti-human trafficking efforts. In May of 2022, I was given the opportunity to establish an anti-trafficking conference in the Navajo Nation.

Walking into college, I didn't understand that it could be anything more than just an educational accomplishment. I've been able to expand my education to create opportunities to explore what I want to do with my life while building my network. I like to think of Native Forward Scholars Fund as one of my partners in ending human trafficking in Tribal nations, by way of the scholarship. Native Forward has given me much more than funding, but it has given me experience, opportunity, and motivation to change the world.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Contributions and grants:	\$6,982,720
Federal grants:	\$7,016,944
Other program revenue:	\$366,965
Investment income, net of fees:	\$978,931
Gains on investments:	(\$4,710,177)
Release from net assets:	\$4,256,124
 Total income:	 \$14,891,507

USE OF NATIVE FORWARD/AIGCS FUNDS

Scholarships & student support services:	\$12,859,760
Outreach:	\$748,200
Read/selection:	\$192,160
Leadership:	\$94,313
 Total program expenses:	 \$13,894,433
Management:	\$761,110
Fundraising:	\$235,964
 Total expenses:	 \$14,891,507
 Net assets:	 \$29,847,324

“The investment in my educational journey as a Native Forward scholar was instrumental to my success and my impact to encourage many other Indigenous students to apply for their higher education degree.”

– TASHA FRIDIA
(WICHITA, KIOWA
& CADDO TRIBES)



INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Native Forward Scholar Fund's is an annual Indigenous Leadership Summit aimed to creating a space to foster leadership development, promote community impact, and offers support, strategies, and best practices in implementing *Indigenous leadership* on participants' respective campuses and communities. Students are provided multi-leveled asynchronous curriculum modules designed by distinguished Native leaders in academia. Students learn leadership skills rooted in *Indigenous ideologies*.

- The 2022 Indigenous Leadership Summit was held virtually from April 2-16, 2022.

- Students from 18 tribes across 12 states in 16 colleges across the nation joined together in a virtual space to:

- Identify and examine leadership styles
- Manage time and identify priorities and community goals (values, challenges, mission)
- Explore conflict and resolution strategies
- Compare and balance Western vs. Indigenous leadership styles
- Create a service-learning project of their respective communities

"It's been so nice to have a leadership course that focuses on OUR community structures and having that as foundational knowledge made it feel less like trying to fit a square peg in a round hole. Indigenous leadership is so necessary."

43%
of participants
were first-
generation
students



ALICE VAN GUNTEN, CONFEDERATED SALISH & KOOTENAI TRIBES



TYLER PARISIEN, TURTLE MOUNTAIN CHIPPEWA

TOP RATED BY:



NATIVE FORWARD SCHOLARS FUND &
AMERICAN INDIAN GRADUATE CENTER SCHOLARS

All figures are based on Fiscal Year 2022 Financial Statements audited by Pulakoa CPAs, Pc, an independent firm.

Our full report and IRS Form 990 are available at:
www.insertweblinkhere.pdf.



NATIVEFORWARD.ORG

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American Indigenous Business Leaders
American Indian College Fund
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APIA Scholars
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Big Fire Law
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Blue Stone Strategy Group
Bureau of Indian Education
Catena Foundation
CBRE
CLA Foundation
CNIGA
Colorado University Upward Bound
Cypress Creek
Edelman
FoodCorps
Google
Hewlett-Packard
Hispanic Scholarship Fund
Indigenous Education Inc
Johnson Scholarship Foundation

Lincoln Institute of Land Policy
MetLife
Murdock Charitable Trust
NDN Collective
NextEra Energy
NIKE
NIKE N7
Northwestern University
PNM
Poarch Band of Creek Indians
REDW LLC
Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians
Salish Kootenai College
Sandia National Laboratories
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
Salesforce
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
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Society of Professional Engineering Employees
in Aerospace
UNCF
United National Indian Tribal Youth Inc.
Urban Native Era
Wells Fargo

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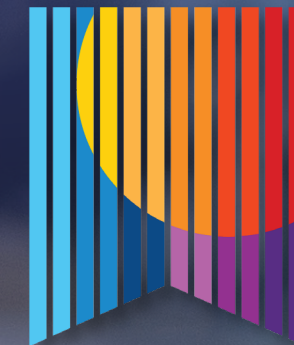
Nicholas Antonio
IT Support Specialist
Pueblo of Acoma

A YEAR OF IMPACT

Native Forward Scholars Fund has given over \$13.8 million in scholarships and program services this fiscal year. Throughout our 50-year history, Native Forward has empowered over 20,000 students from over 500 Tribes in all 50 states by providing more than \$350 million in direct scholarship funding for undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees.

Your generous contributions allow us to continue advocating for Native students from college to career. Every dollar donated goes to support our scholars on their journey through higher education to better their lives and give back to Tribal communities. Support Native Forward in our efforts to fulfill the unmet financial need of every Native student looking to pursue higher education, today, tomorrow, and for the next 50 years.

Thank you for supporting Native Forward Scholars Fund!



NATIVE FORWARD
SCHOLARS FUND

SUNNIE CLAHCHISCHILIGISAN, DINÉ

SUPPORT NATIVE HIGHER EDUCATION

Native Forward is in its fifth decade of providing scholarships for undergraduate, graduate, and professional education for Native students.

Every dollar raised goes directly to Native scholars through scholarships and student support services. Leave a lasting legacy and help us move the needle forward to continue impacting the future of Native communities.



"My goals are to graduate with my bachelor's degree and continue to medical school where I will become a future physician. I want to provide the best possible healthcare for our American Indian families and communities. I want to help and create positive changes towards improved healthcare and access. This scholarship will help me do just that,"

ASHLEY NA'ILIHN SUSAN (WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE/ WALKER RIVER PAIUTE)



SCAN TO MAKE
A DONATION
TODAY