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Diné College • Tsaile, Arizona 86556
www.dinecollege.edu



Fall
2021
COMMENCEMENT

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2021
1:00 PM

Dr. Charles “Monty” Roessel

Diné College President



Welcome to the Fall 2021 Diné College commencement. This marks the second fall commencement in our history. More importantly, your accomplishment is part of a long line of graduates who have sat where you sit, waiting to walk across the stage and receive your diploma. Like them, you will join a workforce armed with knowledge of your area of study but also the needs of the Navajo Nation. A degree from Diné College is more than just a diploma, it is recognition that you are proud of your heritage, believe there is more than one way to view the world and, you have worked hard to earn a rigorous and quality degree from the Nation's college.

It is my ardent hope that your time at Diné College has imparted to you the value of service. Our core values and philosophy are not just for our students, they are valuable to all. Your education and experience are what our Nation needs today. The ability to be creative, think holistic, and transform our Navajo Nation for the better speaks to your efforts and future. Imagine the world you want to live in and go out and help create it. These values are meant to be taken with you, into your life, your career and our world.

We do not know what tomorrow brings but for today, cherish your accomplishment. Thank your family, friends and faculty. Stay safe and be healthy and thank you for choosing to be a part of the Warrior family.

— Charles M. Roessel

Emcee:

Dr. Michael Lerma,
Dean of Business and Social Sciences

Processional:

Avery Denny, Professor

National Anthem:

David Delmar, Education

Invocation:

Regent Sharon Toadecheenie

Welcome Address:

President Charles "Monty" Roessel

Commencement Speaker:

Quincy Natay, Chinle Unified School District Superintendent

Commencement Acknowledgement:

Provost Geraldine Garrity

Conferral of Degrees & Certificates:

President Charles "Monty" Roessel

Alumni Induction Ceremony:

Patrick Blackwater, Assistant Professor

Congratulatory Remarks:

Tasha Peshlakai, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Benediction:

Regent Theresa Hatathlie

Retrieval of Colors:

Tsaile/Wheatfields & Blackrock Veterans Association

Recessional:

Diné College Song

Note: For in person graduates, please follow CDC guidelines by wearing a face mask, social distancing, and sanitize your hands frequently.

Diné College Journey Song

By Avery Denny

Revised by Herman Cody (02/11/2020)

Din4 College d66' naash1, Sa' ah Naghai Bek' eh H0zh=, Dzi[nanit' ooh
wo wo wei, d66' naash00 wo wo wei, Din4 College d66 naash1.

Sisnaajin7d66' naash1, Sa' ah Naghai Bek' eh H0zh=, Dzi[nanit' ooh
wo wo wei, d66' naash00 wo wo wei, Sisnaajin7d66 naash1.

Tsoodzi[d66' naash1, Sa' ah Naghai Bek' eh H0zh=, Dzi[nanit' ooh
wo wo wei, d66' naash00 wo wo wei, Tsoodzi[d66 naash1.

Dook' oos[7d d66' naash1, Sa' ah Naghai Bek' eh H0zh=, Dzi[nanit' ooh
wo wo wei, d66' naash00 wo wo wei, Dook' oos[7d d66 naash1.

Dib4 Nitsaa d66' naash1, Sa' ah Naghai Bek' eh H0zh=, Dzi[nanit' ooh
wo wo wei, d66' naash00 wo wo wei, Dib4 Nitsaa d66 naash1.

Dzi[N1' oodi[ii d66' naash1, Sa' ah Naghai Bek' eh H0zh=, Dzi[nanit' ooh
wo wo wei, d66' naash00 wo wo wei, Dzi[N1' oodi[ii d66 naash1.

Dzi[Ch' 0ol' 99d66' naash1, Sa' ah Naghai Bek' eh H0zh=, Dzi[nanit' ooh
wo wo wei, d66' naash00 wo wo wei, Dzi[Ch' 0ol' 99d66 naash1.

Din4 College d66' naash1, Sa' ah Naghai Bek' eh H0zh=, Dzi[nanit' ooh
wo wo wei, d66' naash00 wo wo wei, Din4 College d66 naash1.

2021 Commencement Speaker

Quincy Natay

Chinle Unified School District Superintendent



Quincy Natay is a lifelong resident of Chinle, Arizona on the Navajo Reservation. After finishing his K-12 education at Chinle High School, he went on to complete a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in 1988 and then earned an MBA in 2001. Quincy Natay defied the odds to become the Superintendent 53 years later whose leadership would inspire the change that was needed. When Mr. Natay became Superintendent, Chinle Unified School District was nearly the lowest performing reservation district in Arizona. When he pointed to higher performance expectations people complained loudly that it was too hard for “these

kids,” making the effort to embrace a rigorous, standards-based curriculum seem like an impossible feat. However, when Chinle students last took the Arizona state assessments, CUSD was in its 3rd year of producing the highest pass rates of any Reservation district in Arizona. What’s more, CUSD pass rates have also surpassed many non-reservation districts, AND people now believe “these kids” can do it! In fact, Quincy Natay has led CUSD to historic gains in student achievement, and has planted a seed of change for the future of the Navajo community.



CONGRATULATIONS FALL GRADUATES
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2021
1:00 PM

School of Business and Social Sciences

Bachelor of Arts, Business Administration

Carr, Derrick Harris (TS)

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology

Begay, LaVeena Marie (TS)

Benally, Geraldine V (WR) *

Dennison, Tilton Cornel (TS) **

Hood, Shyanne (TS)

Peshlakai, Tasha Kaylene (TS) ***

Yazzie, Phillarena J (TS)

Associate of Applied Science, Office Administration

Ramona A Aloysius (SH)

Associate of Arts, Business Administration

Blackwolf, SharRon Andrea (TS)

Bia, Roselinda (TS)

Israel, Marissa (TS)

Jones, Chasity R (TS)

McCabe, Emery Bruce (TS) **

Milford, Kendall Adson (TS)

Riggs, Levi Taylor (TC)

Whitewater, Nolan Joe (TS)

Woody, Gregarenia (TS)

Associate of Arts, Social and Behavioral Science

Atcitty, Angel Kershawnda Rea (SH)

Bedonie, Sheridan Gabriel (TS)

Begay, Chartonna Lyric (TS)

Begay, Kimberly A (WR)

Bitsui, Olympia (TS)

Carrillo, Kyle (WR)

Fatty, Lanesha Kelsie (SH)

Lincoln, Holly Sky (TS)

Williams, Amber Jessie (TC) ***

Associate of Arts, Social Work

Bitsui, Olympia (TS)

Fatty, Lanesha Kelsie (SH)

Yellowhair, Joesanna (TS) **

School of Diné Studies and Education

Bachelor of Arts, Elementary Education

Bahe, Lavelle Lynn (TS)

Deschine, Tara Maria (TS)

Diaz, Glynnida (TS) **

Hoover, Xandolynn (TC)

Litson, Shaundina (TS)

Nez, Tylah Telaine (TS)

Sagg, Kaleena Rose (TS)

Bachelor of Arts, Education with an Emphasis in Multicultural Education

Bryant, Rochele (SH) *

Jones, Justine R (SH)

Nez, Audrey Ann (SH) **

Associate of Arts, Early Childhood Education

Begay, Sherry (TS)

Bia, Shantika L (TS)

Associate of Arts, Education

Begay, Sham Ray (TC) *

James, Demitre Mary Ann (TS)

Kimbrough, Emily Dawn (TS) *

Wauneka, Darian Fallon (TS)

* 3.50 to 3.69 Cum Laude

** 3.70 to 3.89 Magna Cum Laude

*** 3.90 to 4.00 Summa Cum Laude