



THE NAVAJO NATION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 29, 2007

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Navajo President, Vice President, Education Superintendent proclaims congratulation to Navajo Nation Class of 2007

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., Vice President Ben Shelly and Navajo Nation Department of Education Superintendent Tommy Lewis have sent congratulations to graduating Navajo students of the Class of 2007.

In a proclamation signed by all three, the President, Vice President and Superintendent state that Navajo leader *Hastiin Ch'ilhaajinii Manuelito* proclaimed that education is the ladder to progress, and that Navajo leaders look to youth to assist with “the nation-building our ancestors have entrusted us with.”

“Your new found knowledge will continue the progress our Navajo Nation has made since returning from Ft. Sumner in 1868 to our original homeland,” the proclamation states.

“It is our hope that you will fight for tribal sovereignty and tribal self-determination and work towards gaining true independence,” it says. “We encourage you to maintain your language and cultural values. They should become a central part of your life which we believe will help you to succeed in whatever career you choose. We encourage you to keep the spiritual values of your ancestors, help those who have less than you do in love, k'e, friendship and respect for human rights.”

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– Navajo Nation Proclamation to Class of 2007

The proclamation asks the Class to remember those who have guided and supported them on their journey to now because they have been the source of strength during difficulties and barriers on the way to their goal.

“You have succeeded!!” the proclamation states. “With your achievement, you make all of us proud. We know you will continue to set higher goals and attain those as well.”

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