



"Building a healthy and culturally rich future"

The Phoenix Indian School Legacy Project

AT STEELE INDIAN SCHOOL PARK

THE PARTNERSHIP

The project is a partnership between Native American Connections (NAC) and the Phoenix Indian Center (PIC) to renovate the Band Building at the historic Phoenix Indian School site, now Steele Indian School Park. The partners want to bring to life some of the ideas city, tribal and local American Indians set forth in 1990 when the Phoenix Indian School closed. A Letter of Understanding was signed on 11-12-13 by NAC and PIC with the City of Phoenix, who owns the building.

"The Phoenix Indian School was home to so many students from dozens of tribes for nearly 100 years," explains PIC CEO Patricia Hibbeler, "and it's that legacy we hope to honor by renovating the band building and making the space available to all people."

"The Band Building is key to preserving the legacy of the Phoenix Indian School," agrees James P. Burke, Director, Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department. "Its restoration and cultural programming will be a gift to Phoenix residents for generations to come.

"We are pleased to be working with the City of Phoenix to bring the band building back to life and create an environment where American Indians can meet and share their culture in a variety of ways," says NAC CEO Diana Yazzie Devine.

COMMUNITY USES

The Phoenix Indian School Legacy Project will be a cultural gathering place for multiple uses including:

- Meeting rooms that can accommodate up to 100 people
- Small business center for out-of-town tribal leaders and departments
- Cultural engagement and diversity training for area businesses
- Youth health related and fitness/exercise classes
- Commercial kitchen for food vendors and events that support health and nutrition
- Area to promote tribal tourism and Native American arts & entrepreneurialism

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"Tohono O'odham Nation acknowledges the history of the Band Building as many of our members have fond memories of the opportunities provided to them to expand on their talents through music while obtaining their Education. It would be of great benefit that the building be renovated and continue to serve positive endeavors not only to the Phoenix Community but the Native Community in general."

- Wavalene M. Romero, Vice Chairwoman Tohono O'odham Nation

'THANK YOU' TO OUR SUPPORTERS

AISES Phoenix Professional Chapter - Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs - Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Arizona Indian Living Treasures Awards, Inc. - Hualapai Tribe - Inter Tribal Council of Arizona
Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians - Native Home Capital - Native Seeds/SEARCH - Quechan Indian Tribe
Ross Property Advisors/ Lance Ross - Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community - The Hopi Tribe
San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe - The Cocopah Indian Tribe - The Havasupai Tribe - The Hopi Foundation
Tohono O'odham Nation - Yavapai-Apache Nation - David Rousseau, Chairman, Arizona Super Bowl Host
Committee - Loren Tapahe, CEO American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Arizona

"Like many Native Americans, I am a graduate of the Indian School, and because of my education and learning experience there, I have been able to achieve great successes for our nation and Yavapai people for future generations. Further, we strongly believe the Phoenix Indian School Legacy Project will advance cultural and language preservation, economic development and public education of Native Americans and Indian tribes in Arizona."

- Dr. Clinton Pattea, President Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation

HOW TO SUPPORT THE PROJECT

If you, a friend or family member attended Phoenix Indian School, we want to hear from you! Submit your contact information to the project manager below. Your story could be a part of this important historical project for generations to come.

"Many of our own Hopi people attended and graduated from the Phoenix Indian School. This is a great project to help keep a piece of history to share with our children and grandchildren."

- LeRoy Shingoitewa, Chairman The Hopi Tribe

PROJECT CONTACT

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