Finally, We Are Growing Our Own

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2010 7:00 P.M.
Heard Museum, Steele Auditorium (2301 N Central Ave) | www.heard.org | Phoenix, Arizona

Free of charge and open to the public.

Former President of the Navajo Nation, Dr. Peterson Zah is widely known and respected among American Indian Nations. Zah is a distinguished alumnus of Arizona State University, having received an honorary doctorate in 2005. A member of the Navajo Nation from Low Mountain, Arizona, Zah is a co-founder of the DNA People’s Legal Services Program. He is the last chairman of the Navajo Tribal Council and the first elected President of the Navajo Nation. He currently serves as a Special Advisor to the ASU President on American Indian Affairs, working to develop strategic alliances between Arizona State University and Tribes. These partnerships encourage Tribes to utilize university resources and expertise to advance their communities in areas such as community development, strategic planning, finance, law, construction, and education.

The Simon Ortiz and Labriola Center Lecture on Indigenous Land, Culture, and Community at Arizona State University brings notable scholars and speakers to Arizona for public lectures twice per year. These speakers address topics and issues across disciplines in the arts, humanities, sciences, and politics. Underscoring Indigenous American experiences and perspectives, this series seeks to create and celebrate knowledge that evolves from an Indigenous worldview that is inclusive and that is applicable to all walks of life.

Sponsored by Arizona State University’s American Indian Policy Institute, American Indian Studies Program, Department of English, Indian Legal Program in the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, Labriola National American Indian Data Center, Faculty of History in the School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies, and Women and Gender Studies in the School of Social Transformation, with tremendous support from the Heard Museum.

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Photo/courtesy ASU Board of Regents, photographer Phillip Spears

WE ARE making a tremendous investment in the education of our young people, an investment of our resources, our hopes, our dreams... We will need these young people to help us build... educational institutions... economic institutions, to run our governments, to teach our children’s children. We have taken back the responsibility for setting the course for our children’s education. We do this in anticipation of the day when they return to us and take upon themselves this same responsibility for their own children. That is how we will secure our future."

—PETERSON ZAH