

## Jordan Native American Program

# NEWSLETTER

[www.facebook.com/JordanNatives](https://www.facebook.com/JordanNatives)

<https://compliance.jordandistrict.org/native/>



## Happy Thanksgiving!

### Parents and Ideas Wanted!

As we go into the winter months, our program needs your help in drafting our plan for the next year. If you would like to be involved in the planning and guidance of our program, please reach out to us. We currently have an Open Parent Committee of (8) members and would like to expand this influence. Our program depends on our Native community for guidance and leadership as we grow. This is an opportunity for you to help draft our vision, raise awareness of issues that we can address as a program, and be an active member in guiding the growth of the Jordan Native program. Currently, the committee has held one online meeting, and we would like to have another one in December. If you would like to participate, please contact Malinda.

### More to Come!

Like us on Facebook, and check out the website for updates and activities. As we go into winter, we are excited to offer a field trip to our high school students at UVU and the opportunity to take our 7th-grade students to the Natural History Museum of Utah. We will have more on this in later issues and on our Facebook as they develop. If you have any questions or ideas, contact your mentor. We look forward to celebrating a wonderful Native American Heritage Month! The Jordan Native Team

### Cultural Relevance Ceremonies

During the NIEA conference, our mentors were inspired by the incorporation of native heritage into professional development classes. We want to continue this mission as our program grows. We would like to compile a list of volunteers willing to share culturally relevant material with our teachers and their students across the Jordan School District. If you are willing to show your language or share a community ceremony, please contact us. Additionally, we want to add more culturally relevant material to our community night, so are actively looking for performers for Gourd Dance, Hoop Dance, and Drum Circle. We would like a representation for all 8 tribes recognized in Utah, and would gladly expand to include any tribal members who wish to participate. If you or someone you know would be an asset to our program, please reach out.

### Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

We at the Jordan Native Program are excited to celebrate Native American Heritage Month with our students! This month is meant to celebrate Native culture and heritage and we are thrilled to offer a variety of activities through our partnerships with several community organizations. If you have any questions or would like to be included on our calendar, contact your Mentor. You can also check out our Facebook page for more information, activities, giveaways, scholarship information, and other offers from our community partners.

# LANGUAGE, LANGUAGE, LANGUAGE!

We want to help in the national effort to preserve native languages. Preserving and protecting native languages is not only crucial for cultural relevance, but also a historical necessity. With many tribes practicing the tradition of oral history, preserving language is key to understanding the past. To help with this, the Jordan Native program, in partnership with the Granite School District, offers Navajo Language classes for high school students. The classes take place at night and are open to any community members. Classes will begin again in January. We also offer self-study options using online classes with Duolingo. Duolingo is an interactive language program that utilizes an online self-study model to build and retain language from actual native speakers. If you would like to learn a language, reach out to Malinda. Currently, only two Indigenous languages are being offered: Navajo and Hawaiian. We will continue to advocate for other languages as the program expands. We have a limited number of memberships left, so act fast!

## Mentors in New Mexico

The National Indian Education Association held its 54th annual Convention and Trade Show in Albuquerque, New Mexico last month. The Jordan Native Program sent 3 program members to this four-day conference—the largest gathering of Native American educators, administrators, mentors, and policy advocates. Our team attended a variety of sessions aimed at increasing our program's academic success as well as a 'K'é' approach to whole student wellness. Our team participated in various cultural activities, such as an intertribal PowWow and Gourd Dance, and attended a trade show featuring talented Native American artists. This conference not only provided our program with resources and guidance for our students, but it also inspired our team to continue to grow our program into a culturally rich and influential academic support system for our community. We are excited to take all we learned into the field as we help our students' academic growth.

## Contact info:

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## Upcoming Events!

**November 9 @ 6:00 pm-8:00 pm**

Granger High School  
3580 S. 3600 W.

Native Nations Club presents:  
Native American Heritage Month  
Celebration Night

**November 17 @ 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm**

Native Youth Support Group  
Native Youth ages 10-17  
Escape Room

Limited Spots Available  
Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake  
120 West 1300 South  
Kayla Frank 385-267-1719

**November 18 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm**

Foster Care Indigenous Fashion  
Show with Fashion Designer/Artist  
Jessica Wiarda and the American  
Indian Resource Center  
200 S. Central Campus Drive, SLC

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**MAKE SURE TO LIKE US  
ON FACEBOOK!**

