

Upward
Bound Target
High Schools

- Alchেসay High School, Whiteriver
- Coconino High School, Flagstaff
- Hopi High School, Keams Canyon
- Williams High School, Williams

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Contact us at:
1-800-628-4494 or

Diana Betoney
Project Director
928-523-6984

Sarah Kennedy
Instructional Specialist, Sr.
928-523-6999

Roxanne Begay-Shupla
Program Coordinator
928-523-6986

Lissa Gallegos
Office Specialist, Sr.
928-523-6988

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2008 Hopi Cultural Day & Retreat



Left to Right: Jamie Cody & Terissa Josytewa



Left to Right: Eugene Sanders, Melissa Nyland, Averie Tewa-Crank, Meghan Nyland

In September, the Upward Bound program was invited by Hopi High School to attend their Hopi Cultural Day. We made a two day retreat out of this invitation. We invited all of our target schools to the Hopi Cultural Day and Retreat. We had student representation from all of our target schools. We chartered a bus from Northern Arizona University to Winslow, Arizona. The retreat was held at Winslow High School and served as our meeting point with our Hopi, Coconino, Winslow and Alchেসay students. During the first afternoon, we had students participate in various activities. The first activity had the students draw or collage their future. They had to include their education, support networks, and family into this art piece.

Next, we had the students participate in an activity to determine their commitment to Upward Bound. We asked them a series of questions and, depending on their answers, they took a step forward or backward. Each line had a level of commitment associated with it. The final activity had the students write a letter to themselves. This letter was written from their younger self to their current age self. We had them seal these letters and address the envelopes to their home address. Upward Bound will mail these letters home during the academic year. The students spent the night in Winslow and were treated to a very nice dinner in the Turquoise Room at La Posada. In addition, to dinner the students were given a tour of

La Posada by the Harvey Girls. The students that attended the retreat were willing to participate in the activities and enjoyed the dinner at La Posada. We had many students who had never eaten at the Turquoise Room or knew the history of La Posada. It was a treat for students, site sponsors, and Upward Bound staff. On Friday morning, we departed from Winslow and headed for Hopi High School in Keams Canyon, Arizona. We spent the day at Hopi High School seeing various Hopi and other Native American dances, and eating a traditional Hopi lunch. Many of our students had never visited the Hopi reservation, or were educated in Hopi culture. This trip allowed them to see and learn about our Hopi students. Because of this trip our students are more understanding and appreciative of the different student cultures. The students enjoyed visiting and seeing friends from other target schools. The Upward Bound staff looks forward to our next trip with Upward Bound students and site sponsors!