

University of Colorado Boulder

# Nii'itoonee

*You all have done well*

## 2025 Native and Indigenous Graduation

Friday, May 9  
5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Koenig Alumni Center



# Congratulations!



## Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Leila Gomez

*Interim Director of CNAIS*

Benny Shendo

*Associate Vice Chancellor for Native American Affairs*

## Invocation & Blessing

Medicine Bull Drums

## Keynote Speaker

Dr. Ian Her Many Horses

## Presentation of the 2025 Native Graduates

CNAIS Board

## Welcoming New Alumni

American Indian Alumni Association

## CNAIS Honors

Certificate Recipients

Retiring & Promoted Faculty

New Board Members

## Closing

*Honoring Song and Community Greeting Line*



*Dinner Catered By: Tocabe*

## University of Colorado Boulder Land Acknowledgment

The University of Colorado Boulder, Colorado's flagship university, honors and recognizes the many contributions of Indigenous peoples in our state. CU Boulder acknowledges that it is located on the traditional territories and ancestral homelands of the Cheyenne, Arapaho, Ute, and many other Native American nations. Their forced removal from these territories has caused devastating and lasting impacts. While the University of Colorado Boulder can never undo or rectify the devastation wrought on Indigenous peoples, we commit to improving and enhancing engagement with Indigenous peoples and issues locally and globally.

**Hahóo Ahéhee' HaHau Tog'oiak'**

We'd like to offer a special thank you to the Center for Inclusion and Social Change and the Koenig Alumni Center for their generous funding of this year's event.

Last but not least, a heartfelt thank you to the families and friends of the 2025 Native Graduates and to the entire CU Native Community, particularly the staff, faculty, alumni, and everyone who works endlessly to support Native student success at CU.

**Tah-ah Wado Nytra Thank you**



Center for Inclusion  
and Social Change  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**



Center for Native American  
and Indigenous Studies  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

## Bachelor's Degree Recipients

**Noelle Bagola**, *Diné/Cheyenne River Sioux*

B.A. Integrative Physiology

Certificate of Native American and Indigenous Studies

**Gabriel Cervantes**, *Coahuiltecan and Nahua*

B.S. Business Administration, Emphases in Operations

Management & Corporate Social Responsibility

Minor in Philosophy

**Jacob Fenner**, *Aamjiwnaang First Nation Ojibwe*

B.A. Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Minor, Anthropology

Certificate of Native American and Indigenous Studies

**Ashley Hardman**, *Muscogee (Creek) Nation*

B.A. Psychology

**Masani Salazar**, *Taos/Santa Ana Pueblos*

B.EnvD. Architecture

Certificate of Native American and Indigenous Studies

**Reylena Tsosie**, *Navajo and Zuni*

B.A. Political Science and Government

**Makenna Winnicki**, *Potawatomi (Forest County, WI)*

B.A. Integrative Physiology

Certificate in Public Health

## NAIS Certificate Recipients

### Undergraduate

**Ariana Amaro**, B.A. Anthropology

**Noelle Bagola**, B.A. Integrative Physiology

**Kiara Bonilla**, B.A. Environmental Studies

**Jacob Fenner**, B.A. Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

**Masani Salazar**, B.ENVD. Architecture

**Emma Williamson**, B.A. Environmental Studies

### Graduate

**Jasmin Barco**, Assistant Director Energy and Climate Justice Programs,  
Environmental Center

**Emma Britt**, M.A. Linguistics

**Dr. Jenna Gersie**, PhD. English



## Juris Doctor Recipients

**Hannah Ahders**, Couille Indian Tribe  
*Environmental Policy and American Indian Law*

**Joely Williamson**, Oklahoma Cherokee  
*Banking, Corporate, Finance, and Securities Law*

## Masters Degree Recipients

**David S. Flores**  
MENV. Sustainability in the Outdoor Industry

**Leslie Underwood**  
M.S. Organizational Leadership

## Doctoral Recipients

**Dr. Blanca E. Trejo Aguilera**, Mexica and Totonaca (de la Huasteca)  
PhD. Learning Sciences and Human Development  
*"Healing from the Harms of Schooling"*

**Dr. Jonnia Torres Carolan**  
PhD. Linguistics  
*"Bridging Community-Centered Research Strategies with  
Phonetics and Phonology: An Analysis of Breathy + Consonant  
Sequences in Hidatsa"*

## Keynote Speaker



**Dr. Ian Her Many Horses**  
Assistant Teaching Professor  
CU TEACH

**Dr. Ian Her Many Horses is an Assistant Teaching Professor for CU Teach, the STEM teacher education program at the University of Colorado Boulder and a co-founder of IndigiGenius, an AI education non-profit. He is a citizen of the Sicangu Lakota Oyate and is a math and computer science educator and researcher. His work centers on creating equitable access to, and meaningful learning experiences within, computer science across the K-12 schooling system. This has included developing and implementing curricula, software tools to support novice learners, and professional development for practicing teachers in schools that are not readily able to access and offer computer science learning experiences.**