

8/23/2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: John Garland, PhD, Director of Research and Scholar Success, The Cobell Scholarship Program Administered by Indigenous Education, Inc.

(505) 313 – 0032

scholarships@cobellscholar.org

**Cobell Fellowship Celebrates Inaugural Dissertation Fellows with Medallion Ceremony
Keynoted by National Native Leaders**

Albuquerque, NM, August 23, 2024 – On July 18, 2024, the inaugural cohort of the 2024 Elouise Cobell Dissertation Writing-Year Fellows were welcomed into the Cobell Family in a formal medallion ceremony held at the Heard Museum in Phoenix.



Photo by: [Jaida Grey Eagle](#)

The Inaugural Cobell Dissertation Fellows were honored with a keynote from Naomi Miguel, Executive Director, White House Initiative on Advancing Education Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity for Native Americans and Strengthening Tribal Colleges and Universities. In her speech, Naomi highlighted and celebrated the magnitude of the research being conducted and the amazing influence that it will have on Indigenous communities. She passionately likened the efforts of these ten Fellows to the leadership exemplified by Elouise Cobell.

Shelly C. Lowe, Chair, National Endowment for the Humanities, was unable to attend in person but offered congratulatory remarks through video to the inaugural Fellows. Lowe offered a refreshing reminder that no matter the field of study, all work informs the humanities, as the importance of community is embedded in both.

When reflecting on the Symposium, the Chair of the Indigenous Education, Inc. (IEI) Board, Clint Carroll said, “I was thrilled to celebrate the achievements of these amazing Indigenous scholars, and it was a true joy to witness the care and intention that IEI staff put into the inaugural Symposium. This fellowship program sets the standard for recognizing, supporting, and cultivating Indigenous brilliance.”

Cobell’s Director of Research and Scholar Success, John Garland, recalls that wonderful night, emphasizing the beauty of the Heard Museum, saying “The extraordinary setting was befitting for honoring our outstanding Fellows, their scholarship, and academic success.”

To read more about the phenomenal inaugural cohort of Elouise Cobell Dissertation Writing-Year Fellows, visit <https://community.cobellscholar.org/news/905176>.

About Cobell Scholarship Program, Indigenous Education, Inc.

Created in 2016 for the express purpose to administer the Cobell Scholarship Program, Indigenous Education, Inc. provides elevated opportunities for Native college students through empowering them with an impactful scholarship experience designed to support their success in higher education. The overarching mission and vision of Indigenous Education, Inc. is to support American Indian and Alaska Native student success. Since the program’s beginning, it has supported over 5,200 students with more than \$50,000,000 in scholarships. Furthermore, the Cobell Fellowship Program aids American Indian and Alaska Native graduate students in their research and in the writing of their dissertation. To learn more about IEI and the Cobell Scholarship, visit cobellscholar.org.

-END-