



ARIZONA AMERICAN INDIAN TOURISM ASSOCIATION

Box 268, 3370 N. Hayden Rd. #123, Scottsdale, AZ 85251

aaita@arizonaindiantourism.org

PRESS RELEASE

July 5, 2022

2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rory Majenty, President

(Hualapai)

rmajenty@aol.com

Zach Doka, Vice President

(Yavapai)

Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Tourism & Events

zdoka@fmyrn.org

Steve Geiogamah, Treasurer

(Kiowa)

Economic Development Manager Tourism & Events
City of Scottsdale

sgeiogamah@scottsdaleaz.gov

Carrie Nelson, Secretary

(Navajo)

Flagstaff Convention & Visitors Bureau

cnelson@flagstaffaz.gov

Geri Hongeva, Member

(Navajo)

Navajo Twin Arrows Casino
geri.hongeva@gmail.com

Dorothy Denetsosie Gishie, Member

(Navajo)

Program Administrator
Native Americans for Community Action, Inc.
ddgishie@nacainc.org

Roann Preston, Member

(Yavapai)

Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Tourism & Events

rcarmelo@fmyrn.org

Isaac Curley Member

(Apache/Navajo)

Apache Arrows Film
Festival

icurley1618@gmail.com

Virgil James, Member

(Hopi/Navajo Community)

jamesvirgil27@gmail.com

The Arizona American Indian Tourism Association Announces the Appointment of two new Board Members and one returning board member. The Arizona American Indian Tourism Association Board is comprised of nine members including Steve Geiogamah, Treasurer, Isaac Curley, Carrie Nelson, Roann Preston, Geri Hongeva, and Dorothy Gishie. New and returning board members include Zach Doka, Virgil James, and Rory Majenty.

Zach Doka a member of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation joins the board as Vice President. Zach has a Bachelor of Science degree in American Indian Studies from Arizona State University and in 2019 works in the Fort McDowell Tourism & Events Department.

Virgil James (Hopi/Navajo) joins us as a new Board Member. Virgil is indigenous to the Hopi/Navajo tribe. He grew up on the Navajo Reservation, near Cornfields, AZ, and Fort Defiance. He is a graduate of Window Rock High School and Santa Fe College, 4.0 scale, DM Chemistry / Biology, Minor in Nursing, C.Core Navy, and commissioned officer in the Air Force. He retired from the VA Medical Health Care System after 30 years of service.

He served as EEO advisory for the VA System for 6 years.

AAITA's new Board President is Rory Majenty from the Hualapai Tribe a returning AAITA Board member with over 15 years of serving AAITA's initiatives. "On behalf of the Arizona American Indian Tourism Association, I am delighted to serve as the next President for AAITA. Founded in 1994, the AAITA promotes the development of Indian Tourism in Arizona while respecting the cultural integrity of all tribes. Overseen by a nine-member board, AAITA involves Native businesses and professionals as members, who voluntarily work together to increase tourism in Arizona Indian communities. Over the past 28 years, AAITA has hosted several festivals and tourism conferences to promote tourism in Indian Country. One of the main goals for AAITA is the redevelopment of the original dining hall of the Phoenix Indian Boarding School building into a Culture Center. The historical building is located at the City of Phoenix's Steele Indian School Park which is now a 75-acre master-planned park located at Central Avenue and Indian School Road. More information on this project will be available as we reach out to the City of Phoenix and others to make this project a reality. Finally, I would like to recognize the outgoing President, Geri Hongeva for all her hard work and dedication. Sincerely, Rory Majenty"

More information, and full board bios of the Arizona American Indian Tourism Association's Board of Directors at www.arizonaindiantourism.org