SPRING NEWSLETTER 2023





Four decades is a long time, and an exciting milestone to achieve as an organization. As we look back on the past 40 years and look forward to the next 40, it's inspiring to think about the impact you — Crow Canyon supporters, partners, colleagues, and friends—have made possible since we first opened. You've helped us:

- Teach accurate and inclusive American Indian history to tens of thousands of elementary students.
- Conduct groundbreaking research projects, leading to new discoveries and helping advance the field of archaeology in the American Southwest and beyond.
- Develop and grow collaborative partnerships with American Indian communities, helping ensure Indigenous voices, culture, and traditions are embedded in our research and education.
- Build lifelong friendships and a community for like-minded learners.

As we celebrate this special year together, we are humbled by the countless wonderful stories and memories shared by so many, like:

"Too many memories to share but if I have to pick, it is the memory of laughter, voices, joy, people coming together in a community of learners. It is of a campus alive with life and learning."

-Elaine

"Very simply, we fell in love with the people of Crow Canyon, and their caring way of studying the Ancestral Puebloans, and especially the way they started to involve the tribes in their work."

-Barbara and Art

Share your memory at:

Surveys.crowcanyon.org/s3/Memories-of-Crow-Canyon-Survey

REGISTER NOW

CHECK OUT THESE UPCOMING TRIPS, SEMINARS & EVENTS

March 30: Special Short Film Showing & Artist Dialog, "Return to Clay: Reflections on Culture and Identity through Pueblo Pottery," featuring artist, Ron Martinez Looking Elk, online webinar

August 6-12: Cultural Explorations Workshop: Pueblo Belt Weaving, while creating your own textile, explore unique cultural and archaeological contexts of weaving traditions, techniques, technologies, and styles

September 4-8 and 18-22: Archaeology Research Program (2 sessions), participate in community archaeology and learn survey techniques and artifact analysis at Hawkins Preserve

October 11-15: Crow Canyon 40th Anniversary Conference, partake in campus tours, presentations, demonstrations, and field trips

Every Thursday: Discover Archaeology Webinars, 4 p.m., free, led by renowned researchers, cultural specialists, tribal members, academics, and experts

Register for these events and more at **Crowcanyon.org/programs-landing**



Ron Martinez Looking Elk

PERSPECTIVE, EXPERIENCE, AND CONNECTION COME TO LIFE IN A SYMBOLIC IMAGE

When we asked our friend and partner, Nate Francis, to design a new logo to honor Crow Canyon's 40th anniversary and welcome the decades to come, he approached it very thoughtfully. "It took a while to figure out how I was going to do this project," explained Nate.

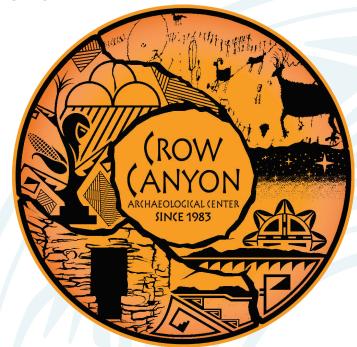
Nate's family originates from the Tewa-speaking Pueblo people of New Mexico and Arizona, he grew up in the Four Corners region, and presently lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Nate is passionate about teaching Ancestral Pueblo history and the history of his Tewa ancestors as a guide and through his involvement with Crow Canyon. "I appreciate the path Crow Canyon has created in teaching the public about the ancestral world by allowing Indigenous people to tell our stories," he shared.

In designing the logo, it was important to Nate to weave in elements from his ancestral past and present-day experiences. He explains the ideas behind his illustrations.

"I came up with the perspective of looking inside a pottery bowl which is broken into four sections, each representing a pottery sherd, because in the Indigenous perspective everything is in fours, 4 directions, 4 worlds, 4 seasons, 4 phases of life and more. Then, when you take the imagery out, the four panels and logo in the middle represent "4" and "0" for 40 years."

Upper left: "This sherd represents agriculture. The top image is of rainclouds because Indigenous tribes believe without water there is no life. The next image is of the corn maiden, the corn mother and life giver to Pueblo and Hopi tribes. In the ancestral world, agriculture was the reason for building permanent homes and to settle from being nomadic."

Bottom left: "This sherd represents the Chaco culture. The left image is of a t-shaped door that is a sacred symbol to Pueblo and Hopi culture that was highly used in ancestral Puebloan times.



The next image is of the Bears Ears National Monument, an area that holds a special meaning to various Southwestern tribes."

Upper right: "This sherd represents human movement. The big circle could represent the 'middle place' and migration where Pueblo and Hopi were in the search of before finding their place in this world. The petroglyphs depict a panel in Bears Ears National Monument, where I served as a Tewa/Hopi scholar during a Crow Canyon trip."

Lower right: "This sherd represents human existence. The lower image shows the summer solstice as Father Sun comes up behind Ute Mountain (Yucca Mountain in Tewa), starting to warm the land. This can be seen from Bears Ears as you look to the east. The stars represent human observance of celestial surroundings."

Learn about Nate and his art at <u>unekfrancis.com</u> and on Instagram @unek_francis.

BECOME A MONTHLY GIVING PARTNER

Giving just a little bit every month really makes an impact. It is easy, secure, and convenient for you. And, your monthly gift helps Crow Canyon efficiently manage its expenses throughout the year and reduce administrative costs.





MOBILE LEARNING LAB TAKES EDUCATION PROGRAMS ON THE ROAD

Crow Canyon's Education team can't wait to hit the road and take our hands-on programs to schools that are unable to travel to our campus. They're looking forward to giving more kids the opportunity to learn about Southwest history, cultures, and archaeology through hands-on experiences.

From tree-ring dating (dendrochronology) to the history of the spear thrower (the atlatl), schools can choose from 12 learning modules based on STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) curriculum.

"We've developed many types of curricula and we provide a menu for the schools. They can look at what we have to offer and align it to what they're studying," shared Jeremy Grundvig, one of Crow Canyon's educators and part of the Education team behind transforming a transportation van into the mobile lab.

Students will surely be excited when the Mobile Learning Lab rolls onto school grounds. The inside looks like a lab, which was the team's intention.

"As you walk into it both sides have cabinets that house microscopes, scales, and other tools so students can go in and analyze an artifact. Around the exterior of the lab will be various activities that connect students to the cultures they are studying. These are the same activities that a student coming to Crow Canyon's campus would experience," said Jeremy.





CROW CANYON SHARES RESEARCH

ASSOCIATES PRESENT IN BELGIUM AND NEW MEXICO

An important part of our mission is sharing our research with the public, and members of the team traveled to Belgium and New Mexico to talk about two important collaborative research projects: a study of Ancestral Pueblo footwear and the Maize Database Project. These talks took place at the University of Brussels and the 18th Southwest Symposium Biennial Archaeological Conference in Santa Fe.

Read more on our blog at

Crowcanyon.org/news/alternateapproaches-to-archaeologylessons-from-the-18th-southwestsymposium/

Stay tuned for reports from the road!



Our Vision is to expand the sphere in which we operate, both geographically and intellectually, and show how the knowledge gained through archaeology can help build a healthier society.



To easily access the links included in the stories, please visit **CrowCanyon.org/news** and click on "2023 Spring Newsletter" to locate the digital version with live links.

Joy Harjo, Poet Laureate

JOIN US FOR CROW CANYON'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 11-15, 2023

- Conference opening with a poetry reading and book signing by Joy Harjo, Muscogee Nation, Poet Laureate (2019–2022)
- Field trips to Mesa Verde, Hawkins Preserve, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe Farm and Ranch, and Yellow Jacket Pueblo
- Presentations, discussions, and campus tours focused on archaeology, experiential education, and more

Learn more and register at:

Crowcanyon.org/crow-canyon-archaeological-center-40th-anniversary

