The Communities Executive Council and Alumni Relations recognize the

Native American Alumni Association of Dartmouth

for their exceptional and memorable 50th milestone celebration and support of Powwow accomplished through strong leadership, community mobilization, and intentional programming.

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Native American Alumni Association of Dartmouth

The Communities Executive Committee and Dartmouth recognizes the Native American Alumni Association of Dartmouth. This year, the Native American Alumni Association of Dartmouth (NAAAD) celebrated the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Native American Studies program at Dartmouth. This milestone was marked by two incredible events. In April, NAAAD, in partnership with Women of Dartmouth, hosted a virtual alumnae panel titled “My Journey to Dartmouth and Beyond” featuring Hilary Tompkins ’90 (Navajo), current Dartmouth Trustee; Mabelle Hueston ’86 (Navajo), former co-chair of the Native American Visiting Committee; and Sarah Harris ’00 (Mohegan), NAVC committee member. The conversation included stories about how these women arrived at Dartmouth, what their campus experiences were like, and how their Dartmouth education impacted their personal and professional paths. This discussion shined a light on the contributions of these remarkable women to Dartmouth, to the alumni community, to the Native community, and to their communities at large.

In addition to this panel discussion, the 50th anniversary of the Native American Studies program was marked by the long-anticipated return of Powwow in May after a two-year absence during the pandemic. Powwow is undoubtedly one of the most heartfelt, moving, and beautiful celebrations on Dartmouth’s campus. This event’s sense of history, community, culture, and pride is like no other event at Dartmouth. The first Powwow was celebrated in 1972, shortly after President Kemeny recommitted the College to its founding mission to increase opportunities for Native Americans in higher education. Despite initial concerns that Powwow would not take place this year, current NAAAD students and alumni were determined to return the event to Hanover. The NAAAD Powwow committee worked tirelessly with the student committee to plan the 50th Powwow to honor not only this year’s milestone anniversary, but also to recognize our current Native American students; alumni and retiring professor, Vera Palmer; and to also honor the loss of one of our Native American students, Beau Dubray ’24, a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe.

This year’s Powwow was a celebration of all Indigenous people and included a Lū‘au celebrating Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders.