

Creating Transformative Change on the Pine Ridge Reservation

Over 125 years after our founding, Red Cloud Indian School is stronger than ever—working to empower Lakota children, families, artists and community members across the Pine Ridge Reservation. Each year we provide 600 Lakota children with a high-quality, holistic education to prepare them for brighter futures. We create unprecedented opportunities for Native artists to exhibit their work and support their families. And we offer spiritual support and crucial social services through our network of churches and community centers.

As a Catholic institution administered by the Jesuits and the Lakota people, we remain committed to our mission—to develop and grow as a vibrant Church, through an education of the mind and spirit that promotes Lakota and Catholic values. We invite you to read just a few of the highlights of our work and we extend our deepest gratitude for your support.

July

Responding to a request from a group of Red Cloud students, National Geographic photographer Aaron Huey launches the Pine Ridge Community Storytelling Project to provide a platform for Lakota people to share their stories.

August

Red Cloud students, teachers and staff welcome Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius to campus, showing her the impact of HHS funding used to launch Red Cloud's K-12 Lakota language curriculum and to expand access to Native arts on the reservation.

September

The Heritage Center hosts the opening of "Whereas We Respond," a collaborative installation by artist Layli Long Soldier (Lakota) encouraging tribal members to react to the Congressional Resolution of Apology to Native Americans.

October

Parishioners from across the reservation rejoice together at the canonization of Kateri Tekakwitha, the first Native American saint in the Catholic Church. Lakota lay ministers George Looks Twice and John Apple travel to the Vatican for the celebration.

November

Red Cloud high school students visit Black Hills State University with Director of Student Advancement and Alumni Support Nakina Mills '98. The trip is part of a series designed to prepare and excite Lakota students for university life.

December

Red Cloud's 21st Century Community Learning Center is one of only 15 programs selected to appear in a U.S. Department of Education guide on promoting career training in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields.

January

Building on a strong partnership with Bridgewater State University, Red Cloud President Fr. George Winzenburg, S.J. delivers a stirring keynote address on the importance of social justice to over 800 graduating students at the university's winter convocation.

February

High school students are inspired to launch careers in science after Dr. Allyn Kaufmann, a senior scientist at Proctor and Gamble and a member of the Quapaw Tribe, speaks on campus as part of the Toyota Visiting Scientist series.

March

Students and staff at Our Lady of Lourdes join together in a major fundraising campaign to raise "Pennies for Patients" and deliver nearly \$1,500 to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

April

As part of an experiential learning project, Red Cloud's anatomy students spend the semester working alongside doctors and nurses at the Indian Health Services' Pine Ridge Hospital to experience the health care profession first-hand.

May

The Heritage Center hosts the Pine Ridge Playwrights Project with the Alaska Native Heritage Center, and Red Cloud students write their own plays in an intensive seminar taught by nationally recognized Native American playwrights.

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June

In preparation for their own careers in science, four Red Cloud students and alumni begin an intensive summer training program for brain and nervous system research at the National Institutes of Health just outside Washington, DC.

Contact Us

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Fr. George E. Winzenburg, S.J., President