

Native Green Leadership Academy



The Native Green Leadership Academy is a part of Native Movement. NGLA is launching a series of sustainability workshops that schools can bring to their students. In today's ever changing economy and technologies there are new industries, jobs and services emerging called the *Green Economy*.

Obama's administration has allocated billions of dollars into this emerging economic avenue: "*The Green Economy*". This economy is based on sustainability practices, methodologies and conservation. Every industry from hybrid cars, more fuel efficient vehicles to solar and wind power to various forms of home building from straw, to Blocklite, a building block made of ashes from power plants, to Earthships that are made of old tires, to practices of recycling, and an ever growing line of technologies of the future.

Our goal is to educate our youth and elders of this new wave that is coming at the result of the depletion of our natural resources in the 20th century. Our youth of tomorrow are the ones who will have to further implement these technologies, technologies that we as Native peoples have been practicing for centuries. However we are at a time where we must relearn and reteach these methodologies and practices. Our youth need to be ready and aware these methodologies, technologies, and of the new job markets of tomorrow.

Workshops

Our workshops are a day and half learning sessions include ideas of recycling methods, composting, the green economy and its technologies and industries, visioning for the future, straw-bale building workshop and much more.

We bring a team of seven professionals that each focus on an aspect of sustainability. We will have at least two workshops running simultaneously with whole group sessions for introductions and debriefing. *Important fact:* These workshops are all run by young Native professionals.

Workshops and session focus on hand-on methods and also encourage creativity. We believe our youth have answers to the problems we face in the world so we highly encourage creative aspects by incorporating art, drawing, painting, story telling, music making, in short, lets us begin visioning how we would like to see our world.

Day One

Introduction to Sustainability – Morning session (1 hour)

This is the initial workshop that explains what sustainability is and who each of us can easily be apart of the change for the better. This introduces the various technologies that are being practices and what we will be doing in the next day and a half. We also explain that through the new administration there are new jobs being created around the ideas of "Green and sustainability". These jobs that our youth need to seriously consider as career options and just for general knowledge to help save our mother, the Earth.

Recycled Art – Part 1 (morning session) – 1.5 hours:

This workshop explains various forms of recycling and the art that can be made with what most people may consider junk. We focus on the creativity of our youth, we believe that they have the answers we are seeking but we must harness and nurture that creativity. A Navajo youth in Pinon, AZ created a home heating device out of old radiators and got national attention, for example.

This workshop is lead by a "green" artist that is knowledgeable and recognized in the field as being creative with a variety of house hold products that we would normally thrown out.



***Youth cutting
straw for bench
workshop***



***Made from
recycled felt
and CD
spindles.***



A garden in Flagstaff managed by a team leader done with composting and features recycled art.

General Recycle & Composting – Part 2 (morning session) – 1.5 hours

In-depth recycling methods from aluminum, steel and various metals, water harvesting, water-recycling and gray water systems, old vegetation and waste that can be used to enrich soil for gardens and fields. This includes a ecology walk where instructors explain the purposes of general plants, weeds and vegetation from medicinal and edibility.

Green Opportunities and the Green Economy – (afternoon session) – 2 hours

What exactly is the green economy? What job and career opportunities are available for Native youth? Can we bring these industries to us on the reservations? These questions and more are given more insight and answered in this workshop. hybrid vehicles manufacturing, sustainable water systems, home building technologies are touch on in a more in-depth workshop here by a team leader that is knowledgeable and experienced in these fields.

Solar and Renewable energy – (afternoon session) 2 hours

This workshop focuses on solar and renewable energy. This includes wind turbines building, construction and placing, solar panel building construction, finishing and instillation and more. One of the only wind turbine companies in the southwest is located in Flagstaff, and there are plans to build wind farms in the Leupp and Gray Mountain areas and a possible solar panel finishing plant to be built in Shonto, AZ.

Day Two

Straw-bale Bench Building Workshop – (morning/afternoon session) 4 hours

This workshop is ran by a professional builder who teaches of the straw-cutting techniques, plastering, bale stacking and more. There are several bench designs we offer, each vary in price and supplies.

Our last workshop brought four generations out to learn, build and community involvement.



A wind farm.

Green Visioning – (debriefing/closing session) – 1.5 hours

This is the most important part of these workshops. We ask the youth several questions including: now that you've learn a little about green technologies: How to make steps to green your community today? What do you envision for your future and the future of your grandchildren? Is there new career paths you are now considering? If you could make your community the way you like, what would it look like? What are the steps to make this a reality? How do we not walk away from these workshops without really implementing these ideas in our everyday lives? What can we do as facilitators to help you reach your new goals? Can we teach our parents about what we learned? Is it possible to push our community to be more green and implement these technologies in our existing buildings, business and those of the future? Can a Green Leader in my community? Can I teach my younger sibling what I've learned?

Contact for workshop coordination:

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Straw-bale home we built in Window Rock, AZ.

Native Green Leadership Academy - Our Team

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Gordon Isaac is a Navajo veteran (USMC) from Tonalea, AZ on the the Navajo Nation. He is currently the President of Keya Earth Corporation, a mostly native owned sustainable development company.

He believes in the people's visions, culture, and their way of life and to offering solutions to solving the new environmental challenges of the world.

Through NGLA he offers sustainable development education with culture in mind, incorporating the newest innovations, and integrating old techniques to come up with tangible real world solutions to housing issues, economic development, and "Reawakening a Nation".



Tony Skrelunas was raised in Big Mountain, AZ. He has a B.A. in Small Business Management and a M.B.A., Masters in Business Administration Degree, from Northern Arizona University.

Tony is the former Executive Director of the Navajo Nations Economic Development and Government Development Divisions. Tony is considered a premier expert in the development of traditional forms of government and the development of economic plans that are in tune with local culture, vision, and traditional values.

He is a valuable guide to the development of a high performance company that respect the Native values and ensuring a consulting arm that truly helps achieve sustainable, culturally cognizant communities.



Derrick Terry is Dineh, from the community of Wide Ruins. He has 12 years of extensive experience in Autocad, surveying, and engineering related processes. Terry is the director of Tloh Kin Project (Navajo for straw bale house).

Tloh Kin is a non-profit straw bale home educational and sustainable building workshop series, that is dedicated to educating about green- sustainable building technologies. Derrick has extensive knowledge on the subject and has key-noted at many conferences, communities and tribes.

Derrick brings a fearless passion for sustainable building and a "do-whatever-it-takes" mentality. He is passionate about teaching sustainable building to 1st Nations Communities.



Gabriel Yaiva is Dineh and Hopi, a father, hip-hop artist/promoter, substance abuse prevention program director and a graduate of Northern Arizona University with a B.S. in Applied Indigenous Studies.

He is also the owner and founder of [4th World Entertainment](#), specializing in independent music releases and the director of Peace and Balance, a substance abuse/violence prevention project working with Native youth in the southwest.

Currently he is the Chief of Marketing for Native Green Leadership Academy.



Temashio Anderson, is Pomo and Navajo and has significant environmental services experience specializing in water issues and depleted uranium. He has a dual B.A. in Environmental Sciences and Applied Indigenous Studies from Northern Arizona University.

Currently he is a graduate student at Kansas University studying Indigenous peoples around the world and how they are becoming self-reliant and self-determined through community based cultural and sustainability initiatives.

He will be working with the Native Green Leadership Academy on renewable energy projects as well as developing projects. He brings with him a natural talent for creativity and business development.



Kelvin Long, is Dineh from the community of Kaibeto, AZ. Long is the Executive Director of ECHOES (Educating Communities while Healing and Offering Environmental Support)), a grass roots organization dedicated to enacting social and environmental justice.

He is a professional speaker who speaks at area and national schools on his knowledge of Sacred Sited Protection, Environmental Justice, Indigenous Knowledge and sustainability.

Long, is also co-owner of [Native Renaissance](#); a marketing team aimed to change the face and presence of Indigenous people in the global market as a professional photographer.



Somana Yaiva is Hopi. She is a grand daughter, a daughter, a mother from the Hopi reservation in Arizona. She is also a celebrated artist who has made a very positive name for her self through out the USA.

She is also a self taught cook and caterer of traditional Hopi. Her ability to blend foods and tastes from various cultures and backgrounds makes her foods a true treat to the pallet. She has catered events such as those for the Grand Canyon Trust, fund raisers in San Francisco, CA and many private parties, events and graduations.

She leads a variety of workshops from on recycled art, creativity, perma-culture, garden making and design, indigenous farming techniques, basic and advanced cooking classes and general horticultural knowledge.