



Grand Canyon Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution

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For Immediate Release:

Gerri Hongeva Awarded the DAR Grand Canyon Chapter's Women in American History Award



Scottsdale, AZ – On December 4, 2021, Saturday, Amy Casaldi (American History Chair) presenting Gerri Hongeva with the award, to Gerri's right is Regent Karen Andrews.

Gerri Hongeva was awarded the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Women in American History Award in Scottsdale for her contributions to the Navajo community and state of Arizona. Karen Andrews, Regent of the 175 member chapter, welcomed Hongeva to the December chapter meeting at the McCormick Resort.

This past summer, after learning of Gerri's work with the Navajo Honor Riders, which she recently won the Arizona Daughters of the American Revolution Community Service Award for, the Grand Canyon American History Committee wanted to learn more about Ms. Hongeva. "When we started to delve into her background and her extensive contributions to her community she seemed like a perfect fit for the Women in American History Award," said American History Chair Amy Casaldi. The emphasis of the

Women in American History award is on the role of women, past and present, in American history who have made a contribution or a difference in their communities. Geri was a perfect fit for this award from her work with the Navajo Parks and Recreation to her knowledge of Native American Cultural Preservation to her work as a Board member for the Arizona American Indian Tourism Association to even being the voice of C3PO in the Star Wars: Episode IV New Hope when it was dubbed in the Navajo Language.

Geri Hongeva has worked for Navajo Parks & Recreation and Navajo Division of Natural Resources. Hongeva has also worked with NAU Anthropology and is very knowledgeable of Native American Cultural Preservation. She has a BFA degree in Visual Communication from Northern Arizona University. She speaks Navajo fluently, and is most recently known for her voice as C3PO in the Star Wars: Episode IV New Hope dubbed in the Navajo language.

Hongeva is Yei Dine Tachiinii (Red Running Into The Water Clan) born for Tsenjijinkini (Cliff Dwelling Clan). Her maternal grandfathers are Kinlichii'nii (Red House People) and her paternal grandfathers are Bihh Bitoo'nii (Deer Spring Clan) and originally from Black Mesa, AZ. She was awarded the Arizona DAR Community Service Award for work as a Navajo Hopi Honor Rider, an organization to recognize Native American veterans. Board member: AZ American Indian Tourism Association since 2008.

For more information on the chapter, visit: <http://grandcanyon.arizonadar.org> and on Facebook at <https://m.facebook.com/GrandCanyonDAR>.