20th Annual Sheep Is Life Celebration

June 12 – 19, 2016, Diné College, Tsailé, AZ

Celebrate Navajo sheep culture and pastoral lifeways in the Navajo Nation.

Shiprock, NM: Diné Be’ Iiná, Inc. has launched an all-volunteer effort to produce the 20th Annual Sheep is Life Celebration of the vibrant Navajo sheep culture and spirituality. Sheep is Life will be held June 12-19, 2016 at the Diné College Tsailé Campus, located in northeastern Arizona.

Sheep is Life is a gathering for weavers, artists, and all those who love sheep, wool, fiber arts and the diverse cultures that have maintained these lifeways for thousands of years. Sheep is Life focuses on raising awareness about the role of Navajo-Churro sheep in the evolution of Navajo weaving and culture; the special qualities of Navajo-Churro wool, meat, and survival rates; and economic development for small-scale sheep and wool producers from all parts of the world. Everyone is welcome. Bring tools, spindles, sheep, wool, arts, and creativity to share.

Free public events on June 17-19, 2016 include sheep and wool shows, cultural arts demonstrations, traditional foods preparation and tastings, youth activities, seminars, sheep to loom demonstrations, Navajo fiber arts show and sales, speakers, workshops, and much more.

Pre-Celebration Workshops, from June 12-17, 2016, feature master artists teaching one- to five-day workshops in Navajo rug weaving, twill weaving, hand spinning, carding, wool dyeing, felting, sash belt, horse cinch weaving, rope braiding, and advanced fiber arts techniques. These workshops require advance registration and tuition. Go to www.navajolifeway.org, for schedules, artists, and fees.

Dine Be’ Iiná, Inc. (DBI) is a nonprofit organization incorporated in the Navajo Nation since 1991. DBI’s mission is to restore the balance between Diné culture, life, and land. It is managed by a volunteer Board of Directors in collaboration with Diné College, the Land Grant Office, and many others who generously contribute time and resources to promote leadership, economic development, and support for traditional lifeways based on sheep, wool, and fiber arts. New
members are invited to join us. For information, go to www.navajolifeway.org, call 505.406.7428, or e-mail info@navajolifeway.org