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Contact: Marjorie Phillips Elliott, Chair,
Chamiza Foundation

Email: mgpe3333@gmail.com

Chamiza Foundation

New Executive Director

Santa Fe, New Mexico-The Board of Directors of Chamiza Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of Amanda J. Montoya as its new Executive Director. A non-profit since 1989, the Chamiza Foundation employs a grassroots approach to grant making that supports leadership in Pueblo communities and their efforts to effect positive and innovative change sustaining culture and traditions. The Chamiza Foundation has emphasized always on-going collaboration and long-term relationships with Pueblo communities.

Ms. Montoya is from the Pueblos of Taos, Ohkay Owingeh and Isleta, Amanda previously held positions as Community Development Planner for Taos Pueblo, American Indian Tourism Specialist for the New Mexico Tourism Department, and Program Manager for the Indigenous Design and Planning Institute at the University of New Mexico. She recently graduated from Arizona State University with her PhD in Justice Studies as part of the Pueblo PhD Cohort Program. She also holds an A.A.S in Geographical Information Technology from Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, a B.S. in Hotel, Restaurant & Tourism Management from New Mexico State University, and an MCRP in Community and Regional Planning from the University of New Mexico's School of Architecture and Planning.

About the Chamiza Foundation

For close to 30 years, the Chamiza Foundation has enacted a commitment to support the continuation of Pueblo culture. The Board of Directors, members of the Phillips family, and staff carry out the work of the Foundation guided by the principles, values, and original mission

articulated by founders Alfonso Ortiz, Gifford Phillips, and Joann Phillips. This steadfastness insures the Chamiza Foundation's continued relevance to Pueblo communities now and for generations to come. Although a Family Foundation, from the beginning, at least half of the Chamiza Board has consisted of Pueblo members. Currently, the board of fourteen members includes nine Pueblo members who continue to guide grant making decisions into areas where support is most essential to sustaining traditional lifeways. Funding priorities include: language revitalization, sustainable agriculture, traditional building, traditional arts and crafts, storytelling and oral history, youth education and leadership programs including environmental stewardship and ecology, and intercultural exchange.

If you would like more information about this topic, please email executivedirector@chamiza.org