



Kenneth Shirley

CEO - Indigenous Enterprise, LLC

**Kenneth@indigenousenterprise.com
480-594-6659**

Professional Summary

Dedicated Indigenous artist and cultural advocate with extensive experience in dance, filmmaking, and performance. Founder of Indigenous Enterprise, committed to celebrating and preserving Indigenous cultures through innovative artistic expressions. Proven ability to engage diverse audiences and foster understanding through storytelling and performance.

Experience

Founder & Artistic Director

*Indigenous Enterprise, Phoenix, AZ
2015 – Present*

- Established a dance company dedicated to uplifting Indigenous culture through performance and education.
- Choreographed and directed performances blending traditional pow wow dance with contemporary styles.
- Produced films that highlight Indigenous narratives and cultural significance, including collaborations with organizations like Nike and the Phoenix Suns.
- Engaged in community outreach and educational workshops to teach Indigenous culture to younger generations.

Performer

*Fo Guang Shan Monastery, Taipei, Taiwan
December 2023*

- Performed at the “When Buddha Meets the Gods” festival, marking the first time Native Americans performed at this prestigious event in Asia.

Guest Artist

*Smithsonian Museum, Washington, D.C.
June 2024*

- Performed at the Folklife Festival to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the National Museum of the American Indian, connecting with Indigenous people nationwide.

Creative Director & Dancer

Nike SB | Born X Raised Commercial

September 2023

- Led the creative direction of a commercial honoring Indigenous culture, featuring notable athletes and artists.

Headlining Performer

Moore Theater, Seattle, WA

April 2023

- Headlined a show at the Moore Theater, representing Indigenous culture at a venue known for hosting iconic acts.

Performer

Super Bowl LVII, Glendale, AZ

February 2023

- Achieved a historic milestone as the first Indigenous dance troupe to perform at the Super Bowl, showcasing Indigenous culture on a global stage.

Choreographer

Joyce Theater, New York City, NY

November 2022

- Organized and performed a one-hour show titled “Indigenous Liberation,” receiving critical acclaim and features in major publications.

Performer

NBC’s World of Dance Season 4

June 2020

- Represented Indigenous culture as the first Indigenous dance group featured on the show, reaching millions of viewers.

Headlining Performer

Sydney Opera House, Sydney, Australia

December 2019

- Choreographed and performed a one-hour show, becoming the first Native American dance troupe to headline at this iconic venue.
-

Education

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Filmmaking

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

2018

Awards & Recognitions

- **Best Narrative Short Film** - *2024 Phoenix Film Festival*
Wrote and directed a short film about a tribe on the USA/Mexico border, awarded for exploring significant cultural themes and visibility for Indigenous stories.
 - **Emmy Award** - *2023 Northern California Emmy Awards*
Dance company featured in the Webby Award-winning video series "If Cities Could Dance," recognized for cultural contributions and performance excellence.
 - **National Dance Project Presentation Grant** - *New England Foundation for the Arts, August 2022*
Awarded for positively representing Indigenous people through "Indigenous Liberation," performed at esteemed venues nationwide.
 - **Best Documentary** - *2018 Chandler International Film Festival Award*
Documentary highlighting the impactful work of the dance company for Indigenous communities, celebrating efforts in cultural preservation through film.
-

Skills

- **Dance & Choreography:** Expertise in pow wow dance styles and contemporary choreography.
 - **Filmmaking:** Strong background in directing, producing, and storytelling.
 - **Cultural Advocacy:** Passionate about promoting and preserving Indigenous cultures through art.
 - **Community Engagement:** Skilled in developing and leading educational workshops and outreach programs.
 - **Collaboration:** Proven ability to work with diverse teams and cultural organizations.
-

References

Available upon request.