



## Gila River Rising Nations Invitational - Official NABI Qualifying Tournament

September 4–6, 2026

Dear Community Partners, Leaders, and Supporters,

We are proud to announce that Skyline Gila River has been officially authorized by the Native American Basketball Invitational (NABI) to host an **Official NABI Qualifying Tournament** during Labor Day Weekend, **September 4–6, 2026**.

This inaugural event, titled the **Rising Nations Invitational**, will bring together approximately 30–40 Native American basketball teams from across the region to compete for qualification into the prestigious Native American Basketball Invitational (NABI), the largest and most respected all-Native American youth basketball tournament in North America.

**Hosted and produced by Skyline Gila River and Compass Sports Performance**, this tournament represents far more than basketball.

It is an opportunity to **celebrate Native youth**, leadership, education, culture, and community while creating positive experiences and pathways for student-athletes both on and off the court.

Skyline Gila River is a grade 5–12 charter school whose student body is proudly composed entirely of students from the Gila River Indian Community. This event will serve as a fundraiser supporting Skyline Gila River athletic programs and student opportunities. To ensure competitive integrity and avoid any conflict of interest, Skyline Gila River teams will not participate in the tournament itself, however Gila River Community teams may participate in the tournament.

In support of this initiative, Skyline Education & Compass Sports will provide all gymnasium and facility space at no cost to the tournament so that proceeds can directly benefit student programming and athletic development opportunities.

As an Official NABI Qualifying Tournament, the **Rising Nations Invitational** will fully adhere to all NABI eligibility requirements, rules, and standards, including player eligibility verification, coach responsibilities, and required coaching background checks.

For more than two decades, NABI has served as a powerful platform for Indigenous youth development through athletics, education, leadership, and community engagement. Since 2003, NABI has impacted thousands of student-athletes by connecting basketball with college opportunities, career exploration, scholarships, and leadership development. NABI alumni have gone on to compete at the collegiate and





**Skyline Gila River**



professional levels while also becoming leaders in business, medicine, education, law, community service, and beyond.

We are currently seeking community sponsors and partners to help support this event and expand opportunities for participating student-athletes and programs. Sponsorship support will directly assist with tournament operations, staffing, hospitality, awards, livestreaming/media coverage, and youth athletic programming support at Skyline Gila River.

We are honored to partner with NABI and grateful for the support of the Gila River Indian Community, families, volunteers, and sponsors who help make opportunities like this possible for our youth. Together, we are building more than a tournament — we are building experiences, opportunity, pride, and pathways for the next generation of Indigenous leaders.

With appreciation,

Swen Anderson  
*President, Skyline Education & Compass Sports Performance*

Keith Brown  
*Principal, Skyline Gila River*

***Official Hosts of Rising Nations Invitational***

Daveda Taylor - Skyline Gila River (Tournament Info and Registration)  
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Francisco d'Escoto – Skyline Education (Sponsorships)  
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**Skyline Gila River**



## **Proposed Sponsorship Opportunities**

### **Title Sponsor — \$25,000 (1 Available)**

- “Presented By” naming rights alongside tournament branding
- Premier logo placement on all event materials and media
- Featured recognition during tournament announcements and livestreams
- Vendor/activation space at primary venue
- Social media and promotional recognition
- Recognition during championship presentations

### **Platinum Sponsor — \$7,000**

- Large logo placement on tournament branding and signage
- Recognition on livestream and social media
- Vendor booth space
- Recognition during championship games

### **Gold Sponsor — \$5,000**

- Logo placement on event signage and digital materials
- Social media recognition
- Recognition during tournament weekend

### **Silver Sponsor — \$2,500**

- Logo placement on sponsor signage
- Social media acknowledgment
- Community partner recognition

### **Bronze Sponsor — \$1,000**

- Name/logo included on sponsor board and event materials