Dancing Earth Structure

The Dancing Earth Structure is intended to honor the genius of local indigenous culture, particularly the Akimel O’otham and PeePosh peoples of Arizona. The installation will welcome people, amplifying the idea of indigenous-centered futurity, ancestral lifeways and value systems, all the while enabling a contemporary expression, expressing the notion, that we are still here.

The intent of the structure, is to welcome visitors, students, faculty with a site-immersive experience. The three poles express past, present and future, offering a moment of pause around the circle of life, a place to sit and connect. The piece, and its gesture upward, aims to honor connections with mother earth, the underground and the sky world. The four rings honor four generations and four seasons. Solar led lighting will be used to amplify the eco-technological potential of Indigenous futurity, celebrating earths gifts. In recognition of the 22 tribes, there are 22 marks of acknowledgment on the outer ring.