

## WEAVING, NAVAJO - RUG (6) OVERVIEW OF THE OBJECTS

**Repository:** Crandall Public Library.  
Folklife Center  
Glens Falls, NY.

**Creators:** D.Y. Begay and Debbie Begay

**Title:** Weaving, Navajo – Rug (6)

**Dates:** ca. 1999

**Quantity:** 2.5 cf

**Identification:** Folk Art

### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

D.Y. Begay is a weaver, a daughter of a weaver's daughter. She is a Navajo born to Totsohini, the Big Water People, and born for Ta'chii'nii, the Red Earth Streak People. She resides in Teselani and Scottsdale. Arizona, with her husband and son.

She learned at an early age to shear sheep, card and spin wool, pick the plants for dyeing the fleece to obtain the varied and subtle colors in her weaving. As she says, "Everything in my weaving is natural. I use the same techniques passed from my ancestors to me to create designs that have artistic and traditional values."

D.Y. Begay has exhibited her weavings at the Indian Market in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and other important markets and museums throughout the United States. She was a contributor to the Smithsonian's *Woven by the Grandmothers: Nineteenth Century Navajo textiles from the National Museum of the American Indian* (1996). She participated as a traditional artist-in-residence for the Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library's *Navajo Exploration* project, co-hosted by the Hyde Collection Art Museum in the Fall of 1999.

Debbie Begay is the niece of weaver/educator D.Y. Begay. Her four small rugs were made as a part of the process of learning the tradition.

### INDEX TERMS

**Topics:** Weaving, Navajo  
Rugs, Navajo  
Navajo art

Navajo weavers  
Folk art  
Folk artists

**Places:** Teselani, Navajo Nation  
Scottsdale, Arizona  
Santa Fe, New Mexico  
Washington, D.C.  
Glens Falls, New York

**Important People:** Begay, D.Y.  
Begay, Debbie

**Form/Genre:** Realia

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**Preferred Citation:** Weaving, Navajo – Rug (6)  
Folklife Center  
Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY.

**Accession Information:** Acquired in connection with the *Navajo Exploration* project in 1999.

**Processing Information:** Arranged and described by Erica Gonyea, 2019

## **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE OBJECTS**

Hand woven wool rug, dyed red, black, grey, white; 26 inches x 36 inches.

Hand woven wool rug, natural dyes; 31 inches x 52 inches.

Four small rugs woven by a child learning to weave: 12 inches x 12 inches.