



*10 Years*  
**NATIVE**  
*oklahoma*

MAGAZINE

AUGUST 2023



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## NATIVE *oklahoma* MAGAZINE

### NATIVE OKLAHOMA MAGAZINE | AUGUST 2023

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## NATIVE *oklahoma* MAGAZINE

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10 Years

# NATIVE

oklahoma

MAGAZINE



# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY NATIVE OKLAHOMA MAGAZINE!

# NATIVE *oklahoma* MAGAZINE

## HERE'S TO TEN MORE YEARS!

If you are curious about how long this magazine has been in publication. Its good to know that people want to know more about Native culture, and understand their native heritage.

This magazine has always been about promoting who we are. Promoting our artists and artisans Promoting Native & Tribal-owned companies who are entrepreneurs who want to grow and scale their businesses; startups who don't know where to start and small business owners who need would like to network and have their product or service promoted thru our media platforms.

folks both on the local and national stage of Native networks throughout Indian country.

In 2010, I was the former American Indian Chamber of Commerce State Board president. Spent six years on the board as a board member and then president. At that time, there were hardly any articles coming out on Native culture, heritage or even hard political news on any of the local newspapers or monthly magazines.

After my term as AICCO State Board member, I went to the owner of Native American Times newspaper and asked if they would be willing to work with me on starting a monthly magazine. Seeing how newspapers were on the decline, as a whole industry. They agreed to work with me. So, in 2013, we launched Native Oklahoma magazine!

Seeing the opportunity

After my time on the board and traveling to all the chapters in Oklahoma each week. I saw the need to continue to help the Native-owned small businesses. Thru the chamber and its networking partners. There was a huge need to get our Native businesses access to media outlets and help them get the exposure they needed. Surprisingly, Tribes did not know half of the Native-owned businesses out there in the State. They simply had no clue who they were and how to reach them.

Our goal for this magazine was to promote our artists, sculptures and jewelry makers. As well as, the hundreds of

Native business owners that had a viable product or service that wanted, and was ready, to do business in Indian country.

## LOOKING BACK

The first years of being in business was harder than I thought it would be. Even after having a name brand, such as the newspaper, and a track record behind it. The community it seemed was a little hesitant to see another magazine come out. As there were other publications that have come and gone before us. So, it was understandable to see that most advertisers waited until they saw consistency from us to produce a good product each month. Which we have!

Maintaining consistent work ethic and knowing that Indian country is a pretty tight community. Meaning everyone knows everyone. And if you treat someone bad or disrespectful. That reputation spreads pretty fast.

So we have been, to this day, fair to everyone and try to make our situation as win-win as possible.

## GOING FORWARD

This publication, Lord willing, will stay as a staple to Indian country for years to come. This will be the publication everyone loves and wants to see and read wants going on in our communities. Native Oklahoma magazine as always been about the Tribes as a whole. Not Tribe specific. Tribal journalism has been getting a bad rap for not being honest enough in our reporting. As we understand why tribal newspapers are they way they are. Even though they, or some, of the tribal newspaper tout themselves as an 'Independent organization' while still receiving 100% of their funds from the Tribe.



## HOW IT ALL STARTED

In 2005, I started working for Native American Times newspaper as a sales representative. Which, I did not have any experience or education to do this position. After being on the job for one year. I was making more money in commissions than my previous job. Which I worked for seven years prior to starting at the newspaper. Native American Times newspaper had been in distribution since the 90's and was well known throughout the native communities in Oklahoma and New Mexico.

After a few years of working for the newspaper. I left for another position in outside sales for another native-owned company. I liked working in this industry of Native business owners and executives and had the opportunity to meet a lot of





# NATIVE *oklahoma* MAGAZINE



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# HAPPY 10TH ANNIVERSARY NOK!

## FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT THE FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES

Happy 10th Anniversary to Adam Proctor and the Native Oklahoma Magazine! It is a wonderful achievement to get to that time in the business and journalism area! I really appreciate the opportunity to be able to write and share about my experiences in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes here in NE Oklahoma!

Here are some of my thoughts about becoming a mainstay in journalism:

Longevity-it means for a long time! When you have a magazine that starts and continues, you have built up a way to get people's attention about a certain view with a people group. The Native Oklahoma Magazine has done just that! It talks about areas that people are interested in. Adam Proctor has built this magazine from the ground up and has involved people that have an expertise in the area on which they communicate!

As a former coach, I know that longevity goes with being able to adapt to your surroundings and relate to people that you are coaching!

I also want to relate this to God's word. When I hear that word longevity, I think of Noah, the man who built the ark....he worked on the ark for a long period of time with not much support from people around him.



"Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it with pitch inside and outside. This is how you are to make it: The ark will be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high. You are to make a roof, finishing the sides of the ark to within 18 inches of the roof. You are to put a door in the side of the ark. Make it with lower, middle, and upper decks. "Understand that I am bringing a flood — floodwaters on the earth to destroy every creature under heaven with the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will die. But I will establish My covenant with you, and you will enter the ark with your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives. You are also to bring into the ark two of all the living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. Two of everything — from the birds according to their kinds, from the livestock according to their kinds, and from the animals that crawl on the ground according to their kinds — will come to you so that you can keep them alive. Take with you every kind of food that is eaten; gather it as food for you and for them." And Noah did this. He did

everything that God had commanded him." —Genesis 6:14-22

The next word that I think of is Empowering. Adam has empowered people to write for the Native Oklahoma magazine and make a contribution to our community! He has recognized the potential of native people to communicate through written media. I have no idea why he asked me, an old coach that can barely spell and thank goodness for spellcheck. But, he recognized in me a area of ministry and has allowed me share the gospel in articles and what is going on in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes here in NE Oklahoma! A great big "Thank you" to Adam!

The Bible tells us this in Matthew, "Then Jesus came near and said to them, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." —Matthew 28:18-20

The last word that I think about is culture. The word allows us to see where we have come from as a native people. I absolutely love to read about where we have come from and that we were all created by God himself in his own image. As native people we continue to progress in a world that is ever changing.

As the Field Representative for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, I know that God has place me here for a reason and know that God is in control of all the universe!

"We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God: those who are called according to His purpose." —Romans 8:28

Again, "Thank You" for allowing me to share and and congratulations on this 10-year anniversary with many more to come!

John Morris is currently serving with Oklahoma Fellowship of Christian Athletes in Cherokee, Adair and Delaware Counties and is supported financially by faith partners. If you are interested in more information on FCA or being a faith partner go to this link <https://my.fca.org/johnmorris>. John can be contacted through email: [johnmorris@fca.org](mailto:johnmorris@fca.org) or by cell number (785-760-1627).

# NATIVE Oklahoma MAGAZINE







# What is municipal broadband?

By Joshua Cox-Steib

Community-based public internet providers see success in some states, are banned in others.

Municipal broadband is an internet network owned by public entities instead of private companies. The idea is to create an accessible and low-cost option for a community's residents to have internet in their homes.

Because there will soon be \$45 billion up for grabs through the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program, the legal and financial landscape for municipal broadband projects has never been more uncertain. Significant changes via state and federal regulations are underway, both to hinder and to help cities and towns interested in growing their own internet network.

## Pros and cons of community broadband networks

### Benefits

- + Extends better access equity to rural areas and other populated locations that don't represent profit potential to private companies.
- + Can provide affordable broadband internet access in locations that may only have minimal or prohibitively expensive alternatives.
- + Expanding internet access creates jobs and boosts remote work in rural areas.

### Drawbacks

- + Lack of profit incentive can lead to reduced efficiency in

infrastructure expenditures, leading to greater costs.

- + Significant debt assumed due to large upfront costs (infrastructure and more).
- + Municipal internet projects tend to be charged significantly higher rates for pole attachments (the cost charged by utility companies to attach lines to and use their infrastructure).

## How common are municipal internet providers?

According to the American Association of Public Broadband, there are currently more than 750 municipal broadband networks in the U.S. The development of these programs is relatively recent, with the last decade seeing their primary push so far.

One of the biggest success stories has happened in Chattanooga, which was the first to offer gigabyte speeds through their community network. Not only has the infrastructure remained strong enough to handle a combination of high demand and fast speeds, but the city has also managed to charge roughly half of what private companies did for similar speeds.

Prices and speeds can vary significantly between municipalities and providers, but prices around \$50/mo. are standard, as are speed ranges of 25 Mbps to 1 Gbps. Below are examples of municipal broadband providers currently operating and offering cheap broadband for residents.

Ammon Fiber in Ammon, Idaho

Bandera Fiber in Bandera, Texas

Bardstown Connect in Bardstown, Kentucky

EPB in Chattanooga, Tennessee

FiberHome Broadband in Cedar Falls, Iowa

FiberNet in Monticello, Minnesota

Greenlight Community Broadband in Wilson, North Carolina

Highland Communication Service in Highland, Illinois

Lus Fiber in Lafayette, Louisiana

Marshall Municipal Utilities in Marshal, Missouri

NextLight Internet in Longmont, Colorado

North Alabama Electric in Stevenson, Alabama

OptiLink in Dalton, Georgia

PES Energize in Pulaski, Tennessee

SandyNet in Sandy, Oregon

Sebewaing Light and Water in Sebewaing, Michigan

Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant in Taunton, Massachusetts.

The City of Wadsworth Electric & Communications Department in Wadsworth, Ohio.

Legal challenges facing municipal internet projects



There are a handful of states that currently have legal roadblocks in place for municipal broadband projects, but some are in the process of contesting or changing those laws. Right now, there are 53 million households in 17 states that have laws restricting municipal broadband:

Alabama / Florida / Louisiana / Minnesota / Missouri / Montana / Michigan / Nebraska / Nevada / North Carolina / Pennsylvania / South Carolina / Tennessee / Texas / Utah / Virginia / Wisconsin

At the federal level, lawmakers are divided on municipal internet providers. Some Congress members favor paving the way for more municipal broadband projects, both financially and legally. In contrast, others have recently introduced bills to ban the entire practice at a federal level. If that were to happen, then municipal broadband could become illegal in every state.

How will federal funding impact municipal broadband?

In late 2021, Congress passed H.R.3684, also known as the Infrastructure and Investment and Jobs Act. The bill allocated significant sums of money to facilitate broadband access and affordability to U.S. households, including more than \$40 billion on a Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment program (BEAD).

The federal law says that states “may not exclude” local networks from accessing the funding, but the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) — the organization responsible for distributing funds to states — has said it won’t delay funding to states with pre-existing laws restricting municipal broadband.

The creation of BEAD has pushed public broadband into the national spotlight like never before. For now, states are scrambling to study related issues and put relevant legislation into place to keep up with federal requirements, citizen internet needs, and private ISP stakeholder concerns. As this issue evolves over the coming years, the state-level responses and the successes and failures of municipal internet projects will become more apparent.

## The Bottom Line

With the largest ever federal investment in broadband right around the corner, internet providers will soon be scrambling to show states that they’re the ones who can expand internet service the best. But with municipal broadband success stories like Chattanooga, there’s an argument to be made that broadband should be treated like water, electricity, or any other public utility. Keep an eye on Allconnect’s News Hub for more updates on BEAD funding and municipal broadband.







## Free Financial Coaching Available to Tribal Citizens

Since June 2020, with grant support from the Wells Fargo Foundation, the [Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition, Inc. \(ONAC\)](#) has been offering three types of free financial coaching to tribal citizens across the United States: 1) credit counseling, 2) homebuyer education, and 3) financial management (i.e. budgeting).

Confidential sessions are offered one-on-one, by teleconference (Zoom) or phone call, with a Native certified credit counselor, homebuyer education provider, and financial educator. Typically, these sessions will last for an hour and are scheduled at a mutually agreeable time.

Thus far, ONAC has offered this free financial coaching to those participating in ONAC's other programming. Now, ONAC is offering these financial coaching services to a wider group of tribal constituents.

**If you are a tribal citizen interested in free financial coaching, you are welcome to complete the following registration form:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ONACcounselingregistration>

Once the form has been submitted to ONAC, our financial coach will work with you to schedule a remote session by phone or teleconference. This confidential financial coaching is available to any American Indian or Alaska Native in the United States, regardless of where you reside.

For any questions about these financial coaching services, contact Christy Finsel, ONAC Executive Director, at (405) 720-0770 or [cfinsel@oknativeassets.org](mailto:cfinsel@oknativeassets.org).





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# Mahota

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The Battle of Ackia or Aahíkki'ya' as the Chickasaw call the event, was a battle between the French and Chickasaw. d'Arteguette launched the assault of Chokkilissa' (Ogoula Tchetoka in French), about 4 miles north of the town we call Tupelo, Mississippi today. The French military leader attacked on March 24, 1736. As they entered the area, Chickasaw women began singing loudly, and the French troops became disoriented. The singing women wielding hatchets advanced into the battle of Chickasaw warriors and French soldiers, frightening the French and forcing them to retreat. The singing, warring Chickasaw women became known as Hatchet Women. They are revered in Chickasaw history as part of the unconquered and unconquerable.







# Mahota

## SHARON BLANKET

\$400

labisowa ' ishtalakchi ' (Garters) were worn below the knee and were an essential part of Chickasaw men's regalia during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Beaded designs, most likely created by an artist removed from a Great Lakes tribe, or Potawatomi, due to their shared northern border with the Chickasaw Nation in Indian Territory, were worn by Chickasaws. The design is taken from the garters and placed in an ascending motif, named in tribute to a dear friend of the Potawatomi Tribe.

Native Oklahoma has an intertribal outreach not only in Oklahoma, but also to all American Indian tribes and nations across the country.

Shop intertribal today!







Midyear outlook:

# What's ahead for Indian Country

*By Jarrod Compton, BOK Financial, Native American Services & Steve Wyett, BOK Financial Chief Investment Strategist*

What a difference a few months can make. At the start of this year we couldn't have predicted that the health of the financial system, potential for a recession and inflation would be all anyone was talking about.

The health of the banking industry is a topic we get asked about often by tribal members, businesses and municipalities. Essentially, the core of the problem in the financial industry is the speed and magnitude at which the Fed has raised short-term interest rates in response to inflation. Last year, the markets were anticipating 2-3 rates hikes; instead they got 500 basis points in increases in just 14 months and some leveraged institutions weren't prepared for it. In addition, the pandemic and increased adoption of hybrid work created uncertainty around commercial real estate valuations, putting further pressure on banks. I really want to emphasize that these issues are impacting just a few specific banks and are not reflective of any systemic issue impacting the entire industry.

Even though we're seeing some turbulence in the industry, we believe the strength and stability of our company, Native American services and beyond, is both attractive and comforting to our clients and partners. While other financial institutions are pumping the breaks, we're fully leaning in.

The strength and stability of BOK Financial allows us not only to meet the immediate needs of our tribal partners but more importantly remain a consistent trusted advisor helping to accomplish their long-term visions and goals.

Conversations about inflation and a possible recession are tightly woven. In the summer of 2022, we saw a nine percent jump in the year-over-year headline consumer price index. It's now roughly half of where we were then but still well above where the Federal Reserve wants us to be. So, there are signs that inflation is slowing, but many of our clients aren't seeing it as they manage their businesses and support families. So, how do we reconcile the data saying one thing but people experiencing something quite different? First, we need to recognize that slowing inflation does not mean falling prices, but rather prices going up more slowly. This highlights why the Fed is so concerned about longer-term inflation expectations. Within our economy we always have some prices falling while others are rising, but the broad nature of price increases since last year was the highest in decades. Longer term, inflation is bad for our economy, and we need to see it continue to slow.

One concern about a slowing economy is that we could slip into a recession. Trends like the significant yield curve inversion, tighter access to credit and overly aggressive rate hikes from the Fed seem to signal that a recession is imminent. It's important to remember that consumer spending makes up roughly 2/3 of the US economy and that spending has remained strong thanks to the robust labor market and the surplus of savings consumers built up during COVID. However, inflation is taking a toll on the consumer, and more recent credit card data shows that the buffer of excess savings is fading.

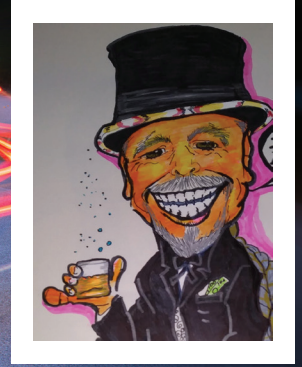
As demand slows, a few industries are laying off employees to protect margins due to higher costs from inflation and higher interest rates. Tribal gaming has historically shown resilience through economic downturns and consistently outperforms other industries but even those operators know they're not entirely immune. We keep a close eye on new unemployment claims because a spike in unemployment claims would indicate a recession was upon us but we haven't seen that yet. So, the likelihood of an economic recession in the next 6 to 12 months is fairly high, though not a certainty by any means.

With the possibility of a recession to come we continue to work closely with our tribal customers to provide sound advice and solutions to position their enterprises for continued success.



# "Fixico Speeds Through Tulsa"

By Fus Yvhikv



Fus Yvhikv

Me and Fixico are headed downtown to the annual Tulsa Powwow. We are riding in Fixico's rez car. It is a 1963 Plymouth Belvedere 2 door hardtop. The car's claim to fame is that it has a push button transmission. The pushbuttons are arrayed horizontally on the dashboard. There are buttons for Drive, Reverse, Neutral, First and Second gears. It appears the Reverse gear has been selected yet somehow, we are moving forward.

"Get a move on willya? You drive like an old lady," I say to Fixico.

"Bugger off, willya? We are going through a school zone," Fixico says.

"It's summertime. School's not in session," I reply. "And what's with the bugger off? Have you suddenly become an Englishman?"

"School's out? Do kids today ever go to school? Still best to be safe rather than sorry when driving through a school zone."

"Dude! You drive like my grandma. Get a move on or we'll miss Grand Entry."

Suddenly Fixico's radio comes on. You never know when his radio is going to work. The radio has trouble picking up signals due to the car's lack of an antenna. Technically the car does have an antenna, but it is a wire coat hanger that has been duct taped to the hood of the car.

A radio announcer states that there is breaking news. He says that the 10th circuit court of appeals has ruled that the city of Tulsa does not have authority to issue speeding citations to tribal citizens. Fixico and I listen intently.

The announcer goes on to state that in the case of Hooper v. City of Tulsa, Justin Hooper, a Choctaw citizen, was issued a speeding citation by the Tulsa Police Department in 2018. Hooper paid a \$150 fine. Subsequent to the 2020 U. S. Supreme Court ruling in *McGirt* that declared the Muscogee Creek reservation was never disestablished, Hooper filed suit against the city of Tulsa averring that Tulsa had no authority to cite him for speeding.

The federal district court ruled against Hooper citing the authority granted to Tulsa under Section 14 of the 1898 Curtis Act. Hooper then appealed the district court's decision to the 10th circuit. The appeals court reversed the decision of the district court.

The 10th circuit noted that when Tulsa re-incorporated the city in 1907 under newly admitted state of Oklahoma laws that the city relinquished authority over Natives granted under Section 14 of the Curtis Act. The 10th circuit court's ruling not only invalidated Tulsa's authority to issue speeding tickets to Natives but also stated that none of the municipality's ordinances apply to tribal citizens.

Me and Fixico are mesmerized by the news. Shock and awe is a better description. Fixico pulls his rez car over on a narrow street as we try to process this stunning news. Angry honking from a car behind us awakens us from our stupor. Fixico stomps on the accelerator and the recalcitrant car wheezes and coughs as it limps ahead.

"Did we hear that correctly? Tulsa can't ticket Natives for speeding?" I ask.

"Can that be true?"

A text comes through on my phone. A friend is forwarding a meme issued by Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt. The meme shows a speed limit sign. The meme reads, Speed Limit 75, Tribal Speed Limit 100.

"Ha! It is true. Even Gov. Bullstitt says that speed limits don't apply to Natives!"

"Speed limit? We don't need no stinking speed limits," Fixico says as he again floors it.

Fortunately we had just crested a large hill. The rez car gathers steam as we descend. We quickly hit 85 miles per hour.

"Yee haw!" we exclaim as we stick our heads out of the windows.

"I'm king of the world!" Fixico yells into the strong headwinds.

"Fixico! You are about to run a red light!" I shout above the rushing winds.

"What stop light?" Fixico says.

"That one! The one you just ran through!"

"Nothing can stop us now!"

Flashing red lights appear behind us. It's Tulsa PD. Fixico attempts to look in the driver's side mirror. It suddenly ripped off the car by the fierce headwinds. At that moment, the car begins to list to the right and the back of the car dips toward the pavement. A bouncing tire skips by us on the right side of the car.



"Hey! Isn't that one of your bald tires?" I ask.

"Doesn't look like mine."

"Yes, it is. I can see your red duct tape on it."

"Jesus!" we both scream.

The car smashes into one of the many potholes in Tulsa's streets. It flies high in the air, does a 360-degree spin, and comes down hard on its chassis. The remaining three wheels pop off as the car slides down the street. The rez car comes to a halt next to a speed limit sign.

"License and registration," the police officer demands.

"License and registration?" Fixico says. "We don't need no stinking license and registration. We're 'skins and your laws don't apply to us."

Me and Fixico laugh gleefully. We would have driven off but the rez car was without wheels. The police officer hands Fixico a speeding ticket. The ticket is from the Muscogee Nation, not the city of Tulsa.

"What?" Fixico meekly asks.

"It's called cross-deputization. The Muscogee Nation has empowered Tulsa PD to issue traffic citations to Natives. Take that puppy to the tribe and pay the \$500 fine," the officer says with a chuckle.

"Jesus! It's not the lawless wild west out here after all. Gov. Bullstitt is wrong, yet again," I say.

"Jesus is right! No more speeding through Tulsa!" Fixico laments. "Looks like I'll have to keep driving like an old lady."



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MAGAZINE





# 2023 Annual Tribal Festival Guide

## August/September

### Oklahoma Indian Nations Powwow

Aug. 4-6, 2023 at the Concho Powwow Grounds in Concho, Okla.

Vendors welcomed / Grand Entry Night 7 p.m.

For more information call 405-361-8945

### 46th Annual Wichita Tribal Dance

August 10th-13th, 2023

Wichita Tribal Park, Anadarko, Oklahoma.

Organized as the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, the center of activity is at Anadarko, Oklahoma, where the Wichita Tribal Park and office buildings are located. The culture, history and ancestors of the Kitikiti'sh--the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes--can be traced back to the Central and Southern Plains since prehistoric times. Archaeologists believe that the heritage of the Wichita may be traced back at least 800 years to the Washita River culture of central and western Oklahoma.

Like many other tribes. Their annual events started out as summer encampments with their families and other tribes that have created a common relationship. Now Tribal dances have been held each year to continue that tradition.

The Wichita Tribal Dance is a free event and is open to the public. Dance competitions are open to Wichita

Tribal members and their descendants. Gourd dancers, war dancers and a color guard will all be on-hand to participate in this year's Wichita Tribal Dance. Free meals will be available on designated nights of the event. Food and vendor booths will also be on-site.

The Wichita Tribal Dance Grounds are located at Wichita Tribal Park 1-1/4 miles north of Anadarko on Highway 281.

## September

### Annual Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival

September 1st-3rd, 2023

Tvshka Homma, capital of the Choctaw Nation.

The Choctaw Nation invites all visitors to enjoy tribal heritage activities, Choctaw cultural exhibitions, stickball games, arts and crafts, free concerts and carnival rides. A great way to begin any day of the festival is by visiting the Choctaw Nation Museum. The museum holds many historical artifacts and information about the Choctaw culture and past, including actual objects that were carried across the Trail of Tears and interactive exhibits.

Log on to [www.choctawnation.com](http://www.choctawnation.com) for more information on this event.







### 60th Annual Ottawa Pow Wow and Celebration

September 1st-3rd, 2023

Adawe Park in Miami, Oklahoma.

This Labor Day weekend powwow includes a variety of activities such as gourd dancing, war dancing, stomp dancing and other social dances.

The Ottawa Pow Wow and Celebration, hosted by the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma is a family-friendly event. The celebration continues the tradition of holding no-contest dancing and offers participants ample opportunities to relax, dance and have fun. The Ottawa Tribal Powwow includes a variety of activities including gourd dancing, war dancing, stomp dancing and other social dances. This event charges no admission and is open to the public. Adawe Indian Park also offers plenty of camping space and RV electrical hook-ups.

For More Information: 918-540-1536 Contact Kalisha Dixon @ kalisha.oto@gmail.com

### Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Labor Day Powwow

Sept. 1-4, 2023 at the Colony Powwow Grounds in Colony, Okla.

Vendors Welcomed

For more information call 580-574-0165, 580-791-0351 or 580-445-0932

The Cheyenne Arapaho Labor Day Celebration Powwow, first held in 1942, will be at Colony, about 15 miles south of Weatherford. Arts and crafts, food booths and musical and dancing entertainment will be offered throughout the event.

Admission is free. Campsites also will be available. Join others from across the nation who are drawn to the annual Cheyenne Arapaho Labor Day Powwow. The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes are eager to share the wealth and origin of their culture with you. Point System in place for all Grand Entries; 2 Grand Entries required. Dances start at 8pm each evening.

For more information, go to [www.c-a-tribes.org](http://www.c-a-tribes.org)

### 33rd Annual Wyandotte Pow Wow

September 8th-10th, 2023

Wyandotte Nation Pow Wow Grounds, Wyandotte, Oklahoma

Witness traditions come to life at the Wyandotte Powwow, a tribal celebration featuring a variety of dance contests. Watch as all ages, dressed in traditional regalia, compete for cash prizes in categories including women's buckskin, cloth, fancy shawl and jingle dress, as well as men's grass dance, traditional, straight and fancy dance. The Wyandotte Nation Tribal Powwow will also feature Grandparent's Day events and activities for the entire family.

Must be registered and participate in two Grand Entries and two Exhibitions to qualify for contests. Must be registered in only one category. Must be in Full Dress to receive contest monies. All decisions by Committee are final.



For more information contact Sherri Clemons at (918) 678-2297

### 30th Annual Comanche Nation Fair Powwow

Sept. 29, 30, and Oct. 1, 2023

Comanche Nation Complex, Lawton, Oklahoma

Comanche Nation Fair is the largest event of the Comanche Nation. This celebration features an array of events and activities that include: a powwow, parade, free concert, games and an art show. Other activities include basketball and softball tournaments, a horseshoe tournament, quilt show, teen dance, fun run and spirit walk. Arts and craft vendors from around the country will be present, as well as a variety of food vendors. A children's carnival featuring free rides will also be on-site. While the Comanche





brings together tribes from all across the nation. The much-anticipated powwow part of the Fair will feature traditional forms of dance such as gourd dancing, as well as intertribal dancing for all. Photography is allowed during the dance competition, so don't forget your camera. Take in the vivid colors of dancers decked out in elaborate beadwork and their finest regalia as they compete in categories from Tiny Tots to Golden Age.

Attend this three-day event and immerse yourself in the historic traditions of the Comanche tribe. Activities including horse racing, hand games and storytelling will all be represented. Visitors to this year's Comanche Nation Fair will also enjoy bull riding and a car show.

Celebrate Comanche culture at the largest American Indian gathering in southwest Oklahoma. Free camping near the powwow grounds will also be available.

For information visit [www.comanchenationfair.com](http://www.comanchenationfair.com)

### **27th Annual Standing Bear Powwow**

September 29th -30th , 2023

Standing Bear Park, Ponca City, OK

The powwow is hosted by the six north-central tribes of Oklahoma the last Friday and Saturday of September each year. Standing Bear Powwow features inter-tribal dancing, exhibition dancing, contest dancing, tiny tot contests and the crowning of the Standing Bear Princess. Visitors will also find a variety of arts and craft vendors, along with a wide variety of food vendors.

This free event in Ponca City is open to the public and often considered one of the most significant American Indian events in the US. Experience the Standing Bear Powwow and witness as the Kaw, Osage, Otoe-Missouria, Pawnee, Ponca and Tonkawa tribes gather to celebrate their tribal heritage with contest dancing, singing, drumming and more.

For More Information: Standing Bear Park: Call 580-762-1514; Email [tl@standingbearpark.com](mailto:tl@standingbearpark.com)



# Mahota

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This abstract design symbolizes our rising. In the Chickasaw creation story, the Crawfish dove into the water to build the first land mass at the bottom of the ocean, and life ascended from there. The golden-brown stripes represent the earth's mass, and the blue represents the ever-important water that we need to sustain life. The red symbolizes the blood of our people as we were created, as well as the blood we have shed throughout our history. The deep shades of red, blue, and golden brown combined with various textures create a work of art you see, feel, and enjoy.

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Originally painted on deerskin, The Chickasaw Map of 1723 is an important visual of Chickasaw history as it illustrates how the world was viewed by our ancestors. The map outlines in an artistic way, waterways, trade routes, and the relationships with other tribes at that time. Experiences and memory were depended on by the Chickasaw people who knew what lay beyond the southeast region, which was coveted by colonists who needed maps. The Chickasaw Map is credited to Fani' Minko' (Squirrel Leader or Squirrel King), a Chickasaw warrior and leader.

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64700 E. Highway 60,  
Wyandotte, OK  
918-678-2297





# WHERE'S YOUR CHAPTER?



LEARN MORE: [AICCOK.ORG/MEMBERSHIPS](https://aiccok.org/memberships)  
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ALL NATIONS. ONE MISSION.

We invite you to “Come Grow With Us” this year as we continue to expand our programs, re-invigorate our local chapters, and provide more benefits to our members. Our goal is to **EDUCATE**, **EMPOWER** and **ENGAGE** the Native American business community. We look forward to having you join us as we make a difference in Indian Country! We are dedicated to working with all members of the community to advance the educational and economic opportunities for Native Americans throughout Oklahoma.