



**United Nations**  
**International Year of Indigenous Languages**  
*Tribal Nations in Oklahoma Working to Preserve, Protect and Revitalize Our Languages*

November 15 & 16, 2019  
Chickasaw Cultural Center, Sulphur, Oklahoma

**Agenda**

*Coffee, tea, water and light snacks will be available throughout the Conference days*

**1<sup>st</sup> Day: Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 AM **Registration and Continental Breakfast**

8:30 AM **Opening Prayer:** Stanley Smith, Chickasaw Nation

8:45 – 9:15 AM **Opening Words of Welcome and Introduction to the Conference**

- Honorable Jefferson Keel, Lieutenant Governor of the Chickasaw Nation
- Rodney Factor, Assistant Band Chief, Seminole Nation, Board Member, International Indian Treaty Council
- Andrea Carmen, Yaqui Nation, Executive Director, International Indian Treaty Council

9:15 – 9:45 AM **The United Nations Year of Indigenous Languages: Objectives, Outcomes and plans for an International Decade**

- Grand Chief Ed John, Hereditary Chief of T'Pazt'en Nation, Indigenous Co-Chair of UNESCO International Year of Indigenous Languages Steering Committee (via Skype)
- Kristen Carpenter, Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

9:45 – 10:00 AM **Questions, comments and discussion.** All participants.

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM **Panel 1: How did we get here? Impacts of Colonization, Historical Trauma and Current Threats to Indigenous Languages**

- Casey Camp, Councilwoman of the Ponca Tribe, Hereditary Drumkeeper, Ponca Scalp Dance Society, Elder and Matriarch

- Rodney Factor, Assistant Band Chief Seminole Nation
- Miryam Yataco, Quechua, Peru, Language Educator
- Richard A. Grounds, Ph.D., Yuchi/Seminole, Yuchi Language Project
- Moderator: Bineshi Albert, Yuchi/Annishinaabe, Movement Building Coordinator, Indigenous Environmental Network

11:15 – 11:45 AM **Questions, comments and discussion.** All participants.

12:00 – 1:00 PM **Lunch catered by Chickasaw Cultural Center**

1:00 – 2:00 PM: **Taking Action: Restoring language resiliency and fluency for the next generations**

- Ric Greenwood, Chickasaw, Manager at the Chikasha Academy
- Mekko Chebon Kernell, Hillabee Grounds Seminole Nation
- Chumona Deere, Muscogee Creek, Language Speaker
- Presenter and Moderator: Halay Turning Heart, Yuchi/Seminole, Yuchi Language Project

2:00 - 2:30 PM **Chickasaw Nation Dancers**

2:30 – 2:45 PM **Questions, comments and discussion.** All participants.

2:45 – 4:10 PM **Tribal language presentations on language restoration and building fluency**

- **Seminole Nation Language Program**  
Jeremy Fultz, Language Director  
Delaney Pennock, Language Technician  
Edwin Marshall, Language Technician
- **Sauk Language Department**  
Katie Thompson, Director  
Sac and Fox Nation,  
*Title of presentation: How Do We Move On After Loss: An Open Dialogue*
- **Comanche Nation Language Department**  
Kathryn Pewenofkit Briner, Director  
Comanche, Kiowa, Apache  
*uuutsa n̄mi aikutekwana tu?ahwet̄u (they say we talk wrong): Heritage language learners as speakers and teachers in our communities*
- **College of the Muscogee Nation**  
Norma Marshall, Instructor in Muscogee Studies, Native American Studies  
*Curriculum development of Muskoke Language Studies in the Tribal College classroom*

4:10 – 4:30 PM **Break**

4:30 – 5:45 PM **Panel 2: Voices of our youth: Why are our languages important?**

- Delanie Seals, Chickasaw Nation, Senior at Byng High School
- yatEl@f@ Tommy Littlehead, Yuchi/Creek/Cherokee
- gO@nE Brent Deo, Yuchi/Creek
- TBC
- Moderator: hôbEthLE Ryan Hill, Yuchi/Creek/Cherokee

5:45 – 6:00 PM **Questions, comments and discussion.** All participants.

6:00 – 7:00 PM **Dinner catered by Abuelitas Restaurant**

7:00 – 9:00 PM **Evening Program: Honoring the Life of Jaquelynn “Jackie” Warledo, Seminole Nation**

Introduction by Co-MC’s: Assistant Chief Lewis Johnson, Seminole Nation and JoKay Dowell, Quapah Nation

7:00 – 8:00 PM **Sharing Words of Remembrance**

8:00 – 9:00 PM **Film, Drumbeat of Mother Earth Film** (introduction by Andrea Carmen)

**2nd Day: Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 – 9:00 AM: **Registration and Continental Breakfast**

9:00 – 9:15 AM: **Recap of Day 1**

- Presented by Bineshi Albert

9:15 – 10:30 AM **Panel 3: Mainstreaming Language Restoration and Resiliency at all levels**

- Mekko Thompson, Muscogee Creek Tribal Judge
- Andrea Carmen, Yaqui, Executive Director, International Indian Treaty Council
- Richard Whitman, Yuchi Artist and Activist
- Carrie Lehi, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe, Language and Culture Teacher at Sovereign Community School
- Moderator: Brigita Leader, Seminole, TCNS Coordinator, Historic Preservation Office of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

10:30 -10:45 AM **Questions, comments and discussion.** All participants.

10:45 AM – 12:45 PM **Continuation of Tribal Presentations on Work for Language restoration and building fluency.** Presenters TBA.

12:45 - 1:45 PM **Lunch catered by Abuelitas Restaurant**

1:45 – 2:45 PM **Roundtable: Retraining Academia and Linguists, can we work together to restore Indigenous Languages?**

- Wesley Leonard, Ph.D., Miami Tribe, University of California, Riverside CA
- Kari Chew, Ph.D., Chickasaw, University of Victoria, British Columbia
- Jennifer Davis, Ph.D., Chickasaw, University of Illinois
- Lokosh (Joshua D. Hinson), Chickasaw, Chickasaw Language Revitalization Program in Ada Oklahoma
- Moderator: Richard A. Grounds, Ph.D., Yuchi/Seminole, Yuchi Language Project

2:45 – 4:00 PM **Next Steps for the Year and the new UN Decade of Indigenous Languages**

What are the recommendations that we want to send to the United Nations for the International Decade on Indigenous Languages? What do we want to do in Oklahoma?

- Facilitator: Andrea Carmen, Executive Director, International Indian Treaty Council
- Discussion by all participants

4:00 - 4:30 PM **Closing Thanks and Prayer**