



Cultural Tourism
Cherokee Nation Tribal Council Cultural Committee Report
November 2017

Key Project Summary

Capital Projects

- Cherokee National Capitol Update:
 - Architectural development and exhibit planning for the interior of the building continues. This work focuses on developing the building as a museum devoted to showcasing Cherokee history and culture from time immemorial to present day. The museum is currently in schematic design. Interior restoration work should begin this winter.
- Water Avenue Pavilion
 - Construction for the new Pavilion structure that will be located on the vacant lot on the east side of the Cherokee National Capitol will begin in November.
- Downtown Tahlequah Cultural Pathway
 - Currently working on the design of a cultural pathway to connect Cherokee Nation's downtown cultural resources.
 - Design work will be complete this winter.
- Saline Courthouse:
 - Currently working on architectural documents for interior courthouse restoration.
 - Design work will be complete early 2018.

Retail

- New winter apparel is currently at Cherokee Nation Gift Shops
- New collegiate OU and OSU apparel will be available this winter in Cherokee Nation Gift Shops
 - Upcoming Book signings (2017-2018)
 - November 2, 2017, 1PM-3PM: Sequoyah's Cabin Museum, Sallisaw, OK
 - December 1, 2017, 1PM-3PM: Cherokee Gifts Shop at Hard Rock Hotel and Casino Tulsa
 - March 24, 2018, 1PM-3PM: Cherokee Heritage Center, Park Hill, OK

Museum Promotions

- Cherokee Nation Museums have launched a new schedule of cultural classes, lecture series and events with activities for children and families. Check www.VisitCherokeeNation.com for event info.
- Highlighted upcoming events:
 - November 4, 2017: Make Your Mocs Class

Tours & Events

- YTD tour activity
 - 55 Tours – Includes Motor coach, community, elder and education tours
- Cherokee Days at the National Museum of the American Indian 2018 is scheduled for April 13-15, 2018.
- Fall education tour grant program has begun, offering tours for school groups with expected attendance near 2,400.
- West to East tour is scheduled June 10- 16, 2018 to Cherokee, NC. Full event details @ <http://visitcherokeeanation.com/events/Pages/West-to-East-Tour>
- Cherokee Art Market was held October 14-15, 2017 at Hard Rock Hotel and Casino Tulsa.

Group: Education Services

Month: Sh00A October

Deputy Executive Director: Ron Etheridge
Language Program Manager: Roy Boney

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CHEROKEE LANGUAGE PROGRAM - CULTURE COMMITTEE REPORT
- Community Language/Language Technology/Translation -

Community Language (Community classes, Online Classes, Public Events)

Activity	Sh00A October	YTD
# of staff presentations/classes	2	2
# of participants-Outreach	1939	1939
# of on-site classes	2	2
# of participants in on-line class	4469	4469
# contract community classes	15	15

Accomplishments:

1. Staff Ed Fields, Lula Elk, and Sarah Hawk assisted with monthly Cherokee Speakers Bureau meeting
2. Lula Elk continues teaching a class at Murrow Indian home in Muskogee and started teaching a Cherokee language class in South Coffeyville.
3. Fall Community Language classes have begun: there are 15 classes being held in the 14 county area. Printed 1,000 copies of the We Are Learning Cherokee textbook to distribute to the classes.
4. Online Cherokee language classes continue.
5. Sarah Hawk and Wade Blevins assisted as a volunteer at the Ancient Cherokee Days Event at the Cherokee Heritage Center which served over 1900 children
6. Staff participated in the 10th Anniversary of the Cherokee Language Consortium celebration in Cherokee, NC October 3 – 5th.
7. Cherokee Language Teacher Training Scholarship students Cody Vann, Nathan Collins, Raily Cox, and Larry Carney have been working and learning together under the guidance of Lawrence Panther.
8. Lawrence Panther and Wade Blevins assisted the Cherokee Language Master Apprentice Program with applicant interviews.
9. Wade Blevins assisted JOM with revising their Language Bowl challenge study guide. He also moderated the Challenge Bowl Oct. 23 – 24.

Future Plans/New Initiatives:

1. Finalize We Are Learning Cherokee work/activity book to accompany the main textbook

Language Technology (Cherokee Language Software, Design, Media, Outreach)

Accomplishments:

1. Continue updating the Cherokee language version of Windows 10 and Office Online

2. Held biweekly conference call with Microsoft Windows and Office teams to update the Cherokee language project scope and deadline schedules
3. Continue working on digitizing the Cherokee English dictionary by Durbin Feeling to facilitate easier reproduction for future editions, including e-books
4. Answered 37 inquiries at the language@cherokee.org email address.
5. Assisted with the monthly Cherokee Speakers Bureau
6. Helped create graphics for the 10 Anniversary of the Cherokee Consortium parade float in Cherokee, NC.
7. Finalized creation of the 10th Anniversary Cherokee Language Consortium commemorative booklet that was handed out at the 10th Anniversary celebration in Cherokee, NC
8. Did training with the recipients of the Cherokee Language Teacher Training Scholarship for their laptops.
9. September 12th did a workshop with Stilwell High School on how to use the Cherokee syllabary on computers, tablets, and smartphones. Assisted school IT staff on installation of Cherokee fonts.
10. Assisted CNB staff on proper usage and installation of Cherokee language fonts.
11. October 10th did a workshop with Tahlequah Elementary School on how to use the Cherokee syllabary on computers, tablets, and smartphones. Assisted school IT staff on installation of Cherokee fonts.
12. Zachary Barnes assisted Cherokee speakers with teaching language lessons to over 1900 children at the Ancient Cherokee Days event at the Cherokee Heritage Center Oct. 5 & 6.
13. Designed a Cherokee Grammar Set A and Set B poster for Lawrence Panther. This will be handed out to area schools along with community events and the public
14. Jeff Edwards attended the LocWorld Conference in Silicon Valley to participate on a panel discussion about the Cherokee Nation's technology translation projects October 31 – November. Edwards also was invited to do a Google Tech Talk for Google employees and to speak to a class at the University of Washington.
15. Jeff Edwards and Roy Boney, Jr. were invited to speak at TribalNet in Phoenix November 5 – 7th to talk about the Cherokee Nation partnerships with the technology industry.
16. Roy Boney, Jr. did a presentation on the Cherokee syllabary as graphic design art at the Native American Art Studies Conference in Tulsa on October 27.

Future Plans/New Initiatives:

1. Finalize the design and digital update of the *Cherokee-English Dictionary* by Durbin Feeling.

Translation (Translation, Presentations, Community Outreach)

Activity	Sh00.I October	YTD
# of internal requests completed	5933	5933
# of external requests completed	138	138
# tested for Certification/Proficiency	0-Proficiency 0-Cerification	0-Proficiency 0-Cerification

Accomplishments:

1. Assisted with monthly Speakers Bureau meetings.
2. Dennis Sixkiller worked as a volunteer at the Ancient Cherokee Days event at the Cherokee Heritage Center as a language teacher and Cherokee marbles demonstrator.
3. Staff continues translation of technology terms for Microsoft and Google.
4. Staff attended 10th Anniversary of the Cherokee Language Consortium celebration event to be held in Cherokee, NC October 2-6.

Future Plans/New Initiatives:

1. Next Speaker's Bureau Meeting November 2017.



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Community & Cultural Outreach

Cultural Report for **October 2017** Rob Daugherty – Director

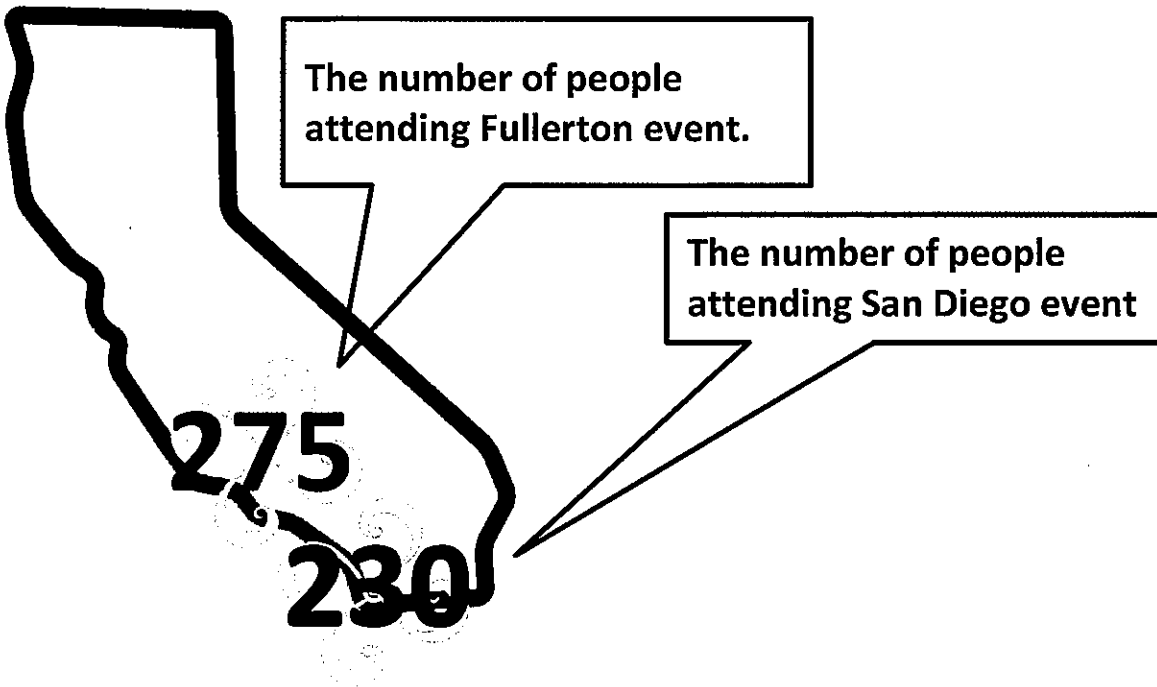
The following report covers the activities of the CCO; Cultural Outreach Program, History and Preservation, At-Large Community activities and the Cherokee Language Master Apprentice Program, staff for the month of October 2017.



Cultural Outreach & At-Large Communities

In October, Cultural Outreach hosted three meetings at our At-Large communities. In California, staff assisted the Cherokees of Orange County, Tsa-La-Gi LA and the Cherokee Community of the Inland Empire with their joint Annual Community Meeting on October 21st. The event was held at Ted Craig Regional Park in Fullerton, CA with 275 in attendance.

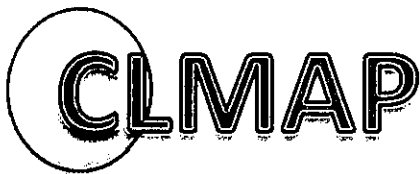
The following day, October 22nd, staff assisted the San Diego Cherokee Community with their At-large Annual Meeting at the Admiral Baker Park in San Diego. There were 230 people attending this event.



On October 28th, Outreach staff assisted Greater Tulsa Cherokees with their Annual Meeting. Registration was on hand as well as several other departments of the Nation. The Chief and Secretary of State spoke and several cultural presentations were made to the 293 people attending part of the meeting.

The number of people
attending the Tulsa event

293



Cherokee Language Master Apprentice Program

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The CLMAP staff employed through the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) Native Language Community Coordination (NLCC) grant are meeting with the Cherokee Language programs and working on our criteria for board appointments for the NLCC grants. They have also begun looking at the process to amend the Alternative Certification for Cherokee Language.

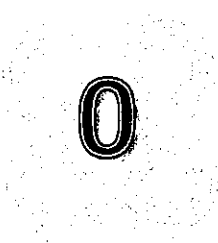
All second year participants are teaching using our immersion methodology under the guidance of first language master speakers, and are preparing for graduation in December. Of this cohort, two are **Advanced Low speakers** (Level 5), one is an **Intermediate High speaker** (Level 6), and one is an **Intermediate Mid speaker** (Level 5). Of those in their first year, 4 have achieved the **Intermediate Mid speaker** (Level 5), and two are speaking at the **Intermediate Low**, (Level 4).

The second year students are still working on their own to interact with fluent speaking community members and staff in other language programs. They have been able to deepen their inter-conversational language skills to a greater detail because of the experiences. They have begun to do one on one mentorships with diverse Native speakers.

We are almost finished with our writing assessment. This will help us to determine writing proficiency with our participants.

We are also interviewing to select our 2018 cohort. We had 66 applicants and were able to interview 55 of them.

Number of Students at Each ACTFL Speaker Level at the end of October



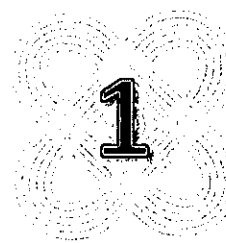
Level 3



Level 4



Level 5



Level 6



Level 7

CHEROKEE HERITAGE CENTER

NOVEMBER REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

Dr. Charles Gourd, Executive Director

Recent events:

September 18, 2017

- **Trail of Tears Motor Cycle Ride** – this is a group that has been retracing the Trail of Tears route for 2 plus years. They are from all over the United States who join together at a beginning point and visit each site along the route selected for that year. They come from all walks of life – some are retired firefighters from Chicago; retired professors from various colleges; retired police officers; to name a few.

They rotate between each of the FCT. The last time they were here was in 2011. They are in the final stages of establishing an annual college scholarship for a Cherokee student that will follow them all the way through their college career.

- The overall Impact report for the Heritage Center as of the end of September:

YEAR TO DATE TOTALS	
Total On-site Reaches	26,294
Total Off-site Reaches	25,308
Total Volunteer Hours	1,588
Total States Reached	50
Total Countries Reached	63
CNHS Members Renewed/Joined	24
CNHS Active Members	485
Schools Reached	108
Groups	201
Online Ad. Impact	8,134,151

- September CHC hosted 13 volunteers who provided a total of 245 hours of service. We have hosted 14 groups that provided \$2100 in additional income. One of those groups included hosted Council lunch and “behind the scenes” tours.
- We hired Career Service Business Tech student Carol Parish as receptionist after she completed her CN Work Experience Program and temporarily hired two CN summer youth participants, Bill Buffalomeat and Makayla Hernandez.

- We also extended all four of our seasonal village staff which are usually just contracted through the CN Holiday. Next month two tour companies will be bringing MotorCoach groups from AR and TX, plus a group of NW AR homeschools bringing 150 students.
- The Cherokee Humanities Course began in August and continues for 16 weeks. Cherokee Humanities Course began August 21 with Wyman Kirk and Ryan Mackey instructors. It is held in partnership with NSU. 5 enrolled students and several (5-6) guests. Thanks to Insasmuch Foundation for a two year grant to support this effort as they have funded for the past 7 years.

The following list of upcoming activities completed in October.

October 5-6

Ancient Cherokee Days

Two days of hands on activities, games and demonstrations for school aged children featuring Cherokee lifestyle in the early 1700s. Admission is \$5 per student, \$2 per adult, teachers and bus drivers are free. Event is held outdoors and stations open at 10 AM. Registration is highly recommended but not required. The only guided Diligwa tour is provided at 3:30 PM. Contact Tonia Weavel for more information.

Registration Numbers as of today:

Thursday, October 5	842	17 Schools (public, private, home)
Friday, October 6	<u>861</u>	<u>16 Schools</u>
	1,703	33 schools

Actual participation:

Student and school count for AC Days:

	Students	Adults	Total
Thur	1018	131	1149
Fri	645	115	760

Total	1663	246	1909
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Public Schools:	25	(19 JOM sponsored schools)
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Home Schools	9
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Private Schools	4
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Total Groups	38
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Volunteer

Thursday	30 volunteers	147 hours
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Friday	30 volunteers	150 hours
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Total	60 volunteers	297 hours
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List of schools
Public schools

Bell	Broken Arrow Highland Park	Grissom, Tulsa
Grove	Keys	Lowrey
Nowata	Owasso	Mitchell, Tulsa
Gans	Bluejacket	Briggs
Coweta	Grand View	Tahlequah Greenwood
Kenwood	Muskogee	Pryor
Rocky Mtn	Sallisaw	Tahlequah Heritage
McKinley, Tulsa		Watts
Beggs	Jay	Lincoln Elem Tulsa (?)

Private Schools

Lincoln Christian
Metro Christian
Summit Christian Academy
Holy Family Cathedral School

Home Schools

Braggs Home School; Mossflower Academy; Transformers for Christ;
Wondrous Willow Academy; Goldsmith; Schole; Sisters of Greater Ft. Smith;
Claremore Area Home School; Faith Home School; Various single home schooled children

Upcoming events:

October 7

Cherokee Saturday

Free admission to a member or citizen of any of the three federally recognized Cherokee Tribes, CN, EBCI and UKB plus one guest. Offer valid on first Saturday of each month except January and September. Must show proof of Tribal identity.

Genealogy Class

This one hour class from 11 AM-12 PM is \$10 per adult and \$5 per student in grades K-12. This class is dedicated to the research process of tracing Cherokee ancestry. Advance registration is required; participants must register with Gene Norris or Ashley Vann in Genealogy.

October 14 & 21

Tear Dress Class

Tear Dress making class will be held at the Chapel from 10 AM- 3 PM. Advance registration is recommended but not required. All tools and supplies will be provided for use during the class. Lunch is on your own. \$65 per person. Class is not recommended for children under age 12. Children ages 12 – 17 must be accompanied by an adult. Contact Tonia Weavel for more information.

Final cultural class of the year was a two session tear dress class with 18 ladies in attendance. Was held at Elm Tree Baptist Church fellowship hall.

The Staff at CHC volunteered to work the Cherokee Challenge Bowl hosted by the JOM program.

October 17

CNHS Board Meeting

Board meetings held on third Tuesday of each month at 3:00 PM. Usually held at the Cherokee Heritage Center. Contact Barbara Girty for more details.

October 28 – EXTRA ATTENTION!!! The Gala was a tremendous success!!!

Seven Star Gala

By invitation only-Cocktail Attire, this major fundraising event recognizes outstanding Cherokee people (Federally Recognized Cherokee Tribes) who have contributed to the mission of CHC.

Awards are presented in the following categories:

- Contemporary Achievement award – America Meredith
Recognizing a Cherokee who is accomplished in a chosen field, has brought honor to the Cherokee people and serves as an inspiration for others.
- Tradition Bearer award – OSiYo TV
Voices of the Cherokee People
Presented to a Cherokee who is accomplished and recognized for achievements in preserving Cherokee traditions through crafts, history and/storytelling.
- Stalwart award – Jack D. Baker
Given to a Cherokee Heritage Center supporter who has served as a long-term member, volunteer, employee, board member or associate and has significantly contributed to the center's success.
- Warrior award – Cherokee Nation Color Guard, Recognizes any Cherokee citizen in uniformed service.

Table seats 8 and sponsorship levels are -\$1,000, \$1500, \$5000, and \$10,000 or purchase tickets \$150 per person/\$250 for two. Contact Becky Adair for more information.

Other partnerships that are in process to be established that will enable us to leverage the resources through our revenue generating activities and the funds received from the Cherokee Nation and Cherokee Nation Business.

- University of Tulsa and Gilcrease Museum – we are planning a Sunday public event for November 19, from 1-4 that will be a general public attendance workshop on family history and genealogy;
- AmeriCorps/VISTA – I attended a workshop on obtaining VISTA volunteers at the local American Indian Resource Center. Met with Mrs. Thompson, state director, are planning

a site visit to expand the family genealogy staff and offering and other VISTA eligible activities at the CHC ;

- Crystal Bridges/NSU – have established a makeup conference call with Margi at Crystal Bridges with CHC and NSU to discuss partnership for artist internships and shared exhibits;
- Tahlequah Area Chamber of Commerce – Tahlequah tourism Council to discuss and expand group tour promotions; and,
- Murrell Home – working with the State Historical Society on the ALHFAM, Association for Living History, Farm, and Agriculture Museums, international meeting to be held in Tahlequah in June. We are one of the designated tour sites for the participants.
- In the discussion stages is an exciting potential in discussion is an international cultural exchange with the Maori from New Zealand.

There are a number of areas of new activity with which I would like to conclude.

First, we are in the discussion and planning stages of re-introducing the performing arts. The number one question I always get is “When is the Trail of Tears going to re-open?” Well, that will require time and resources beyond our current capacity to make happen.

During the Cherokee Holiday we hosted a story telling event on Saturday night in Diligawa Village. Two students from Sequoyah did a preliminary performance and Gayle Ross told stories before the main event performance. We are working to create a story telling and puppet show outreach education program. The long range goal is to use this as a starting point to create a performing arts section full time at the Center.

We are in the preliminary stages of drafting an application to USDA, Rural Development, Essential Communities Facilities, for funding of a grant/loan to possibly fund the facilities for this to happen.

The second involves the Family Genealogy Center staff.

So far this month we have mailed out 23 Genealogy Request forms and had 36 visitors. Our major project is to prepare for and present a full Five Civilized Tribes Genealogy Conference next June in partnership with the Chickasaw Nation.

1. Chickasaw Nation: Archivist, CDIB Administrator and Staff and Holisso Genealogist
2. Choctaw Nation: Genealogist through the Citizenship Office
3. Creek Nation: CDIB Administrator and genealogists
4. Cherokee Heritage Center: Associate genealogist, Ashley Vann; and, Executive Director: Dr. Charles Gourd
 - A. Date Finalized for June 7-9, 2018
 - B. Location: Chickasaw Culture Center
 - C. Writing a resolution to the Five Civilized Tribes Intertribal Council
 - D. Proposal for a database website for the Five Civilized Tribes

The ultimate goal of the conference is to bring together all of those involved in researching and certifying the descendants of those listed on the Dawes Rolls. When this is complete, we will have access to a complete database for all of the Five Civilized Tribes that will contain over 500,000 listings. The significance of that cannot be overstated.

Additional notes for October 2017 report...

- 886 contacts for the month, 9,382 contacts YTD, inclusive of contact via emails, phone calls, in-house visitation and outreach numbers
- Featured in a continuing series in the Cherokee Phoenix newspaper as well as online in regards to genealogy...highlighting work conducted by Gene and Ashley
- 2018 Ancestry Conference continues to progress...procured Dr. Dan Littlefield noted historian and author in relation to the 5 tribes and Anita Finger-Smith, noted genealogist and historian for the EBCI as the keynote presenters of the event
- Contact information as well as workshop data for upcoming 18 November genealogy event was released
- Work continues on updating and republishing the book Exploring Your Cherokee Ancestry by Tom Mooney, retired C.A. (Certified Archivist) for the CNHS...date to printer set for 31 Dec 2017

One concluding special note:

As noted in the activities for October above, we work in a minimum of 85 rural school districts in the jurisdictional area of the Cherokee Nation. Therefore, in addition to the schools bringing their students here, we provide frequent and regular program activities in virtually every Council District.

In addition, two of our village staff, Noel Grayson and Danny McCarter, makes frequent and regular trips with the Community and Culture Outreach program to the At-Large Communities. Our goal for next year is to include our rural communities in more activities so we can have an active communication and presentation of our work in their home community and their work here at the Heritage Center.

This, together with the partnerships listed above, should expand our capabilities and offerings both here at the CHC and with the partner organizations.

Are there any questions; suggestions; or concerns?