

# N.A.H.F.

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE FUND

315 West Green Street, Marshall, MI 49068

**For Immediate Release:**

Date: Sept. 23, 2019

## **The Native American Heritage Fund Invites Local Media to the 2019 Check Distribution**

The Native American Heritage Fund (NAHF) invites members of the local media to the NAHF 2019 Check Distribution, held Monday, Sept. 30, at FireKeepers Casino Hotel in Battle Creek, Michigan.

The NAHF continues to be a unique, one-of-a-kind initiative that assists Michigan's K-12 schools, colleges, universities, and local units of government with the costs of projects that promote positive relationships and accurate information about the history and role of Michigan's Indian tribes and Native Americans in the state.

The 2019 NAHF grants include:

1. Bay de Noc Community College – \$6,000 to publicly acknowledge the Treaty of 1836 through a public plaque on each campus and a Treaty Day celebration
2. Godfrey-Lee Public Schools – \$98,000 to rebrand the current mascot from "Rebels" to a new mascot and nickname that is culturally responsive
3. Grand Rapids Community College – \$5,285 to support the Grand Rapids Community College Education and Reconciliation Project including a trip to the Zibawing Center of Anishinaabe Culture and Lifeways and a Native American Speaker's Forum
4. Indigenous Law and Policy Center at Michigan State University College of Law – \$20,000 to provide a two-day symposium, Native Family Day, and ancillary programming throughout the year
5. Monroe County Community College – \$199,234 to create curriculum and a set of immersion experiences for K-12 students, focused on how to research stories from the Native perspective
6. Northern Michigan University – \$134,612.80 to expand Anishinabék language course offerings at undergraduate and graduate levels
7. The Friendship Community/LIFT Teen Center – \$16,650 to support an overnight backpacking trip to South Minitou Island, exposing students to the history of the Ottawa tribe

The NAHF invites businesses, community organizations and community members to attend the second annual check distribution to witness this historic and exciting experience.

**Event Information:**

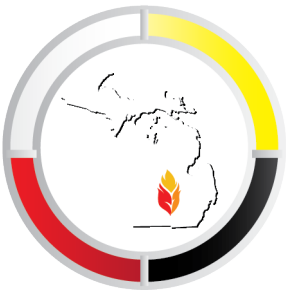
**WHAT:** Native American Heritage Fund 2019 Check Distribution

**WHEN:** Monday, Sept. 30, at 10 a.m.

**WHERE:** FireKeepers Casino Hotel Event Center, Mbish (Ballroom) D, 11177 East Michigan Ave., Battle Creek, MI 49014

**COST:** Free

**INFORMATION:** Visit [http://www.calhouncountymi.gov/government/native\\_american\\_heritage\\_fund\\_board/](http://www.calhouncountymi.gov/government/native_american_heritage_fund_board/)



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## **Media Information:**

**MEDIA:** Director of Communications and Public Relations Judi Henckel will be the contact upon arrival. Call 269.569.6843 with any questions.

**MEDIA REQUESTS:** Please contact Director of Communications and Public Relations Judi Henckel at 269.704.8361 with any media requests.

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**For media inquiries, or to request an interview with NAHF Board Chairperson Jamie Stuck, please contact NHBP Director of Communications and Public Relations Judi Henckel at 269.704.8361.**

For questions regarding the NAHF grant process, please contact Calhoun County Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott at 269.781.0966.

### About the Native American Heritage Fund

The NAHF was established in 2016 as part of the Second Amendment to the Tribal-State Gaming Compact between the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi (NHBP) and the State of Michigan. The amendment allowed for a portion of NHBP's annual state revenue sharing payment to be deposited into the NAHF.

The fund serves to promote positive relationships between public and private K-12 schools, colleges, universities, local units of government and Michigan's federally recognized Native American Tribes. The NAHF provides resources to help improve curricula and educational resources related to Michigan Indian history, as well as to replace or revise mascots and imagery that may be deemed as offensive to or inaccurately conveying the culture and values of Native Americans.

For more information visit: at [www.calhouncountymi.gov/government/native\\_american\\_heritage\\_fund\\_board](http://www.calhouncountymi.gov/government/native_american_heritage_fund_board)