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## **Native American Heritage Fund Now Accepting 2022 Applications**

Total Distributions to Reach Over \$2 Million in Fifth Year

BATTLE CREEK, MICH. — The Native American Heritage Fund continues to advocate for Native visibility and the building of lasting connections between Michigan's Native and non-Native communities with the 2022 grant cycle.

The NAHF is proud to announce funding is now available for public and private K-12 schools, colleges, universities, and local units of government to defray 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.

"Five years ago, the Native American Heritage Fund was created with one singular purpose in mind to improve the lives of Michigan's Indigenous community," said NAHF Board Vice Chairperson Dorie Rios, who also serves as the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi Tribal Council Vice Chairperson. "Since then, the Fund has proudly enabled 31 projects with nearly \$2 million in grant funding to educate and forge lasting relationships between Michigan and its First People. Going into our five-year anniversary we are hopeful the 2022 grant cycle will result in even more meaningful projects and positive experiences for the state and its tribal community."

The NAHF, which was approved in 2016 as part of the Second Amendment to the Tribal-State Gaming Compact between NHBP and the state of Michigan, allocates a portion of NHBP's annual state revenue sharing payment to the fund. Since its inception, the NAHF has funded the removal of offensive imagery and language from 10 schools and municipalities, and cultivated several opportunities for education, reconciliation and unification.

Projects eligible for funding may include events, art projects and language classes that encourage inclusivity between Native Americans and Michiganders, as well as changing or revising curricula, improving program development, replacing or revising government seals or images in public spaces, and replacing or revising mascots or imagery that might be considered offensive to Native Americans.

Applications are now available on the NAHF website at <a href="https://nahfund.com/application/">https://nahfund.com/application/</a> and are due to the NAHF board by Friday, June 10, at 5 p.m. Please submit applications online, via mail to Calhoun County Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott at 315 West Green Street, Marshall, MI 49068 or via email to <a href="https://kdscott@calhouncountymi.gov">kdscott@calhouncountymi.gov</a>.

For questions regarding the 2022 NAHF application process, please contact Scott at 269.841.6853.

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Attachments: 2022 NAHF Application

## **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 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: <a href="https://nahfund.com">https://nahfund.com</a>.