



# 2024 Tribal Summit

## Date/Time:

October 24 - 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

October 25 - 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

## Location:

Chickasaw Business and  
Conference Center - East  
Central University

Let's come together to exchange strategies, foster connections, and empower the next generation through the Four R's: Relationship, Respect, Reciprocity, and Responsibility.

# Agenda

## Day One - Thursday, October 24

<b>8:30 AM - 9:00 AM</b>	Registration and Breakfast
<b>9:00 AM - 9:30 AM</b>	Opening Ceremony
<b>9:30 AM - 9:40 AM</b>	Welcome - President Wendell Godwin, East Central University
<b>9:45 AM - 10:00 AM</b>	Keynote Address - Governor Bill Anoatubby, the Chickasaw Nation
<b>10:00 AM - 10:15 AM</b>	Networking Break
<b>10:15 AM - 11:00 AM</b>	Round Table Discussion - Executive Order 2023-31
<b>11:00 AM - 11:45 AM</b>	Break/Vendor Booths
<b>11:45 AM - 12:45 PM</b>	Lunch/Keynote Address - Assistant Chief Jack Austin, Jr., Choctaw Nation
<b>12:45 PM - 1:00 PM</b>	Networking Break
<b>1:00 PM - 2:00 PM</b>	Breakout Session

*\*Agenda is subject to change*

# Agenda

**2:00 PM -  
2:15 PM**

Break/Transition

**2:15 PM -  
3:15 PM**

Round Table Discussion

**3:15 PM**

Closing Prayer

**3:30 PM -  
5:00 PM**

Networking Reception

## **Day Two - Friday, October 25**

**8:30 AM -  
9:00 AM**

Breakfast

**9:00 AM -  
10:00 AM**

Keynote Address - Vice Chairman, Linda Capps, Citizen Potawatomi Nation

**10:00 AM -  
10:45 AM**

Breakout Session

**10:45 AM -  
11:00 PM**

Networking Break

**11:00 AM -  
12:00 PM**

Elder Panel

**12:00 PM**

Closing Prayer

*\*Agenda is subject to change*

## **Wendell Godwin President, East Central University**

Wendell Godwin assumed the role of East Central University's 10th president on July 1, 2022. Prior to this, he had a lengthy career in the corporate world and over a decade of experience in academia. During this time, he led ECU's Harland C. Stonecipher School of Business, its faculty, and its students to achieve great success and gain national recognition.

## **Bill Anoatubby Governor, the Chickasaw Nation**

Governor Anoatubby joined the Chickasaw Nation in 1975 and was elected as Governor in 1987. Under his leadership, the tribe's workforce has grown from 250 to over 13,500 employees. The tribe's financial condition has improved significantly, with funding for tribal operations growing exponentially and tribal assets increasing two-hundredfold. Governor Anoatubby is committed to meeting the needs of Chickasaw people through various programs and services.

## **Jack Austin, Jr. Assistant Chief, Choctaw Nation**

As Assistant Chief, Austin implements strategies to increase revenue and sustain capital expenditures for the Choctaw Nation. He also serves as a delegate to various councils and committees, participates in veteran's advocacy programming, and leads legislative activities for the Executive Branch. Additionally, Assistant Chief Austin has been recognized for his work in counseling and youth involvement in systems of care and was recognized in 2014 with the Outstanding Alumni Award from East Central University.

## **Linda Capps Vice-Chairman, Citizen Potawatomi Nation**

As the Vice-Chairman of Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Linda Capps holds the second-highest elected position in the Tribal government. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Education from the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma and a Master of Science in Education from the University of Central Oklahoma. In 2014, she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Humanities from Oklahoma Baptist University. Capps has been working at Citizen Potawatomi Nation since 1998 in conjunction with her duties as an elected official at the Nation since 1987.



## **Breakout Session 1** **Thursday, October 24 – 1:00 PM**

### **Room 104**

**Sara Barnett**

### **Native Forward Scholars Fund**

For over 50 years, Native Forward has supported more than 22,000 students from over 500 Tribes in all 50 states. We provide scholarship funds and services for undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees. Our shared story is made up of a variety of cultures, customs, and histories. The exchange of ideas and knowledge enriches our experiences from one generation to the next. We believe that higher education is important for making a positive impact on society. We aim to help Native students access and navigate higher education, build a supportive community, advocate for greater representation of Native communities, and manage scholarship funding responsibly.

### **Room 207**

**Brandi Schur, Shawna Bishop,  
Haley Monroe**  
**Linscheid Library**

Brandi Schur is the Public Services and Outreach Librarian and Assistant Director at Linscheid Library. Her liaison areas include Accounting, Business Administration, Education, Kinesiology, and Politics, Law, & Society. Brandi has been at ECU for 10 years.

Shawna Bishop is the Instructional Services Librarian. Her liaison areas include English & Languages, Biological & Environmental Sciences, History, Native American Studies, Physical Sciences, and Professional Programs in Human Services. Shawna has been at ECU for 3 years.

Haley Monroe is the Technical Services Librarian. Her liaison areas include Art+Design: Media+ Communication, Mathematics & Computer Science, Nursing, Performing Arts, and Psychology. Haley has been at ECU for 3 years. Brandi, Shawna, and Haley are instructors and librarians for ECU.

# Breakout 1



## **Breakout Session 1** **Thursday, October 24 – 1:00 PM**

### **Room 221**

#### **Dr. Scott Ketchum, Director** **Native American Studies – ECU**

Dr. Scott Ketchum is an enrolled member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. He is an Assistant Professor, Director of Native American Studies, and Chickasaw Endowed Chair at East Central University in Ada, Oklahoma. Dr. Ketchum earned a doctorate in Sociocultural Anthropology from OU in 2017, an MA in Native American Studies in 2011, and a BA in Political Science from UCO in 2008. Dr. Ketchum has worked as a research scientist at the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University. His research interests include tribal cultural preservation, tribal natural resource management, tribal economic development, indigenous knowledge systems, tribal sovereignty, and the ethical, legal, and social implications of genomics research in tribal communities. His current research focuses on preserving natural resources like shagbark hickory for cultural activities like stickball. His research also explores Indigenous Data Sovereignty, participatory research, and community engagement methods in research with American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) communities.

### **Room 224**

#### **Kay Marie Wallace, Director** **NASNTI Program – Seminole State College**

Kay Wallace is an accomplished educational professional with extensive experience in grant writing and program management. She holds a Master's Degree in Grant Writing Management and Evaluation from Concordia University Chicago (2022) and a Master's Degree in Arts and Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix (2003). Kay earned her Bachelor of Science in Home Economics with a minor in Marketing from East Central University (1992). Currently, she serves as the NASNTI Program Director at Seminole State College in Oklahoma, a position she has held since September 2013. In addition to her professional responsibilities, Kay is actively involved in her community, serving as a member of the P.E.O. Sisterhood and as a board member for the Seminole Nation Museum. She has held various roles in alumni associations and served in leadership positions in community organizations, including as the Christian Education Assistant Director at Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church. Kay is also a published author, contributing articles to Shades of Oklahoma and Excellstyle Magazine. Her work covers diverse topics, including diversity modeling and lifestyle trends. She is a member of several educational organizations, including the Association in Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD) and the American Indian Society and Engineering Society (AISES).

# Breakout 1





## **Breakout Session 1** **Thursday, October 24 – 1:00 PM**

### **Foundation Hall**

## **Dr. Cornel Pewewardy, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Central Oklahoma**

Cornel Pewewardy, Ed.D., is a citizen of the Comanche Nation and descendant of the Kiowa Tribe. He holds multiple degrees in education, including a doctorate from Pennsylvania State University, and is currently an associate professor of Political Science at the University of Central Oklahoma, joining in July 2023. Dr. Pewewardy has held various leadership roles, including Vice-Chair of the Comanche Nation and Professor-of-Practice at Kansas State University. He was previously named Professor Emeritus in Indigenous Nations Studies at Portland State University. A recognized author and speaker, his work focuses on Indigenous education, Native Nationhood, and decolonizing research methods. He began his career in 1975 and has since worked with numerous educational institutions, including founding the Comanche Academy Charter School and Indigenous Peoples' Day in Lawton, OK. Dr. Pewewardy has earned numerous awards, including the 2022 National Indian Education Association Lifetime Achievement Award and the 2024 Oklahoma Native American Students in Higher Education Outstanding Role Model Award. He will be inducted into the Oklahoma Educators Hall of Fame in November 2024.

# Breakout 1



## **Breakout Session 2** **Friday, October 25 – 10:00 AM**

### **Room 207**

## **Seth Fairchild, Executive Director** **Choctaw Nation Cultural Services Division**

Seth Fairchild serves as the Executive Director of the Choctaw Nation Cultural Services Division, overseeing the Cultural Center, Cultural Outreach, and Historic Preservation departments.

Seth holds a bachelor's degree in business administration and marketing from Southeastern Oklahoma State University, where he was an active member of the Native American Council, advocating for Native issues and initiatives, and the Southeastern Honors Program. He recently earned an MBA in Organizational Leadership from Oklahoma Christian University.

Seth has delivered keynote addresses across the country, including at the United Nations in New York, a TED talk in 2018, a NextGen talk in 2019, and the Vancouver International Film Festival in 2024. He is committed to community leadership and has served on the boards of the Texoma Health Foundation, the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits, the Chahta Foundation, and Imagine Durant. Additionally, he was appointed by the Governor to the advisory board of the Oklahoma Nonprofit Council. In 2023, Seth worked as both a consultant and actor on the Emmy-nominated series ECHO, highlighting Choctaw Culture to people around the world.

In his spare time, Seth enjoys spending quality time with his family.

# Breakout 2





## **Breakout Session 2** **Friday, October 25 – 10:00 AM**

### **Room 221**

#### **Shana Tate Darter, Legislator the Chickasaw Nation**

Shana Tate Darter was born in Albuquerque, NM and raised in Ardmore, OK. Her parents are Charles Tate, of Chickasaw descent and Patricia Tate of Spanish descent. Both of her parents encouraged her as a child to become involved in the performing arts. She was active in piano, dance and choir, as well as community theatre. Shana is a 1992 graduate of Ardmore High School and a 1996 graduate of Oklahoma State University where she received her Bachelor of Science degrees in Marketing and International Business with a minor in Spanish.

Upon graduation from OSU, she lived in Lansing, Michigan where she worked for Deluxe Financial Services as a sales representative. She then moved to Denver, CO where she worked for Visa Debit Processing Service as a Client Manager. Shana and her family moved back to Ardmore in 2002. She worked at Mercy Hospital as the Marketing Coordinator for nearly 10 years. She decided to run for Chickasaw Tribal Legislator in 2009 and she was sworn in October of that year. Shana is now serving the Chickasaw citizens in her sixth term. She and her husband, Larry, live in Ardmore, OK. Together, they have four children ranging in ages 12 to 25.

### **Room 224**

#### **Duane Smith, Executive Director Oka' Institute**

Considered one of the Oklahoma's foremost authorities on water, Duane Smith specializes in regional and tribal water planning. As Executive Director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board for 13 years, he garnered unique experience in the administration of Oklahoma water law and implementation of state and federal water programs. He currently serves as Executive Director of the Oka' Institute where he promotes water sustainability research and initiatives. At Oka', the impact of his exemplary leadership has been far-reaching. Last year, Mr. Smith became just the third person awarded an honorary doctorate of science from Kenya's JOOUST [joost] University for his contributions to international water management and policy as part of an ongoing exchange program between Oka' and Africa's Pi Institute.

Breakout 2



Tribal  
Summit

## **Breakout Session 2** **Friday, October 25 – 10:00 AM**

### **Foundation Hall**

### **Jaycee Salling** **Native American Finance Officers** **Association (NAFOA)**

Jaycee Salling is an enrolled member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. She currently serves as the Program Specialist for NAFOA, the Native American Finance Officers Association. Jaycee manages NAFOA's educational and professional development programs, including the NAFOA Leadership Summit and Career Basics. Jaycee graduated from Southeastern Oklahoma State University with a BBA in Hospitality Management and an MBA in Management and Native American Leadership.

Breakout 2

## **Elder Panel – Foundation Hall Friday, October 25 – 11:00 AM**

### **Connie Barker Legislator, the Chickasaw Nation**

Connie was elected in 2008 to serve the Chickasaw citizens as a Tribal Legislator representing Pickens District, Seat 2. She currently serves as Legislative Secretary and has served two prior terms as Legislative Secretary and two terms as Legislative Chairperson. She was appointed to the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee in June 2009 and voted in as Tribal Co-Chair in 2010. TLDC is a national committee that advises the director of the Indian Health Service regarding diabetes prevention and treatment in Indian Country. As a committee member, Mrs. Barker represents all Native American tribes in Oklahoma and parts of Kansas and Texas. Mrs. Barker was also appointed to the CDC/ATSDR (Centers for Disease Control Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry) in Atlanta, representing tribes at large, and is currently serving as Co-chair. She also serves on the Harold Hamm Diabetes Advisory Board in Oklahoma City.

Mrs. Barker is a graduate of Marietta High School and a graduate of Murray State College in Tishomingo. She studied at Ottawa University in Ottawa, Kansas. Mrs. Barker is very active in her community. She has served on the Marietta Board of Education 2004-2021. She is currently a member of the E-911 board, serving 10 years as Chairperson. She is a member of the Love County Chamber of Commerce, serving as past president. She is also a member of the Marietta Lions Club, Love County Frontier Days Committee, and an honor graduate of Leadership Love County. She is a founding member of the Love County Women's Shelter and Turning Point Coalition. She and her family attend Eastside Baptist Church where Connie serves as the Church Treasurer. Mrs. Barker has worked as Administrator of the Mercy Health Love County Rural Health Clinic for 32 years with a total of 40 years as a health care professional.

### **LaNeal Pewewardy Educator, Proximity**

Mr. La-Neal Pe-we-war-dy is of Comanche and Kiowa descent from Lawton, Oklahoma. Mr. Pewewardy has been teaching for 25 years from 1st grade to college. While mainly focusing on math at the secondary and college level, Mr. Pewewardy is a history "buff" and also teaches Native American Studies classes. Mr. Pewewardy feels blessed to be raised culturally, and as a result has received 4 degrees and has had the opportunity to share his knowledge and expertise in the field of education and in venues of Native American cultural activities.

## **Elder Panel**

### **Friday, October 25 – 11:00 AM**

#### **Honorable Charles Tate**

#### **Retired Tribal & District Judge**

Charles Guy Tate, born on February 9, 1940, in Ardmore, Oklahoma, is a prominent legal professional with a rich history of service to various tribal and district courts in Oklahoma. Graduating from the University of Oklahoma Law School in 1965, he embarked on a notable career, including roles as in-house counsel for the All Indian Pueblo Council and as a tribal judge for the Chickasaw Nation. Notably, Mr. Tate's contributions extend to his tenure as a special district judge for Carter County, Oklahoma, a position he held until his retirement in November 2009. Post-retirement, he engaged in a contractual capacity with the Chickasaw Nation, focusing on the curation of historical materials for the library and archives of Holisso: The Center for Study of Chickasaw History and Culture at the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, Oklahoma.

#### **Jacob Tsoitigh**

#### **Former Vice-Chairman, Kiowa Tribe**

Jacob S. Tsoitigh, Jr. (Kiowa), M.Ed., is the Vice-Chairman of the Kiowa Tribe and a former Kiowa Tribe Legislator who represented approximately 5,600 tribal citizens. He has been involved in American Indian education programs for the past 38 years retiring from the University of Oklahoma and working recently with the National Indian Education Association. He served for 12 years as the Indian Education Director for Anadarko (Oklahoma) Public Schools, 3 years as Program Director and Production Specialist for Inter-Tribal Associates, Inc., and 2 years as a Training Associate with the American Indian Research and Development by the Indian Education TA Center Five and Title IX Indian Education. Mr. Tsoitigh returned to Inter-Tribal Associates as Project Director to work as a sub-contractor with the University of Oklahoma's Region VII Comprehensive Center with direct responsibility for providing high impact TA in American Indian education for over 500 grantees in the seven-state region. Mr. Tsoitigh is past president of the Oklahoma Council for Indian Education (OCIE) and a long time member of the National Indian Education Association (NIEA). He was voted as "Best in Indian Country – American Indian Role Model" by readers of the Oklahoma Indian Times in 1999. He has three children and one deceased and five grandchildren. He is a 4/4 citizen of the Kiowa Tribe and specialized in parent committee training, culturally responsive pedagogy, Title VII Indian Education programming, and school improvement.



**Lobby - CBCC**  
**Thursday, October 24**  
**8:00 AM - 4:30 PM**

- Ahlazua- Indigenous Woman Made
- Bearpaw Design Studio, LLC
- Blair's Beads
- Boots Kill Too
- Cloud Designs
- Ikbi Traditions
- Iposi' Creations
- J Daniel Worcester
- J & B Crafts
- Jenn's Contemporary
- Marcella Yepa
- Mary Ruth Barnes Art
- NAFOA Institute
- NashobaArt
- Rainmaker Art
- Rayducks Pueblo Pottery and Jewelry
- Sleeping Bear Glass Company
- Standing Buffalo
- Southwest Indian Jewelry
- Two Feathers Designs
- Wilma Tiger

**vendors**