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For Immediate Release

OSAGE NATION FOUNDATION APPROVES FIRST \$25,000 ARTS MATCHING GRANT

Wahzhazhe, an Osage ballet, has been approved by the Osage Nation Foundation's Board of Directors for a grant of twenty-five thousand dollars. The contemporary ballet brings together unique and diverse qualities of Oklahoma history and culture: a reverence for classical ballet that was the legacy of two famous Osage ballerinas, and the richness of Osage traditional music, dance, and textile arts. Distinguished artists will provide their expertise to the project so that the costumes and set designs will look authentic. "This ballet will be an artistic expression of the lives of our ancestors that will help us to better understand what it is to be Osage" says Randy Smith, ballet director. On their application, the ballet stressed the fact that arts programs are the first funding to be cut. Smith continued "We have the opportunity to bring excellent art to these communities in the form of a compelling American story, told through dance at a time when inspiration might be just the remedy at such a challenging time in the state's history". Rehearsals start July 2 at the Art of Motion dance studio in Bartlesville, OK. Performances will be held at Holland Hall in Tulsa on August 3rd and 4th as well as Bartlesville Community Center in Bartlesville on August 10th and 11th.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Applicants must be individuals, foundations, museums, businesses or organizations with a connection to an arts discipline, including but not limited to, visual arts, dance, writing, publishing, photography and arts education. Individuals are not eligible to apply for Osage Nation Foundation's Arts Program Grants. Applications and support materials must be complete and received by the due date. Funds acquired from the Osage Nation Government, its entities or its wholly owned businesses may not be used as matching funds for this arts grant. Organizations are limited to one application per calendar year. While in certain instances more than one related exhibition or performance may be included in the proposal to establish an overall audience strategy, an organizations entire season of programs cannot be funded.

Application forms may be downloaded from the Osage Nation Foundation's website at www.osagefoundation.org. All projects must take place between August 1, 2012 through July 31, 2013.

All applications must be received by the Osage Nation Foundation by no later than September 1, 2012. Applications must be faxed to (817) 796-1816, emailed to bwebb@osagefoundation.org or a hard copy mailed to Osage Nation Foundation, P.O. Box 92777 Southlake, TX 76092.

ABOUT THE OSAGE NATION FOUNDATION

The Osage Nation Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization, was established in 2005 by the Osage Nation for the charitable purpose of lessening the burdens of the Tribal Government by providing charitable services to

the Nation and its members. The mission of the Foundation is to promote and enhance the general welfare of the people of the Osage Nation by supporting cultural, educational, health, historical, community, and other appropriate activities and programs. The Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors which is responsible for executing the mission and objectives of the Foundation.

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