



**OSAGE NATION
FOUNDATION**

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OSAGE NATION
FOUNDATION

2020
ANNUAL REPORT



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Greetings from the Osage Nation Foundation

Very few people, if anyone, saw this coming.

To imagine a world-wide pandemic shutting down many parts of the United States economy while impacting our livelihoods, disrupting supply chains in basic necessities, pivoting our children's learning paths, constraining our access to health care, changing our regular attendance at our places our worship, and accelerating digital conversion in many service industries and areas of technology—it is almost more than we could fathom. We have also carried emotional burdens as we have been separated from loved ones. However, as a people we have persevered, and so has the Osage Nation Foundation. In fact, despite the upheaval of the past nine months, our organization has continued to stay the course through this time, and we reached a significant goal we have been striving for over the past nearly decade.

In fact, despite the upheaval of the past eight months, our organization has continued to stay the course through this time, and we reached a significant goal we have been striving for over the past nearly decade.

In September of 2020, our Board passed a resolution memorializing our intention to operate as financially self-sufficient, while still welcoming any funding initiatives and opportunities where the Osage Nation's leadership might desire to engage the ONF.

A self-sufficient structure has been a focus of the Board since we established our first strategic plan in 2011

and we have sharpened that focus in the past three years.

Since our inception, we have received funding and consistent financial support from the Osage Congress and the Office of the Principal Chief. This funding has allowed us to meet and exceed our stated goals, while remaining committed to our mission and objectives. Now, with the success of our business operations and fundraising thanks to the support of our many friends—including members of our own Board of Trustees—we are ready to grow our fundraising efforts, so that we are not dependent on funding from the Osage Nation to meet our goals and objectives.

We maintained our core grant programs throughout this past year and while some events were cancelled due to the COVID outbreak and did not need our financial support, we were able to fund dozens of projects in and around the Osage Nation, never missing a beat in supporting many charities and individuals who requested our assistance.

One specific project that was adversely affected by the pandemic was our *Voices from the Drum* exhibition that was scheduled to open in early 2020 at the Osage Nation Museum. Due to the temporary closure of the museum, the opening of this wonderful exhibit by Osage artists has been moved to early 2021. We are excited to bring this incredible project to life for Osages and others to experience and enjoy and we will publish more information on exhibit dates as they become available.



On behalf of the Board and staff of the Osage Nation Foundation, we appreciate your support and hope you enjoy the information and photographs provided in our annual report.

We seek to be of value to the people and the communities of the Osage Nation. We are blessed to be entrusted with the resources that have been provided to our organization and we feel privileged to be able to lead this organization as we continue down the path of providing substantial and consistent value to and for our people. But most of all, we are honored to play a part in creating Osage history with projects like *Voices from the Drum*.

Thank you for your support of the Osage Foundation and all our beneficiaries.

Warmest Regards,
Monte Boulanger
Chairman,
Osage Nation Foundation



The Mission

The mission of the Osage Nation 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 specific focus of the Foundation is on projects positively impacting Osage youth and children and on projects that enhance, preserve, and protect the culture of the Nation.

About the

Osage Nation Foundation

First chartered at the direction of Principal Chief Jim Gray in 2005, The Osage Nation Foundation is an independent non-profit corporation chartered under the sovereign authority of the Osage Nation and recognized as a 501(c)(3) public charity by the Internal Revenue Service. The foundation is managed by a professional staff and oversight and strategic direction are provided by a five-member Board of Trustees. Members of the Board are appointed by the Principal Chief of the Osage Nation and confirmed by the Osage Congress. Board members serve two-year terms.

Funding for the Osage Nation Foundation comes from a variety of sources, including the office of the Principal Chief, Osage Nation Congress, income related to foundation holdings and activities, our online gift shop as well as donations from individual and corporate donors and other fundraising activities.

The mission of the Foundation

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the general welfare of the people of the Osage Nation by supporting cultural, educational, health, historical, community and other appropriate activities and programs. The specific focus of the Foundation is on projects positively impacting Osage youth and on projects that enhance, preserve, and protect the culture of the Nation.

The Objectives of the Foundation

- *Positively impact projects deemed important to our mission while continually looking for new opportunities to expand our reach;*
- *Help lessen the burdens of the Osage Nation government by unobtrusively adding support to existing Osage Nation programs and activities;*
- *Identify and cultivate long-term strategic partnerships that will enhance the Foundation's effectiveness in the years ahead;*
- *Implement long-term fundraising techniques that will provide consistent and ongoing funding for the foundation.*

The Osage Nation Foundation also operates an online gift shop that

provides a variety of items related to Osage culture. Funds from the gift shop support Foundation activities. Examples of items available including collectible Christmas ornaments, Pendleton blankets, hats, mugs, and various publications created through the Osage Nation Foundation Art Grant program.

The Osage Nation Foundation also acts as a fiduciary repository from time to time for projects within the Osage Nation.

The financials of the Osage Nation Foundation are certified by an outside accounting firm and the results of that process are included in the annual report.

Contact Information for the Osage Nation Foundation:

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(405) 415-0383
bwebb@osagefoundation.org

Osage Nation Foundation
Board of Directors

Chair Monte Boulanger

Monte Boulanger, descendant of Osage Chief Paw-Hiu-Skah, has 26 years of leadership experience with Walmart, Inc. based in Bentonville, AR. In addition to serving on the Board of Trustees for the Osage Nation Foundation since its inception in 2010, he has served as Chair of Tribal Voices, Walmart's American Indian and Alaska Native Resource Group, which engaged Walmart leaders on challenges in Indian Country, including health & wellness, financial services, secondary education, and American Indian mascots. He is an expert in the data-driven retail shopping habits of underbanked and underserved consumers and has been a public speaker on Indian Country in the retailing and supplier communities for over 15 years. He holds a BBA in Finance from Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, KS, an MBA from Nova Southeastern University in Davie, FL, is a Lean/Six Sigma Green Belt in process improvement and a Certified Retail Analyst. He has served on the Board of Directors of The Museum of Native American History in Bentonville, AR, since 2011.

Vice Chair Alex Tallchief Skibine

Alex Skibine is a professor at the Univer-

sity of Utah's S.J. Quinney College of Law. He has served as deputy counsel for Indian Affairs on the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs in the U.S. House of Representatives. He has served as a regional representative for the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in the Bureau of Indian Affairs and as a staff attorney and project director for the Institute for the Development of Indian Law.

Secretary/Treasurer Nancy Pillsbury Shirley

Nancy Pillsbury Shirley brings more than 40 years experience in both the for-profit business world as well as philanthropy to the Osage Foundation. She is President of Pillsbury Marketing Company. Additionally, she serves as Executive Vice President and Treasurer of the Ed and H Pillsbury Foundation and President of the Board of the Winter Opera St. Louis. She is a graduate of Stephens College in Columbia, MO and lives in Ladue, MO.

Board Member Chad Renfro

Chad Renfro, Osage, is Founder and Lead Designer of Chad Renfro Design, LLC and 1115 Enterprises, based out of Pawhuska and Palm Beach. He is President of the Pawhuska Community Foundation and has served as a board member

for The Ann Norton Sculpture Garden and Opportunity Inc. Chad has served as chair and committee for a great number of non-profit, philanthropic organizations in both Oklahoma and Florida. He recently served on the Committee for Smart Growth America, participated in the initial planning meetings for the Pawhuska Indian Village and Historical Preservation efforts locally. He holds a BA from The University of Central Oklahoma in Public Relations and resides in Tulsa.

Executive Director Bill Webb

Bill Webb is the founder and Senior Managing Partner of Legacy Foundation and Event Management, a Southlake, Texas-based firm that develops and manages foundations and charities for professional athletes and coaches, corporations and individuals. He serves as Executive Director of the Osage Nation Foundation and manages the daily operations of the foundation. He has served in this capacity since 2011. He is also an investor and owner of a number of businesses across multiple industries. He is the author of Igniting the Blue Flame: Answer the Call To Leadership and speaks throughout the country on the topic of leadership. He is active in a number of charitable causes. He is married for more than 20 years to his wife Jill and has three teenage sons.

Rock Pipestem





Using his hands and talent to preserve Osage culture

Rock Pipestem believes not much happens by accident in this world.

Pipestem, born Francis B. Pipestem, Jr. in Gallup, NM in June 1972, is a spiritual person—a very talented spiritual person—and is guided on a daily basis by that spirituality. “When God shows up, powerful and awesome things happen,” says Pipestem (Osage/Otoe-Missouria) who is in the ministry in addition to his more than two decades as an artist and drum maker. “I have been so blessed in my life and I give so much of the credit to the leadership of my family and, it always comes back to the blessing of The Lord Jesus Christ.”

He has been involved with the Osage

Nation Foundation since early 2019 when he was selected to hand-make nearly two dozen raw hide drums for the Foundation’s Voices From the Drum project. It was a big ask of a veteran artist who has built hundreds of drums but normally only one at a time.

“I had just moved to Pawhuska when I heard about the project and I was in the very beginning of starting a new drum making business,” Rock explains. “My brother Wilson and good family friend Julie O’Keefe reached out to me and told me what the Foundation was planning and I was in sheer disbelief what I was hearing. The timing could not have been any better for me. I reached out to the Foundation,

committed to the project, and the rest is history.”

Pipestem clearly understands the strength and meaning of the drum in Osage “way of life” and native culture. “The Poncas brought us the gift of our Inlonska drum many years ago (120+ years) and we still use that same drum to this day at GrayHorse,” he explains. “My dear Osage grandmother Rose Kirk Pipestem made sure that my siblings and I—our whole family in fact, was raised around our ceremony Inlonska. She made a huge impact on our lives and the people we are today.

“When it comes to drum building, I was also greatly influenced by my best friend and brother Joe Don Waters,” he contin-

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ues. “Twenty-two years and three hundred drums later, I am still growing as an artist. I feel I get better every day, thanks in large part to the support of my family, the amazing grace of God, and the many very talented people I have the pleasure of working with.”

Speaking of family, Rock got married since starting the Foundation project to Anna McKibben-Pipestem (Quapaw). In addition to his children Kingston (28) and Katelynn Rose (23), his household has grown with the addition of Emma (14) and Jesse (6).

When it comes to drum making, the

craziness of 2020 and the COVID outbreak have not slowed Rock and his work. He continues to build drums on a regular basis and has a vision for one day building a massive drum which would measure 42” X 18” and require as many as three hides. He would also like to pull in his very talented artist daughter Katelynn Rose to do the artwork on this drum. “The challenge is to produce this “Thunder Drum” at museum quality,” Rock muses, “and I would love to see it in the Smithsonian Institute or NMAI in DC one day. It would be a lot of work but I am ready.”

Rock believes the Osage Nation Foun-

dation project has changed his personal and professional trajectory in a very significant way. “God has blessed me with an incredible family with deep roots and for that I am grateful , Rock says. “And for all that to happen while being part of this incredible Voices From The Drum project has literally changed my life. I am in a very good place with my work and my life and I couldn’t be more thankful. Aho.”

The full *Voices From the Drum* exhibition is expected to open at the Osage Museum in early 2021.

The Osage Nation Foundation provides three types of grants:

- The *Art Grant* provides a maximum of \$15,000 for art and/or cultural related projects produced by an Osage artist and/ or an Osage-related arts organization producing a project specifically for the enjoyment of the Osage people. This grant requires the applicant to match Foundation funds dollar-for-dollar.

- The *Charitable Grant* provides a maximum of \$2,500. The Purpose of Osage Charitable Grants is to fund projects and activities that directly benefit Osage citizens and the Osage Nation. Individuals and organizations are eligible for these grants. No matching funds from the recipient are required.

- The *Community Grant* provides a maximum of \$2,500. The purpose of the Osage Community Grant is to financially support organizations and their projects in communities where Osage live and work. Only organizations—not individuals—are eligible for these grants. No matching funds from the recipient are required.

- Applicants are eligible for only one grant per fiscal year (October 1 through September 30)

For a full description of our grant programs, please refer to the Osage Nation Foundation website, www.osagefoundation.org.

MATCHING ART GRANTS

Francis Pipestem, Jr.....	5,000.00
Skylar Ammons/Dante	
Biss Grayson.....	2,675.00
108 Contemporary	10,000.00
Felicia Alexandra Ponca	10,000.00
Miles Thorpe RedCorn.....	5,000.00
Osage Ballet	10,000.00
Dante Halleck	5,000.00
TOTAL	\$46,675.00

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Tribal Film Festival	500.00
Wellbriety Powwow.....	1,250.00
Lighthouse Outreach Center	2,500.00
Tulsa Area United Way	2,500.00
CASA of Pawnee and	
Osage Counties	3,500.00
Wynona Public Schools.....	2,000.00
Baxter Springs Historical Society...500.00	
Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma.....	2,500.00
Barnsdall FFA	500.00
Indian Land Tenure	
Foundation	1,000.00
ONABEN	1,000.00
Sand Springs Rotary Club.....	2,000.00

Trail of Hope Wellbriety	
Conference	1,000.00
Wak On Owatsi	2,500.00
Hominy High School.....	1,000.00
Greenwood Chamber	
of Commerce	500.00
Misfits 07 Fastpitch Softball	500.00
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society ...500.00	
The Christian Ministers	
Alliance.....	2,500.00
Denver Art Museum	2,500.00
The Journey Home	1,000.00
Pioneer Cutting Horse	
Association	500.00
Pawhuska High School	
Football Booster Club	500.00
Run the Streets Woolaroc	
8K Race	500.00
Pawhuska Girls Basketball	750.00
TOTAL	\$34,000.00

CHARITABLE GRANTS

Mary Wildcat	500.00
Oklahoma Indian	
Summer Festival	1,000.00
Woodland High School After Prom	
Committee	1,500.00

Dance Maker Performing	
Arts Academy.....	4,620.00
Nathan Johnson.....	2,100.00
Alexandra Ponca Stock.....	2,500.00
Amity Bevard	2,000.00
Genie Herren	2,500.00
Osage Giants Youth	
Football Team.....	500.00
Dance Maker Performing	
Arts Academy.....	840.00
Hominy Youth Basketball.....	1,000.00
Danielle Cass.....	500.00
Sage Hawk Foundation	2,500.00
Dance Maker Performing	
Arts Academy.....	1,680.00
Nokosee Fields c/o	
The Violin Shop.....	2,500.00
Dance Maker	
Performing Arts Academy.....	1,350.00
Special Olympics Oklahoma	500.00
Jennie Gray Native	
American Church.....	850.00
TOTAL	\$28,940

TOTAL 2019-20 GRANTS AWARDED **\$109,615**



Q&A with
Osage Nation Foundation Board Member

Alex Skibine

Q: Tell us about your Osage lineage.

A: I am the son of Marjorie Tallchief whose early childhood was spent on the reservation before she became a ballerina. She is the sister of Maria Tallchief, and a daughter of Alex Tallchief, a full blood and one of the original allottees on the 1906 Roll.

Q: Describe your professional career path and current vocation/position.

A: I graduated from Law School in 1976 and went to work for an Indian owned public interest law firm in Washington D.C: The Institute for the Development of Indian Law. Afterwards I worked for about ten years as the Deputy Counsel for Indian Affairs under the direction of

Morris Udall who was the Chair of the Congressional Committee with responsibility over most Indian legislation within the House of Representatives. Eventually I moved to Utah to take a job as a law professor at the University of Utah where I have taught a number of courses including Federal Indian Law, Constitutional Law, and Administrative law.

Q: How did you first become involved in the Osage Nation Foundation?

A: I was one of the original members of the first Board of Directors for the Foundation. I was appointed by Chief Gray.

Q: What are you most proud of that the Foundation has accomplished in the past decade?

A: I am proud that the Foundation has managed to raise funds successfully to help promote Osage History, Art, and Culture and along the way, help many Osage artists/writers.

Q: What are your interests (personal and professional) outside serving on the Osage Foundation Board?

A: I am mostly interested in law, politics, and history.

Q: What have we not accomplished as a foundation that you would like to see us focus on going forward?

A: I think the Foundation has done an excellent job so far and I look forward to continuing down our current path while looking for new opportunities to make a difference.

9:50 AM

10/26/20

Accrual Basis

Osage Nation Foundation
Balance Sheet
As of September 30, 2020

	<u>Sep 30, 20</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Providence Bank Money Market	250,514.13
Operating account	406,154.54
Total Checking/Savings	656,668.67
Other Current Assets	
Gift Shop Inventory	13,510.90
Total Other Current Assets	13,510.90
Total Current Assets	670,179.57
Other Assets	
Drum collection	103,050.00
Freeman ranch 9000 acres	11,700,000.00
Total Other Assets	11,803,050.00
TOTAL ASSETS	12,473,229.57
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Restricted accounts	
Freeman Ranch reserve - Meade	104,246.12
Freeman Ranch Reserve - Labadie	4,856.31
James Bigheart Statue Fund	3,321.25
Total Restricted accounts	112,423.68
Total Other Current Liabilities	112,423.68
Total Current Liabilities	112,423.68
Total Liabilities	112,423.68
Equity	
Without donor restrictions	477,175.46
With donor restrictions	11,700,000.00
Net Income	183,630.43
Total Equity	12,360,805.89
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	12,473,229.57