

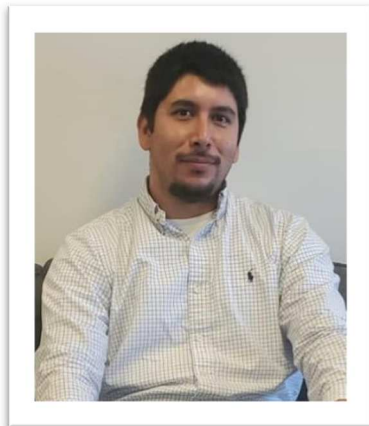
March 2023

## NASNTI 2023 Upcoming Attractions



Introducing The Osage Ballet, *WAHZHAZHE*. This 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, Maria and Marjorie Tallchief, and the richness of Osage traditional music, dance, and textile arts.

## NASNTI, SSC Business & Industry, and The Osage Nation of Oklahoma to Host Native Language Workshops



The NASNTI Program has teamed up with the SSC Business Industry Department and The Osage Nation to host four Osage Native Language Workshops every Wednesday, starting March 29 through April 19. The workshops are for beginners to learn the Tribe's language and culture. After completing the four workshops, class participants will earn a micro-credential and receive a digital badge.

The workshops are facilitated by **Braxton Redeagle**, the Director of the Osage Nation Language Department. As a certified teacher, he taught Osage I and Osage II for a world language credit in Skiatook and Hominy High Schools.

He grew up in Pawhuska, where he resides with his wife and children. He is a member of the Waxakolin Committee for the Inlonshka dances and a graduate of the University of Oklahoma, where he was an active member of the Society of Native American Gentlemen and various other organizations that promote academics, health, culture, and fellowship for students.

Micro-credentials are short-term, postsecondary credentials comprised of a coherent set of measurable non-credit-bearing activities or projects and/or up to nine hours of credit-bearing courses that provide specific career critical skills, competencies, and knowledge that can be readily transferred to the workplace. Digital badges are a web-based artifact that contains metadata that documents students' completion of a credential, such as a micro-credential, certificate, or degree, and can be shared and verified electronically. The first ten enrollees will receive a free educational resource. For more information contact Kay Wallace, at [k.wallace@sscok.edu](mailto:k.wallace@sscok.edu).

NASNTI is 100% federally funded in the amount of \$450,000 annually.

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## A Two-Day Native Language Conference: “How to Become a Native Ally”

*Panelist, Dr. Candessa Teehee*



Tᵒᵒ ᵐᵐ / iya dihi / **Candessa Teehee** will serve as one of the panelists during the Native Language Conference. As a full-blood Cherokee citizen, she descends from the Tehee, Locust, McLemore, and Pumpkin families.

She earned her B.A. in Native American Studies and Communications in 2000, her M.Ed. in Adult and Higher Education in 2003, and her Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Oklahoma in 2014.

In her academic pursuits, she primarily focuses on Cherokee language revitalization, tribal sovereignty, traditional and contemporary southeastern Indian art, and Cherokee cultural studies. She is an Associate Professor and Department Chair of Cherokee and Indigenous Studies at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

Dr. Teehee serves on the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council as the representative for District 2 - Tahlequah North. She was selected as the Tribal Council representative on the Cherokee Nation Task Force To Protect Women and Families and advocate for women’s rights as they are a foundational element of Cherokee culture.

In addition, Dr. Teehee was also recognized as a Cherokee National Treasure in 2019 for her skill and artistry in oblique and warp face finger weaving. She is the second finger weaver selected for this honor since the inception in 1988.

She formerly served as the Program Coordinator for the Tribal Police Training Program in Ada, Oklahoma, as a Clerk in the Office of Curriculum and Instruction at the Cherokee Nation Immersion School, as Manager of the Cherokee Language Program at Cherokee Nation, and as Executive Director of the Cherokee Heritage Center in Park Hill, Oklahoma.

She has made her home and has raised her three children in Tahlequah, OK.

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