



# N.A.H.F.

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE FUND

315 West Green Street, Marshall, MI 49068

**For Immediate Release:**

Date: Sept. 11, 2018

**The Native American Heritage Fund Invites Local Media to the 2018 Check Distribution  
REVISED: 2018 Grant Recipients Include a Seventh Beneficiary**

The Native American Heritage Fund (NAHF) is excited to invite members of the local media to the NAHF 2018 Check Distribution, held Friday, Sept. 14, at FireKeepers Casino Hotel in Battle Creek, Michigan.

The NAHF continues to be a unique, one-of-a-kind initiative that assists Michigan's K-12 schools, colleges, universities, and local units of government with 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.

The 2018 grants approved include:

1. Belding Area Schools – \$334,690.60 to support the replacement of equipment, apparel and signage following the revision of the school's mascot from Redskins to Black Knights.
2. City of Battle Creek – \$3,377.50 to assist with removal and replacement of a stained glass window medallion in City Hall.
3. City of Kalamazoo – \$76,765 to assist with the removal of the Fountain of Pioneers and site improvements at Bronson Park.
4. Bay de Noc Community College in Escanaba – \$2,013 for The Living Circle of Life project.
5. Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie – \$10,000 for an education initiative to increase local tribal imagery on campus and implement cultural events.
6. Michigan Technological University in Houghton – \$30,488 for a partnership project with Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College to co-create curricula.
7. Suttons Bay Public Schools – \$12,500 to the Friendship Community Center/LIFT Teen Center to expand hours and create new programming for the only local afterschool program for sixth through 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth, with 70 percent demographic consisting of Native American students.

The NAHF invites businesses, community organizations and community members to attend the first-ever check distribution to witness this historic and exciting experience.

**Event Information:**

**WHAT:** Native American Heritage Fund 2018 Check Distribution

**WHEN:** Friday, Sept. 14, at noon

**WHERE:** FireKeepers Casino Hotel Event Center, Mbish (Ballroom) B, 11177 East Michigan Ave., Battle Creek, MI 49014

**COST:** Free

**INFORMATION:** Visit [http://www.calhouncountymi.gov/government/native\\_american\\_heritage\\_fund\\_board/](http://www.calhouncountymi.gov/government/native_american_heritage_fund_board/)



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## **Media Information:**

**MEDIA:** Director of Communications and Public Relations Judi Henckel will be the contact upon arrival. Call 269.569.6843 with any questions.

**MEDIA REQUESTS:** Please contact Director of Communications and Public Relations Judi Henckel or Communications Manager Sara Moore at 269.729.5151 with any media requests.

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**For media inquiries, or to request an interview with NAHF Board Chairperson Jamie Stuck, please contact NHBP Director of Communications and Public Relations Judi Henckel at 269.704.8361.**

For questions regarding the NAHF grant process, please contact Calhoun County Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott at 269.781.0966.

### 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 (NHBP) 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: at [www.calhouncountymi.gov/government/native\\_american\\_heritage\\_fund\\_board](http://www.calhouncountymi.gov/government/native_american_heritage_fund_board)