

## OKLAHOMA NATIVE AMERICAN YOUTH LANGUAGE FAIR

### Modern Song with Native American Language

#### Category Description and Guidelines

Students sing modern songs in Native languages. Modern song, as opposed to traditional song, includes original songs, popular music, rap or hip-hop and other types of song that creatively use language in non-traditional ways. Singing in Native languages has always been a tradition, but singing modern songs inspires Native language use in diverse social arenas and formats. Young language learners benefit from singing by bringing Native language into modern popular media, exploring lyrical creativity, learning poetic devices in translation and navigating sound patterns with or without musical accompaniment.

Category	Age Ranges				Size		Award		
	P-2	3-5	6-8	9-12	Group	Individual	Trophy	Ribbon	Medal
Modern Song	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		If present

This is a live category. You must be pre-registered and present to perform and to receive awards.

#### DO

- ✓ Pre-register online
- ✓ Focus on **NATIVE LANGUAGE USE**
- ✓ Keep a five minute time limit (plus two minutes for set-up and exiting the stage)
- ✓ Use props, costumes and Native regalia

#### DON'T

- ✗ Use scripts, notes or cheatsheets
- ✗ Speak or sing in English
- ✗ Have teachers on stage, except Pre-K and K
- ✗ Use food, animals or organic materials (grass, bark, leaves) in the performance

### Judging Performances

A panel of at least three elders, Native language teachers and/or Native musicians will judge performances on these criteria:

- Amount of Native American language used
- Presentation and poise of performance
- Ease and comfort of language use
- Spirit of performance

### Notes

- Give us your background music cd at registration; we'll take care of the audio.
- You can dance if you want to, but remember that it's about language use.
- You must pre-register to receive t-shirts and awards. Please do so as early as possible.
- Limited rehearsal space is available. This space is shared with other groups.
- Contact us if you're concerned about whether your props and regalia count as "organic."
- Group sizes and performance venues are subject to change based on registered entries.
- Students performing in multiple categories may experience scheduling conflicts. We try to avoid this, but help us out and let us know if you see a potential problem.
- Questions? Comments? Help? Contact us at [onaylf.samnoblemuseum@ou.edu](mailto:onaylf.samnoblemuseum@ou.edu) or at (405) 325-7588.

*By entering a material submissions category, you are agreeing to allow the ONAYLF and/or Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History to retain a digital copy or scan of your material submission. This record will become part of the Native American Language collection at SNOMNH and is open access (but is not copyrighted to the museum). It may also be used in promotion of the ONAYLF, in Native language teacher training workshops, or in related NAL programs.*