

December 10, 2020

Dear Language Teachers, Language Program Coordinators, and Parents:

Greetings from the Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair! We are pleased to announce that the **18th Annual ONAYLF** will take place in **April 2021**, as a **virtual** event of the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History in Norman, Oklahoma. Due to continuing safety concerns surrounding COVID-19, the ONAYLF Steering Committee has determined that ONAYLF cannot be held in person at the museum in 2021. The Fair will be held virtually on the Sam Noble Museum's YouTube platform.

The poster art theme for 2021 is "***Generations Healing Through Language***".

Posters and Comics & Cartoons Categories will be submitted as pdf files or photographs. The Book and Essay Categories will not be available for the 2021 Fair. The Film and Video Category will be unchanged from previous years.

All live performance categories will be submitted as a video. All videos will be posted on the Sam Noble Museum's YouTube platform for the month of April 2021.

Pre-registration is required. On-Line Registration will open **Monday, January 4th** and will close **Monday, March 1st at 5:00 p.m.** The On-Line Registration System has not changed for the 2021 Fair. Access to the system will be through the ONAYLF website. You will need to create a new username and password for the system. If you have trouble with the registration, *or you know of a teacher who does not have access to the web*, please call us at 405-325-7588.

We will have staff available to assist you on Wednesdays from 9:00 am to 1:30 pm during January. The office schedule for February and March will be posted on the webpage in January. If you have questions or need information, please feel free to call 405-325-7588 or e-mail us at onaylf.samnoblemuseum@ou.edu. Please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible. The ONAYLF office will be closed until January 6, 2020.

All submittals must be at the museum or postmarked by **Friday, March 5th**.

Information for the Fair is on our homepage: <https://samnoblemuseum.ou.edu/collections-and-research/native-american-languages/oklahoma-native-american-youth-language-fair/> We also have a Facebook page -- Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair. If you 'like' or 'follow' our page, you can get updates quickly. Feel free to share the news about your students' preparations for the Fair on our Facebook page.

Please view or download the 2021 Category Guidelines from the ONAYLF website to make sure the submissions and performances from your students meet the guidelines.

The 2021 performance and material submission categories and eligible grade levels are:

Performance Categories (Submitted as Videos)

- Spoken Native American Language (PreK – 12th)
- Spoken Native American Language – Skit/Short Play (PreK-12th)
- Spoken Prayer in Native American Language (PreK – 12th)
- Spoken Poetry in Native American Language (PreK – 12th)
- Traditional Song in Native American Language (PreK – 12th)
- Modern Song in Native American Language (PreK – 12th)
- Language Masters/Master Performance in Native American Language (3rd – 12th)

Material Submission Categories

- Cartoons & Comic Books (PreK – 12th) (pdf file or photograph)
- Film/Video (3rd – 12th)
- Poster Art on Theme: "*Generations Healing Through Language*" (PreK – 12th) (pdf file or photograph)

Guidelines and forms for each category can be viewed and downloaded from the ONAYLF website. Each submission to the cartoons & comics, film/video, and poster art categories must be accompanied by a **Material Submission Form**. All entries to the poster art category must have a title (can be the poster art theme) and a statement about the artwork on the Material Submission Form. *Posters larger than 11x17" will not be accepted.* Material submissions received without a material submissions form will not be eligible for prizes. Posters and comics will be submitted as pdf files or photographs.

Each video submitted in a performance category must be accompanied by the **Submission Form**. Performance videos received without a submission form will not be eligible for prizes.

All materials may be submitted to the ONAYLF Dropbox. Instructions for using the ONAYLF Dropbox will be posted on the ONAYLF website. Make sure add the Submission Form or the Material Submission Form to the Dropbox as well. Make sure the file name includes the student's full name or clear identifier for the group and matches the name(s) on the Material Submission Form.

We look forward to you and your students participating in the 2021 Virtual ONAYLF. For questions, please call the ONAYLF staff at 405-325-7588 during the office hours listed above. You can also e-mail questions to onaylf.samnoblemuseum@ou.edu.

Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair

Native American Languages

Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History

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Sincerely,

Christine Armer, Coordinator, Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair and Instructor of Cherokee, Department of Native American Studies, University of Oklahoma

Raina Heaton, Program Director, Oklahoma Native American Language Youth Language Fair, Assistant Curator of Native American Languages, Sam Noble Museum of Natural History and Assistant Professor of Native American Studies, University of Oklahoma

Nancy Coleman, Registrar, Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair

P.S. Please feel free to share this email or the attached letter to other teachers, parents, learners, or other interested persons that you know.