

OKLAHOMA NATIVE AMERICAN YOUTH LANGUAGE FAIR 2026

Books

Category Description and Guidelines

Students are invited to enter original books in a Native American language. The books can be traditional literature, new stories, comic books, graphic novels, or pattern books. This category encourages students in the creation of Native literature, written storytelling conventions and literacy skills. This category can also encourage students to use their language in written form.

Category	Age Ranges				Size		Award		
	P-2	3-5	6-8	9-12	Group	Individual	Trophy	Ribbon	Medal
Books & Literature	✓	✓	✓	✓	Each entry counts as a single unit			✓	If present

DO

- ✓ Pre-register online
- ✓ Complete the Material Submissions form below and send it in with your book
- ✓ Use complete sentences and grammar

DON'T

- ✗ Write in English
- ✗ Use food, animals or organic materials (grass, bark, leaves) on your book
- ✗ Plagiarize. Work must be original

- Entries that include copyrighted characters (such as Marvel, Disney, etc.) or images will be disqualified. We cannot judge or display these submissions. Avoid copyright infringement.
- Translations of published books must be accompanied by permission from the current copyright holder.

Delivery

We must receive all material submissions on or before the material submissions deadline posted on the website. You can mail your entry. Follow the instructions on the Material Submission form. Attach a Material Submission form to each entry. Books **cannot** be submitted electronically.

Judging Submissions

Material submissions are pre-judged before the Fair. Please have the student(s) complete the Material Submission form (below) to explain more about the book and its personal significance for the author(s). A panel of at least three elders, Native language teachers and/or Native authors will judge books on these criteria:

- Amount of Native language used
- Creativity in design and/or story
- Use of complete sentences
- Effort in presentation

Notes

- Books will be displayed during the Fair, but you don't have to be present to win.
- You must **pre-register** to receive participation gift and awards. Please do so as early as possible.
- Examples of books can be viewed on the ONAYLF YouTube channel:
https://www.youtube.com/@oklahomanativeamericanout3680/playlists?view=50&sort=dd&shelf_id=10
- Questions? Comments? Help? Contact us at onaylf.samnoblemuseum@ou.edu or at (405) 325-7588.

By entering a material submissions category, you agree 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 may 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.

OKLAHOMA NATIVE AMERICAN YOUTH LANGUAGE FAIR 2025

Material Submission Form

✓ Affix this sheet to the back of EACH item submitted before delivering your entry!

GRADE RANGE:	☐ PreK - 2 nd	☐ 3 rd - 5 th	☐ 6 th - 8 th	☐ 9 th - 12 th
CATEGORY:	☐ Poster Art	☐ Book	☐ Comic & Cartoon	
	☐ Film & Video			

Student(s) First and Last Name(s)
or Group Name: _____

Language Program and Teacher: _____

Title of Work: _____

Student Tribal Affiliation: _____

Language(s) Used: _____

Describe your work! What inspired you? What does it mean to you? How does it relate to the Language Fair theme? What was your favorite part of your project?
This section must be completed for your entry to be accepted.

Mail your material submissions to:
Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair
Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History
2401 Chautauqua Ave.
Norman, OK 73072-7029

Email:
onaylf.samnoblemuseum@ou.edu

Phone:
(405) 325-7588