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73RD ANNUAL

CHEROKEE

NATIONAL HOLIDAY

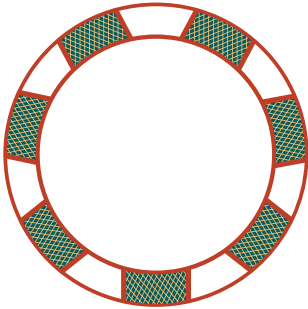
ART & POSTER DESIGN SYMBOLOGY



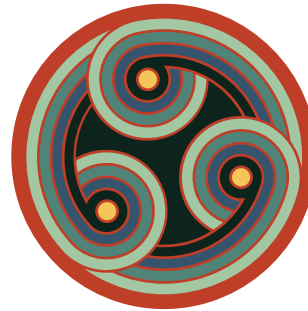
Two intertwined hands are at the center of the design. They symbolize the effort involved in working together for the common good, known in our language as Gadugi, and our collectivist society as Cherokee people.



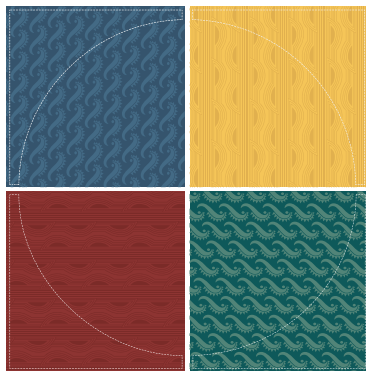
Behind the hands is a tree, symbolizing the strength of family. Seven main branches stand for the next seven generations, while the roots represent consistency, steadiness and longevity. The Cherokee Nation is committed to protecting its inherent sovereignty; preserving and promoting Cherokee culture, language and values; and improving the quality of life for the next seven generations of Cherokee Nation citizens.



The crosshatch pattern represents citizens in the 14-county Cherokee Nation Reservation and around the world.



Surrounding the hands and tree are Southeastern motifs that symbolize water, circling counterclockwise to represent the direction of a stomp dance at ceremonial grounds. To reinforce the Gadugi theme, the three interlocking swirls symbolize two parties coming together and their resulting action; they also represent the past, present and future for Cherokees.



A quilt pattern frames the central design. Quilts are typically family heirlooms that are passed down through generations. This element represents generations coming together in Gadugi for this year's Cherokee National Holiday theme.



On the outer border are 73 interlocking hands for the 73rd Cherokee National Holiday.