

2026 CHEROKEE NATIONAL HOLIDAY

POWWOW

Sept. 4 & 5, 2026 • Cherokee Cultural Grounds • W. 810 RD, Tahlequah, OK

EVENT TIMES

FRIDAY

4-6:30 p.m. - Dance Registration
5-6:30 p.m. - Supper Break (ON YOUR OWN)
7 p.m. - Grand Entry

HEAD STAFF

Emcees:
Rob Daugherty, Cherokee - JAY, OK
Archie Mason, Cherokee and Osage - TULSA, OK

INVITED DRUMS ONLY

Host Southern: **Southern Thunder** - PAWNEE, OK
Host Northern: **Big Soldier Creek** - MAYETTA, KS
Invited Southern: **Park Hill Singers** - TAHLEQUAH, OK
Invited Northern: **Ocese Band** - SHAWNEE, OK

Color Guard: Cherokee Nation Veterans Color Guard

Head Gourd Clan: Cherokee Gourd Society

Head Man: Chris Côté, Osage - PAWHUSKA, OK

Head Lady: Geneva Horsechief-Hamilton, Osage, Pawnee, Potawatomi & Blackfeet - PAWHUSKA, OK

Head Dance Judge: Zack Morris, Sac & Fox - MCCLLOUD, OK

SATURDAY

2-5 p.m. - Gourd Dance
5-6:30 p.m. - Supper Break (ON YOUR OWN)
7 p.m. - Grand Entry

ARENA DIRECTORS

Berbon Hamilton, Osage - PAWHUSKA, OK

Mark Wilson, Cherokee - TULSA, OK

DANCER REGISTRATION

Dancer Registration: 4 - 6:30 p.m. Friday ONLY.

All competition dancers must register in person. Two grand entries in full regalia to qualify for contest. Points given for each grand entry. All decisions are final by committee.

COMPETITIONS - More Than \$35,000 in Prize Money • Adult Men's & Women's 1st place - \$1,000

GOLDEN AGE COMBINED (AGES 62+)

MEN'S (AGES 18-61)

Southern Straight • Northern Traditional
Fancy • Grass • Chicken Dance

WOMEN'S (AGES 18-61)

Southern Buckskin • Cloth
Northern Traditional • Fancy • Jingle
Cherokee Tear Dress*

*Must be Cherokee Nation, EBCI or UKB citizen

TEEN (AGES 13-17)

BOYS: Southern Straight • Northern Traditional
Fancy • Grass GIRLS: Cloth • Buckskin • Shawl • Jingle

JUNIOR (AGES 7-12)

BOYS: Southern Straight • Northern Traditional
Fancy • Grass GIRLS: Cloth • Buckskin • Shawl • Jingle

TINY TOTS (AGES 0-6)

Open to All Children in Dance Regalia

More info: powwow@cherokee.org

Bring Your Own Seating • No Camping Allowed

All Holiday visitors agree entry into any Cherokee National Holiday events constitutes consent for the Cherokee National Holiday Office to use any film, photographs, video or reproduction of image and/or voice bearer for any purpose whatsoever without any payment to the visitor. We appreciate your observance of traditional rules; visitors shall not sell, dispense, or consume any form of illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages during any Cherokee National Holiday related events. Pets are not allowed at any Cherokee National Holiday related events. Cherokee National Holiday is a smoke-free event. Thank you for your respect.



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CHEROKEE NATIONAL HOLIDAY

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A LEGACY OF COMMUNITY, FAMILY & CULTURE