

CHEROKEE PHOENIX



Breanna Potter, a Cherokee Nation citizen from Sequoyah County, receives the Indian College Student of the Year award from the Oklahoma Council for Indian Education. COURTESY



Potter receives Indian College Student of the Year award

BY JAMI MURPHY
Former Reporter
12/21/2015 08:15 AM

AKINS, Okla. – Breanna Potter, a 21-year-old Cherokee Nation citizen from Sequoyah County, was recently awarded the Indian College Student of the Year award from the Oklahoma Council for Indian Education.

Potter is a senior at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah pursuing a degree in special education mild/moderate disabilities. She said her passion in life is Native youth and believes that education will change the world.

“To me, this honor stands as proof to other Indian students that they are capable of obtaining an education and accomplishing what they desire to,” she said. “It represents all the hard work that others have poured into me as a young woman. As someone who desires to make a difference for Native youth in education, I hope to use this award to help motivate other youth in my community to pursue their education.”

She said she has raised \$80,000 in cash and in-kind grants and serves as a youth ambassador for President Obama’s Generation Indigenous. She is the former president of the Cherokee Promise Scholars at NSU and was a part of the program for the past 3-1/2 years. She has also volunteered and served as a leader for the Cherokee Promise Scholar Program and the National Native Youth Network in Washington, D.C. She also spends time volunteering for the Native American Student Association and American Indian Science and Engineering Society.

She has also received accolades from the Rho Theta Sigma honor society.

Potter said she works to “blend traditional culture into her lessons and is fully dedicated to changing the lives of special needs students.”

Potter is the program director for the Brushy Youth Dream Team and the youth activities coordinator for the Brushy Cherokee Action Association. She was a recipient of the “Dreamstarter” grant earlier this year and was among the first the first class of American Indian youths to receive the grant.

The grant is designed to bring to life the dreams of American Indian youths under the age of 30.

She said in her “Dreamstarter” application she explained that her “dream” or project was for her community group, the Brushy Cherokee Action Association. The grant was for \$10,000.

To read more on that story visit <http://www.cherokeephoenix.org/Article/index/9528>.

People

Vance passes on knowledge in cultural classes

BY BRITTNEY BENNETT

Reporter – @cp_bbennett

02/28/2018 08:00 AM

TAHLEQUAH – United Keetoowah Band citizen Carrie Vance is committed to passing on her basketry, twining and moccasin knowledge to future generations, so she’s conducting cultural classes at the John Hair Cultural...

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Dreadfulwater continues loom-weaving tradition

BY LINDSEY BARK

Reporter

02/22/2018 08:15 AM

TAHLEQUAH – For the past 15 years, Cherokee Nation citizen Janice Dreadfulwater has been perfecting the craft of loom weaving that she learned from her sister-in-law and Cherokee National Treasure, Dorothy...

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Cherokee Casino employee advocates for Tulsans in need

BY STAFF REPORTS

02/11/2018 02:00 PM

WEST SILOAM – Tulsa resident Elizabeth “Beth” West manages an hour and a half commute to Cherokee Casino West Siloam Springs each workday but still makes time to give back to her community. The YMCA of Greater Tulsa recently awarded West with an...

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Nagel showcases Native American flute talent

BY KENLEA HENSON

Reporter

01/25/2018 08:00 AM

FAYETTVILLE, Ark. – When 15-year-old Gaby Nagel isn't listening to music she is playing it, particularly on the Native American flute. Her enjoyment and talent with the instrument has led her to playing numerous...

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After cancer, Charles continues music dream

BY KENLEA HENSON

Reporter

01/24/2018 08:15 AM

COLLINSVILLE – Since age 5, Cherokee Nation citizen Trett Charles has had dreams of singing and playing guitar. Today, the 23-year-old opens for some of the most popular names in Red Dirt music, including Stoney LaRue, whom he...

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AARP Oklahoma opens Indian Elder Honors nominations

BY STAFF REPORTS

01/12/2018 12:00 PM

OKLAHOMA CITY – AARP Oklahoma is accepting nominations for its 10th annual Indian Elder Honors to celebrate 50 Native American elders who have positively impacted their respective communities, families, tribes and nation. Since its inception in...

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