

May 1, 2019

Oneida Nation
Chairman
Oneida Business Committee



Shekoli Oneida Students, Parents, Educational Leaders & Community Members:

I recognize the value of youth and their current contributions to our Nation. Youth are the future leaders who will continue to exercise and protect our sovereignty, speak and preserve our language, sustain our culture, and set the path for future generations.

For these reasons, the Oneida Business Committee supports the opportunity for up to six youth to attend the National Congress of American Indians Mid-Year Conference and Marketplace Youth Commission in Sparks, Nevada, June 23-27, 2019. Funding for the conference, travel, lodging and meals will be covered through the Business Committee's Special Projects budget. Students will be responsible for their own spending money.

All Oneida enrolled students who will be in 11th or 12th grade in fall 2019, who are interested in improving their leadership skills and actively contributing to the community, are invited to apply.

NCAI's Youth Commission provides a unique perspective on issues relevant to Tribal youth and is an opportunity to acquire knowledge about Tribal government, Native American legislative and governmental affairs and political science. It's also a chance to connect with youth from across Indian Country and give input to tribal leaders. The mission of the Youth Commission is focused on enhancing the spiritual, mental, physical and emotional well-being of tribal youth for a better Native America, which is a great approach to further developing our young leaders.

I will be attending the NCAI conference, as well as two other members of the Business Committee, and look forward to having the opportunity to interact with the youth who will also be in attendance. Additionally, Youth Enrichment Services (YES) employees will serve as chaperones on the trip.

The application and related details are attached to this letter and must be received, or post marked by May 15, 2019 and will be processed through the Senior Policy Advisor, Laura Laitinen-Warren.

The selection process is as follows: Upon receipt of completed applications, the Statements of Interest will be placed in a survey, without names, and a panel comprised of tribal leaders and community members will rate each of the responses on multiple criteria including:

- Clarity: Response is well thought out and easy to understand.
- Content: Response is complete with key ideas explained.
- Creativity: Response reflects the unique, personal voice of the student.

The six students with the highest scores will be eligible to represent the Oneida Nation at the National Congress of American Indians' Youth Commission. The student will be notified by phone and email on May 21st. Once notified, a future meeting will be set up to complete additional paperwork and to prepare the youth for their trip. We want our future leaders to feel prepared and ready to participate in this opportunity. For additional information on the conference and the Youth Commission, please visit <http://www.ncai.org/>

Yawłkó· Be well and treat one another well.
Sa?nikuhlatsa·niht (You have a strong mind)

Chairman Tehassi Hill

Oneida Nation Youth Application Packet
National Congress of American Indians
Youth Commission



Qualifications Checklist

- ✓ Enrolled Oneida Nation member
- ✓ High School students who must be a Junior or Senior in Fall of 2019

Application Checklist

Make sure you have submitted the following materials:

- Completed Application
- Statement of Interest
- 2 Letters of Recommendation

Please return application and related materials via email to llaitine@oneidanation.org
or via United States Postal Mail to
Chairman Hill, PO Box 365, Oneida, WI, 54155

All materials must be received by or post marked by May 15, 2019.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Any questions, please contact: Laura Laitinen-Warren, Senior Policy Advisor
llaitine@oneidanation.org or 920-869-4427, 920-676-6202

The Youth Commission registration and associated travel costs are funded by Oneida Business Committee Special Projects budget. Attendees are expected to raise funds for their spending money.

Oneida Youth Application
National Congress of American Indians Mid-Year Conference & Marketplace Youth
Commission
Sparks, Nevada
June 23-27, 2019

Qualifications:

- **Enrolled Oneida Nation member**
- **High School students who must be a Junior or Senior in Fall of 2019**

SECTION ONE: General Information

Student's Full Name: _____

School Attending in 2019-2020: _____ Grade in Fall 2019: _____

Enrollment Number: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

(Phone number and email address listed will be used for communication regarding the application.)

SECTION TWO: Student Behavior Agreement

Acceptance to attend the NCAI Mid-Year Conference & Marketplace Youth Commission is a privilege and an opportunity to gain knowledge and experience while representing the Oneida Nation.

As a representative of the Oneida Nation:

- I will use appropriate language.
- I will demonstrate respect and be courteous toward others.
- I will behave in accordance with our cultural values: The Good Mind
- I will be on time and actively participate in all sessions and activities.
- I will adhere to assigned curfew and quiet time.
- I will attend a pre and post-meeting with representatives of the Business Committee.
- I will submit a written letter for publication in the Kalihwisaks outlining what I have learned from my attendance.

I have read and understand the behavior expectations for serving as a representative of the Oneida Nation at the NCAI Youth Commission. I understand this application does not guarantee me a spot as an attendee at the event.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

SECTION THREE: Statement of Interest

Please attach an essay of **at least 150 words** to your application, discussing the following:

- What does leadership mean to you?
- How do you wish to contribute to the Oneida Community?
- If money and labor were endless, identify a challenge within your community and how you would fix it as a leader.

Your Statement of Interest will be rated by a panel of Oneida tribal leaders and community members on the following criteria:

- ✓ Clarity: Response is well thought out and easy to understand.
- ✓ Content: Response is complete with key ideas explained.
- ✓ Creativity: Response reflects the unique, personal voice of the student.

The six students with the highest scores will be eligible to represent the Oneida Nation at the National Congress of American Indians' Youth Commission. The student will be notified by phone and email on May 21st.

SECTION FOUR: Letters of Recommendation

Student: Please submit two letters of recommendation with your application. One letter should be from a community member, which can be a relative, but not a parent or guardian. The second letter needs to be from a teacher. Choose a community member and teacher who are familiar with your schoolwork, community involvement, or interest in leadership.

Respondent: The individual named on this form is being considered for participation in the National Congress of the American Indian Youth Commission in June 2019. The NCAI Youth Commission provides a unique perspective on issues relevant to tribal youth and is an opportunity to acquire knowledge from, and be a resource to, NCAI and Tribal Leaders about the organizational processes of NCAI and structure of Tribal politics.

In your letter of recommendation, please state your relationship with the student and address why you believe the student is a good candidate to represent the Oneida Nation at NCAI's Youth Commission.

Applicant's Name: _____

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