

NATIVE AMERICAN
WARRIOR
— P R O J E C T —



HONORING A CULTURE AND HISTORY
OF MILITARY SERVICE



A SPECIAL RECOGNITION VISION
OF THE FORCE 50 FOUNDATION

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THE HONORABLE BRAD HENRY

Governor of Oklahoma (2003-2011)

THE HONORABLE FRANK KEATING

Governor of Oklahoma (1995-2003)

THE HONORABLE GEORGE NIGH ★ IN MEMORIAM

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THE NATIVE AMERICAN WARRIOR PROJECT

Honoring a culture and history of military service

THE OVERVIEW

This special project of the Force 50 Foundation proudly presents an opportunity for all Oklahomans to support the courage, culture, spirit, sacrifice and contributions of the Oklahoma Native American Warrior. The bravery and contributions of Native American service members are woven into the fabric of our nation's history.

Native Americans have the highest record of military service per capita of any ethnic group in the country, yet their stories often remain underrepresented. We come together to recognize the incredible history and enduring legacy of Native American warriors from Oklahoma.

These warriors have demonstrated unwavering courage, resilience, and patriotism, protecting not only their tribal lands but also serving on the front lines for the United States throughout history.



Oklahoma is home to 38 sovereign tribes, each with its own rich heritage and warrior traditions. Our state is a testament to the strength and commitment of Native American veterans.

These men and women have served with honor, embodying values of community, sacrifice, and leadership passed down through generations. It is time we pay homage to their service in a meaningful and lasting way. The vision is to create a permanent art installation on the Capital Grounds, a place where future generations can reflect on the bravery of these warriors and the deep-rooted history of Native American service. This monument would not only honor their legacy but also serve as a reminder of their contributions to both Oklahoma and the United States.

To make this vision a reality, we need your support. Your financial contribution will help ensure that this monument stands as a powerful symbol of gratitude and recognition for generation to come. As a community let us celebrate, remember, and honor the Native American warriors whose sacrifices have safeguarded our freedoms. Join us in this significant endeavor to build a tribute worthy of their heroic legacy. Let's do this, Oklahoma!

PROJECT GOALS INCLUDE:

- Fund, commission, and dedicate a **permanent monument** on the grounds of the State Capitol at the newly established Oklahoma Veterans Memorial Park.
- Develop and publish a **commemorative book** honoring Native American Warriors including submissions from all 38 Oklahoma Tribal Nations



PRESENTATION OF COLORS BY THE KIOWA BLACK LEGGINGS WARRIOR SOCIETY AT THE PROJECT LAUNCH EVENT WITH THE OKLAHOMA CITY PHILHARMONIC IN NOVEMBER 2024.



WES STUDI RECEIVES GOVERNOR GEORGE NIGH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



THE 38 TRIBAL NATIONS IN OKLAHOMA

Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians

Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town

Apache Tribe of Oklahoma

Caddo Nation

Cherokee Nation

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma

Chickasaw Nation

Choctaw Nation

Citizen Potawatomi Nation

Comanche Nation of Oklahoma

Delaware Nation

Delaware Tribe of Indians

Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma

Fort Sill Apache Tribe

Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma

Kaw Nation

Kialegee Tribal Town

Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma

Kiowa Indian Tribe of Oklahoma

Miami Tribe of Oklahoma

Modoc Tribe of Oklahoma

Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Osage Nation of Oklahoma

Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Indians

Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma

Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma

Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma

Ponca Nation of Oklahoma

Quapaw Tribe of Indians

Sac & Fox Nation of Oklahoma

Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma

Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma

Thlopthlocco Tribal Town

Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma

United Keetoowah Band of Cherokees

Wichita and Affiliated Tribes

Wyandotte Nation



THE TEAM

Honorary Chairman: Coach Barry Switzer

Special Advisor: Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby

Special Advisor: Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry

Special Advisor: Oklahoma Governor Frank Keating

Special Advisor: Oklahoma Governor George Nigh ★ **In Memoriam**

Project Steering Committee

Co-Chairperson: Debbie Lindsey (Muscogee (Creek) Nation)

Co-Chairperson: Nathan Hart (Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes)

Co-Project Coordinator: Pete Reed, MAJ (RET)

Co-Project Coordinator: Karen Vahlberg, BSN, RN

Committee Members:

- **Rita Aragon, MG (ret)**
Former Cabinet Secretary of Military and Veterans Affairs
- **Myles Deering, MG (ret)**
Former Adjutant General, Former Director, Dept of Veterans Affairs
- **Jeff Dismukes**
Media Advisor
- **Pat Hall**
Strategic Advisor
- **Brent Hart**
Executive Director, Oklahoma City Philharmonic
- **Senator Shane Jett**
Senate Legislative Advisor
- **State Representative Chris Kannady**
House Legislative Advisor
- **Duane Mass, AIA**
- **Joe Mathis**
of RumbleDrum, Event Coordinator
- **State Representative Mark McBride**
Project Advisor
- **Scott Mitchell**
Media Advisor
- **Matthew Morgan**
Chickasaw Nation Special Envoy
- **Amber Sharples**
Monument Advisory
- **Larry Stein**
Oklahoma County Assessor
- **Collin Walke**
Legal Advisor
- **Todd Wade**
of RumbleDrum, Event Coordinator
- **Mark Woommavovah**
Past Chairman Comanche Nation

EXHIBIT A: Rendering of Veterans Memorial Park



- Veterans' Memorial Park is in development in the area south of the State Capitol parking lot.
- The Park was funded through HB 4012, enacted July 2024.
- Its anchor monument will be the National Guard 45th Infantry State Capitol Arch. Other monuments and sculptures will be developed
- The *FIRST AMERICAN WARRIOR MONUMENT* will be the first of these!

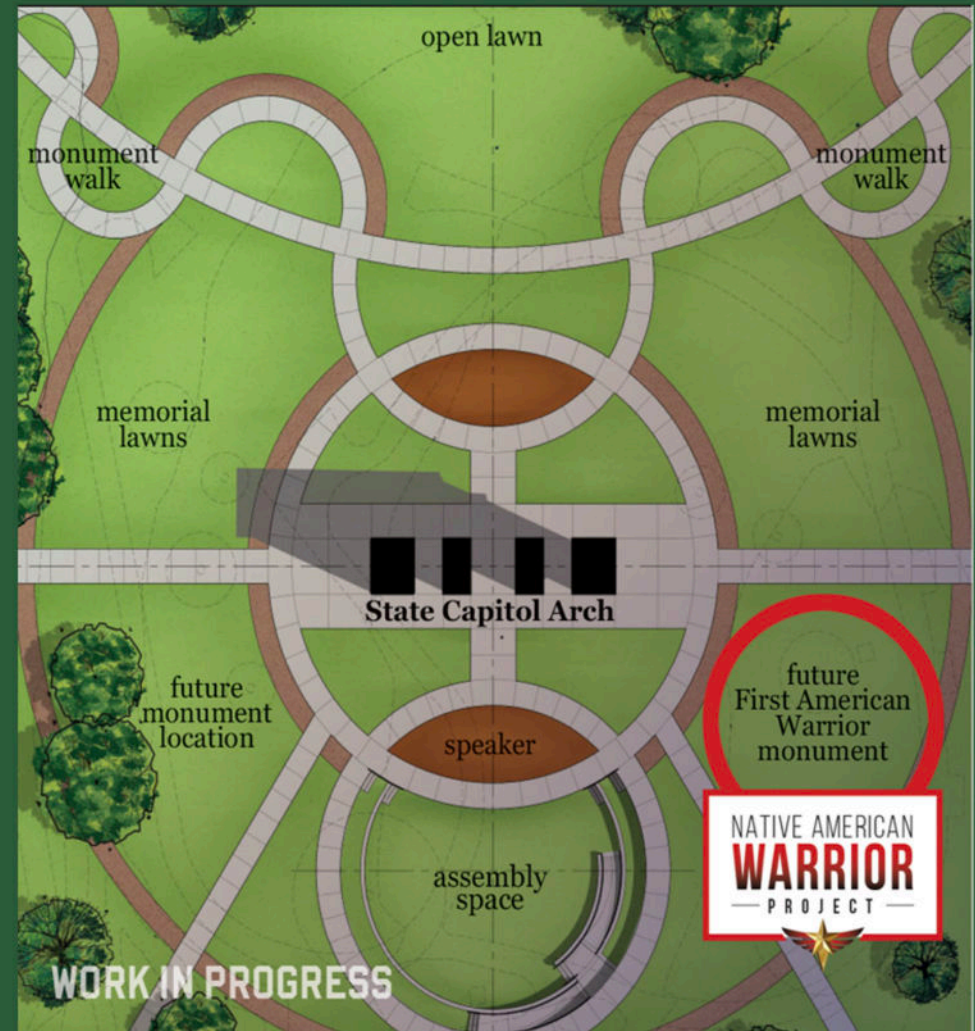




EXHIBIT B: Rendering of the State Capitol Arch serving as the anchor to the Oklahoma Veterans Memorial Park





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