



## **Chickasaw Country to host juried photography contest**

*Contest open to Native Americans interested in photography*

**TISHOMINGO, OKLAHOMA (August 18, 2017)** - Chickasaw Country announced a juried photography contest at the newly opened Chickasaw Nation Information Center in Tishomingo, Oklahoma. The Chickasaw Nation Information Center is one of five tourism centers in south-central Oklahoma that promotes art and Native American artists through tourism.

From now until Sept.29, Native American photographers, amateur or professional, who are members of a federally recognized tribe and reside in Oklahoma can submit their photography for a chance to be featured in a photography show at the Chickasaw Nation Information Center.

Paige Williams Shepherd, director of corporate development and tourism for the Chickasaw Nation said this contest raises awareness of the importance of art in Native American culture and tourism.

“Native American art is important to the preservation of Oklahoma history and culture,” said Shepherd. “This contest allows us to promote art through tourism by encouraging Native American photographers the opportunity to showcase and tell the story of Tishomingo and the surrounding community that supports our newly opened Chickasaw Nation Information Center.”

Submissions must follow the theme of Kochcha’, which is outside in the Chickasaw language, and should include nature shots of Tishomingo, Oklahoma or surrounding areas. Entries may be in any of the following categories; landscape, wildlife, plant life, water or recreation. Submissions should be made to Chickasaw Country. The photographs will be judged as a part of this juried show by professional photographers. The panel of photographers will select 15 photographs to be in the show starting on Nov. 1. The winners will be announced Oct.30, 2017.

For more information about the application process and to learn more about the Chickasaw Nation Information Center, visit <http://chickasawcountry.com/family-attractions/chickasaw-nation-information-center>.

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### **About Chickasaw Country**

Nestled in south-central Oklahoma, Chickasaw Country is a regional tourism organization representing 13 of Oklahoma’s 77 counties. As the official destination tourism organization, Chickasaw Country includes 7,648 square miles, 11 percent of Oklahoma’s total 68,597 square miles. Chickasaw Country, a division of the Chickasaw Nation, is a tourism source for visitors and communities within the region and promotes destinations, attractions and festivals. Chickasaw Country is a diverse and culturally-vested destination, with new adventures and experiences around every corner.

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