

## *Mash-ta Bel Littlecook*

### *2025 Denver March Powwow Princess*

Mash-ta Bel Littlecook is a proud 18-year-old young woman with strong roots in the Ponca, Osage, Quapaw, Ottawa, Potawatomi, Ojibwe and Otoe-Missouria Nations. In March 2025, Mash-ta was honored to be asked to serve as the Denver March Powwow Princess—a role she has embraced with humility, joy, and excitement.

She is the daughter of Mollie King and Pete Littlecook Sr., and the granddaughter of Oliver and Theresa Littlecook, and Duane Bryan and Mona King. She comes from the Hi'sadah clan of the Ponca people and is an active member of the Ponca Native American Church and the ZonZoLi district of the Osage Nation.

From the moment she was brought into the arena at the Quapaw Powwow at just one year old, Mash-ta's life has been grounded in her culture. She loves to dance all styles but feels most at home in southern cloth/traditional.

Mash-ta has also grown up on the ballfields—her athleticism and dedication have earned her numerous awards in softball. She plays for both her school and a competitive travel team, and she gives back by coaching youth teams and umpiring at local rec fields. She's a strong leader on and off the field, and her commitment to her community shows in all she does. Mash-ta has committed to Haskell Indian Nations University to continue her education and softball career.

A scholar as well as an athlete, Mash-ta is a member of the National Honor Society and is active in her school's Native American Heritage Club and FFA. She leads with heart, pride, and purpose in everything she sets her mind to.

She is deeply thankful for the experiences, connections, and opportunities this title has brought her, and she carries her role with grace, always representing her people and her heritage with strength and pride.

Mash-ta has enjoyed her reign representing the Denver March Powwow throughout the United States and Canada. She is excited to see all the women dancers participate in her Northern Vs. Southern Traditional contest and is looking forward to seeing everyone at the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Denver March Powwow. Safe travels!