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Metro Caddo Cultural Club

14th Annual Caddo Festival 2025 to Feature “Calling Back the Spirits: A Healing Journey” at First Americans Museum

Event includes unveiling of bronze bust honoring Caddo Fort Marion Prisoner of War, Huh-nah-nee

Oklahoma City, OK — November 16, 2025 — The 14th Annual **Caddo Festival** will take place Sunday, **November 16, 2025**, from **11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** at **First Americans Museum** in Oklahoma City. This year’s theme, “*Calling Back the Spirits: A Healing Journey*,” honors the story of **Huh-nah-nee**, a Caddo man imprisoned at Fort Marion in 1875, through ceremony, dance, art, and community remembrance.

The day’s events include the **unveiling of a bronze bust of Huh-nah-nee**, created by sculptor **Lew Aytes**, as part of the ongoing project *Calling Back the Spirits – A Healing Journey*. The work symbolizes a collective effort to honor the humanity of the 72 Native prisoners once held at Fort Marion and to bring forward stories that continue to shape Native identity and resilience.

“Huh-nah-nee’s story reflects not just the pain of imprisonment but the endurance of our people,” said **Dr. Dolores Subia BigFoot (Caddo Nation)**, project director of *Calling Back the Spirits*. “This unveiling brings our ancestors’ spirits home through remembrance and healing.”

“For me, this project connects my Caddo and Cheyenne heritage,” added **Ah-in-nist Sipes**, a descendant of three Fort Marion prisoners. “We honor our grandfather Huh-nah-nee and all those who endured Fort Marion’s hardships by bringing their stories to life again.”

This project was funded in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council, which receives support from the State of Oklahoma and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Festival Schedule

11:00 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. | Presentation: “Huh-nah-nee, Caddo, Fort Marion POW”

XChange Theater

Featuring **Dr. Dolores Subia BigFoot, Ah-in-nist Sipes, and Lew Aytes**

Includes the **unveiling of the bronze bust of Huh-nah-nee**

1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Traditional Caddo Dances

Hall of the People

Led by **Caddo Singers**, songs include the Drum Dance, Fish Dance, Alligator Dance, Stirrup Dance, Swing Dance, Vine Dance, Bell Dance, Duck Dance, and Morning Dance.

All Day (11 a.m. – 5 p.m.) | 39 Café and Restaurant; Food Vendors

Café and Restaurant and Outside in Museum’s Festival Plaza

Event Partners & Sponsors Caddo Nation • First Americans Museum • Oklahoma Arts Council • National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) • National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) • Arrowood Kakinah Enterprise • Caddo Nation Economic Development Authority

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