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**NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HALL OF FAME
2019 INDUCTEES ANNOUNCED**

(GREAT FALLS, Mont., April 11, 2019) — The National Native American Hall of Fame has announced the 12 individuals who will be inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2019. They will be honored at an Induction Ceremony on Saturday, November 2 at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The ceremony will celebrate these 12 individuals, their accomplishments, and what they have meant to Indigenous peoples across the globe.

The 12 inductees are: Lucy Covington (d. 1982), Colville; Ada Deer, Menominee; Louise Erdrich, Turtle Mountain Chippewa; Billy Frank Jr. (d. 2014), Nisqually; Forrest Gerard (d. 2013), Blackfeet; Hattie Kauffman, Nez Perce; Oren Lyons, Onondaga; Richard Oakes (d. 1972), Mohawk; Elizabeth Peratrovich (d. 1958), Tlingit; Pascal Poolaw (d. 1967), Kiowa; Mary Golda Ross (d. 2008), Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma; and Wes Studi, Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma.

“Our board of directors and I believe that the 12 Native Americans who will be enshrined in the National Native American Hall of Fame are stellar examples of the individuals and level of accomplishment that our organization will be honoring this year, and in the future,” said James Parker Shield, Little Shell Chippewa, chief executive officer and founder of the National Native American Hall of Fame.

“Our organization’s mission is to recognize and honor the inspirational achievements of Native Americans in contemporary history,” said Shield. “We join with all of our relatives across Indian country—and all Americans throughout the United States—in welcoming these exemplary individuals, some who have passed on to the spirit world, to the National Native American Hall of Fame.”

To nominate other Native Americans in the future, the National Native American Hall of Fame is working on a nomination form that will be on the website (www.nativehalloffame.org). Until the form is online, send emails to: info@nativehalloffame.org with the name, short biography, and a digital photo of the individual being nominated as well as your contact information.

For more information about the 2019 Induction Ceremony and to become a sponsor, contact Chief Development Officer T.J. Hansell, Turtle Mountain Chippewa at tj@nativehalloffame.org or (602) 885-4454.



About the National Native American Hall of Fame

The National Native American Hall of Fame is an Indigenous 501(c)(3) non-profit organization serving Native Americans and Alaska Natives. Its mission is “to recognize and honor the inspirational achievements of Native Americans in contemporary history.” The all-Native Board of Directors includes members from several nations, including: Blackfeet/Wichita, Comanche, Ojibwe, Northern Cheyenne and Sac and Fox. Future plans for the Hall of Fame include a traveling exhibit and an educational curriculum for youth focusing on the vast array of accomplishments by Native Americans in modern times. For more information and updates, visit <https://www.nativehalloffame.org/> and @nativehof on Facebook.

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