

Cherokee Beloved



Application packet

Coordinated by the Cherokee Beloved Women Committee

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the BWC via committee chair: Kimberly Smith (828) 788-7183 or Lu Jackson (828) 736-1511 Thank you.

2019-2020 BWC:

Principal Chief Appointed: Kimberly Smith, Tribal Council Appointed: Lisa Taylor, NAIWA Representative: Peggy Hill-Kerbow, Community Representatives: Lu Jackson & Matt Tooni

What it means to be "Beloved"

It has been a tradition among the Cherokee people to give special recognition to Cherokee women and on occasion men who have made special and unique contributions to the Cherokee people. Such outstanding persons have been recognized as a "Beloved Woman" or "Beloved Man" of the Cherokee people. In Henry Timberlake's memoirs in 1765 he stated, "Old warriors likewise, or war-women, who can no longer go to war, but have distinguished themselves in their younger days, have the title of Beloved". These women and occasional men were deemed ambassadors internally and externally and served as advisors to Tribal Council.

Cherokee Beloved represent the Cherokee Core Values and demonstrate many of the characteristics below.

Cherokee Core Values

- **Spirituality-** Which creates a bond among Cherokee people in good times and bad, and is a source of hope.
- **Group harmony-** In community and kin relationships, freely sharing and giving time, talent and treasures.
- **Strong individual character-** Has integrity, honesty, perseverance, courage, respect, trust, honor and humility.
- **Stewardship-** Strong connection with the land and commitment to stewardship of the homelands of the Cherokee.
- **Tribal Identity-** Honoring the past by knowing one's ancestors, identifying with and belonging to the tribe, and living and preserving Cherokee culture.
- **Education-** Teaching the children by providing values-oriented education and recreation, and by being strong role models for them.
- **Sense of humor-** Lightens pressure in serious situations and helps people make good decisions.

Characteristics of Beloved Woman and Men

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| • Culturally centric/traditional | • High achievement |
| • Leadership | • Good sense of judgement |
| • Trustworthy | • Motivated/Self-driven |
| • Ethical/ Has integrity | • Motivational-inspires others |
| • Advisor/Mentor | • Giving |
| • Community perception- recognized by the community in a positive light | • Gadugi |
| | • Advocacy driven |

Accounts of Beloved Women and Men

Henry Timberlake refers to the elevated status of Beloved Women in his accounts. "They can, by the wave of a swan's wing deliver a wretch condemned by the council and already tied to the stake."

James Mooney's accounts discuss the role of Beloved Women in regards to punishment for the captured, "Two women of the tribe who had the power to decide what should be done with him. Each of these women had two snakes tattooed on her lips...in such a way that when she opened her mouth the two snakes opened their mouths also. They decided to burn the soles of his feet...then chase him with clubs until they had beaten him to death."

Addressing the Beloved Man resolution for Jerry Wolfe, Bo Taylor, former Big Cove Tribal Council Representative is quoted, "I think our old ways are so important...I know it's never been done before[for a man] in the modern era, but I hope that we would take the time to remember who we are and this is what we do. I can't think of anyone that deserves this honor more than Jerry Wolfe."

Addressing the Beloved Woman resolution for Ella Bird, Brandon Jones, former Snowbird Tribal Council Representative is quoted, "I'm very happy for Ella Bird and her recognition. She has lived a lifestyle that represents all the aspects of what it means to be a Beloved Woman. She is an example that young women can look up to."

Cherokee Beloved Women

- | | |
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| 1. 1770-1780: Katteuha , Community Leader/Wrote to Benjamin Franklin | 7. 2012: Myrtle Driver Johnson , Fluent Speaker/Language translator |
| 2. 1760-1770: Nanyehi/Nancy Ward , Warrior/Community Leader | 8. 2013: Ella Wachacha Bird , Community leader/Fluent speaker |
| 3. 1830's: Anitiwatsi | 9. 2017: Shirley Oswalt , Teacher/Fluent speaker |
| 4. 1984: Lula Owl Gloyne , Veteran/1st Native American RN/National EBCI Advocate | 10. 2018: Amanda Swimmer , Renowned Potter/Fluent speaker |
| 5. 1985: Maggie Wachacha , Tribal Council Clerk, Fluent Speaker | 11. 2018 posthumously: Kina Swayney , Veteran/Community leader/National EBCI Advocate |
| 6. 2001 posthumously: Louise Bigmeat Maney , Renowned Potter/cultural advocate | |

Cherokee Beloved Men

- | | |
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| 1. 1775: Oconostota , Warrior/Principal Chief | 3. 2013: Jerry Wolfe , Veteran/Community leader/Fluent speaker |
| 2. 1801 Date of Death, recognition date unknown: Little Turkey , Warrior/Community Leader | 4. 2018: Robert Youngdeer , Veteran/Former Principal Chief |

ELIGIBILITY AND QUALIFICATION

To ensure consistency within the selection of Cherokee Beloved Women/Men, the BWC developed criteria for Cherokee Beloved nominations. Below is a list of requirements for each Cherokee Beloved.

- Must be an enrolled member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.
- Must be at least 59 ½ years of age.
- Beloved Women/Men should not have a criminal record with charges within the past 10 years.
- Must demonstrate a lifestyle reflective of the Cherokee Core values and a major portion of the Beloved characteristics
- Must be willing to travel and make personal appearances upon request, which might require making adjustments to work/personal schedules, within reason.
- Must be willing to fulfill the duties of a Cherokee Beloved.

DISQUALIFICATION

Family members of the nominee are not allowed to speak to the BWC about nominations before, during, or immediately following the nomination and selection processes.

Failure to abide by this rule shall result in the nominee's disqualification from the Beloved title. The BWC will handle all disputes and make the final decision.

BELOVED RESPONSIBILITIES

As a representative of the EBCI, Cherokee Beloved must maintain community engagement throughout the year. Below is a list of primary responsibilities for each Cherokee Beloved.

- Must attend at least 4 events annually representing the Cherokee Beloved title
- Must be present at Annual Council, Tri-Council.
- Must be present at Cherokee Beloved Day
- Must be present at Cherokee Indian Fair.
- Must attend and complete Tribal Official Training
- Must define and implement their initiative¹ as a Cherokee Beloved

¹ Initiative can be a platform to continue current cultural/community work

CODE OF CONDUCT

Upon the ratification of the tribal resolution for the title of Beloved, the Code of Conduct will be reviewed and an agreement signed acknowledging that each Beloved Woman/Man will abide by these guidelines. The recognized Beloved Woman/Man must complete the Tribal Official training within one month of resolution ratification.

A signed and notarized agreement must be on file at TOP within 1 month of the recognized resolution ratification.

The title of Beloved is a tribal appointment. Beloved Women/Men will conduct themselves as ambassadors for the EBCI; as such, Beloved Women/Men shall conduct themselves in a manner befitting the honor of this position. Beloved Women/Men must show integrity and professionalism in the community with respect toward tribal leaders and the community. Beloved Women/Men should be friendly and collaborative, working to promote a better future for the Cherokee people.

A Beloved Woman/Man is an official representative of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Therefore, she/he must hold the highest social-ethical standards. A Beloved Woman/Man is expected to show leadership by visibly demonstrating self-integrity, honesty, and emphasizing the importance of ethical conduct. Below is a list of minimum standards to be upheld by recognized Beloved Women/Men:

- ☞ Beloved Women/Men shall not make public statements that could reasonably be understood to reflect the sentiments or intention of the Cherokee Beloved as a whole without obtaining prior approval through the BWC.
- ☞ Beloved Women/Men shall maintain or enhance the honesty and integrity of their title and safeguard the reputation of the Cherokee Beloved as a whole.
- ☞ Beloved Women/Men shall protect and enhance the environmental and cultural resources, whether natural or man-made, of the EBCI to ensure the security and prosperity of future generations
- ☞ Beloved Women/Men shall treat service to the EBCI as a sacred public trust with fiduciary responsibility to the EBCI, which requires upholding and acting in accordance with the laws of the EBCI and engaging in the proper governance of the EBCI in a manner, which is placed above personal and private gain.
- ☞ Beloved Women/Men shall respect and honor the customs and traditions of the EBCI.
- ☞ Beloved Women/Men shall abide by the laws of any sovereign jurisdiction in which they are present.

Beloved Women/Men must report personal conflicts of interest or other problematic issues to the BWC before others identify them. Beloved Women/Men who fail to follow the Code of Conduct, shall be subjected to reg the Title of Cherokee Beloved.

NOMINATION PROCESS

PLEASE DISCUSS THE NOMINATION WITH THE NOMINEE PRIOR TO SUBMISSION.

The nomination process requires doing the following:

Phase 1:

NOMINATOR:

1. Complete a nomination packet including:
 - A. Nomination letter,
 - B. (2) Letters of recommendation,
 - C. Nominee's Curriculum Vitae(resume) demonstrating nominee's qualifications,
 - D. Any published articles of support,
 - E. Any additional documentation of support.
2. Provide a valid copy of Nominee's EBCI Identification Card
3. Provide a 3 x 5 color photograph of nominee (no bare shoulders)

Nomination Letter: A brief explanation of your personal reasons for nominating a community member for the title of Cherokee Beloved and how the nominee has contributed to the EBCI.

Letters of Recommendation: A brief explanation from other individuals/entities supporting the nomination of this community member for the title of Cherokee Beloved and how the nominee has contributed to the EBCI.

Phase 2:

NOMINEE:

1. Within (7) days of receipt of nomination, the BWC shall confirm agreement for nomination with the nominee.
2. Agree to and schedule a video-recorded nominee interview with the BWC.
3. Participate in the scheduled interview within (2) weeks of nomination confirmation.
4. Provide additional information/documentation to support nomination (if applicable).
5. Agree to Code of Conduct
6. Agree to Rules & Responsibilities of Beloved Title

SELECTION PROCESS

THE BWC WILL ACCEPT NOMINATIONS FOR THE TITLE OF CHEROKEE BELOVED WOMEN/MAN FROM TBD TO TBD.

The title of Cherokee Beloved should not be considered a competitive matter and nominees must be considered individually and on their personal attributes and achievements and not in comparison to others. While it is inevitable that comparisons will be made with past recipients, direct comparisons will not be made. Criteria are provided as guidance, but it is the overall contribution of the nominee that must be evaluated.

Selection Criteria:

Nominees must possess the ability to communicate and interact in varied situations, activities, and social environments. Nominees must demonstrate a lifestyle reflective of the Cherokee Core values and a significant portion of the Beloved characteristics. Nominees must be knowledgeable regarding Cherokee traditions, culture, and language.

The criteria selection shall be:

1. Personal Interview - 30 points
2. Community Engagement/Impact- 30 points
3. Knowledge of Cherokee Culture- 20 points
4. Knowledge of Cherokee Language - 20 points

Interview:

Nominees must complete a sit-down videotaped interview with the BWC. She/He must answer questions about her/his life, cultural and economic topics, community engagement, and their potential Beloved Initiative, etc.

Selection:

Concluding all interviews, the BWC will review and assess submissions and interviews. Within 2 weeks of the last interview the BWC will contact each nominee to discuss nomination status. The BWC will then submit a resolution with selected nominees to TOP for the following tribal council session.

Award:

Selected Nominees shall receive the following gifts of acknowledgement:

1. Beloved Pendleton Blanket (during Tribal Council Ceremony)
2. Traditional Attire (worn at events in attendance as Beloved Woman/Man)
3. An engraved gorget

RETRACTION OF TITLE

If the title must be retracted, the former Beloved is required to return ALL gifts of acknowledgement. Items shall be returned in good condition as provided to Beloved Women/Men. Should she/he fail to do so, she/he shall be fined for each of the items individually, beginning at \$100.

FINAL NOTICE

All nomination packets and required supplemental documentation are due by **4:00 pm, TBD**. Nomination packets can be picked up and returned to the EBCI Office of the Principal Chief, at 107 Council House Loop, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Applications can also be submitted by scanning and sending to ksmit102@gmail.com.

We will notify you via email or text when we receive your nomination packet.

All nominees shall abide by the aforementioned rules. If any rule is violated, it shall result in the disqualification of the nominee from the title of Cherokee Beloved.

Cherokee Beloved Nomination 2020

Application due by 4:00 pm, TBD

*** Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted***

Nominator Personal Information:

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Cherokee Beloved Nominee Information:

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Age: _____

Birthday: _____

Enrollment #: _____

Community: _____

Clan: (optional) _____

Mother: _____

Father: _____

(USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)

Key Achievements: _____

Clubs/Organizations: _____

Goal as Beloved if selected:

Community members/organizations/entities who may support nomination:

Affirmation:

I have read and understand the Cherokee Beloved Nomination packet/rules. I hereby certify that all the documentation provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that failure to follow these rules shall result in the Cherokee Beloved Nomination not receiving consideration.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

DO NOT WRITE BELOW LINE

Date Received: _____

of Pages Received: _____

NAME OF RECEIVING STAFF MEMBER: _____

RECEIPT OF CHEROKEE BELOVED NOMINATION PACKET

DATE: _____ TIME: _____ # of Pages Included: _____

NAME OF RECEIVING STAFF MEMBER:
MEMBER:

SIGNATURE OF RECEIVING STAFF
MEMBER:

The Beloved Women Committee says SGI for your submission.

Cherokee Beloved



Nomination Packet

Coordinated by the Cherokee Beloved Women Committee

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the BWC via committee chair: Kimberly Smith (828) 788-7183 or Lula Jackson (828) 736-1511. Thank you.

All documentation submitted to or developed by the committee will be property of the BWC and for use at its discretion.

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1. Beloved Pendleton Blanket (during Tribal Council Ceremony)
2. Traditional Attire (worn at events in attendance as Beloved Woman/Man)
3. An engraved gorget

²Nominees must meet the minimum score of 80 points for selection.

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Cherokee Beloved Nomination 2020

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*** Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted***

Nominator Personal Information:

Name:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Cherokee Beloved Nominee Information:

Name:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Mailing Address:

Age:

Birthday:

Enrollment #:

Community:

Clan: (optional)

Mother:

Father:

(USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)

Key Achievements:

Clubs/Organizations:

Goal as Beloved if selected:

Community members/organizations/entities who may support nomination:

Affirmation:

I have read and understand the Cherokee Beloved Nomination packet/rules. I hereby certify that all the documentation provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that failure to follow these rules shall result in the Cherokee Beloved Nomination not receiving consideration.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

DO NOT WRITE BELOW LINE

Date Received: _____

of Pages Received: _____

NAME OF RECEIVING STAFF MEMBER: _____

RECEIPT OF CHEROKEE BELOVED NOMINATION PACKET

DATE: _____ TIME: _____ # of Pages Included: _____

NAME OF RECEIVING STAFF MEMBER:
MEMBER:

SIGNATURE OF RECEIVING STAFF
MEMBER:

The Beloved Women Committee says SGI for your submission.