

Request to the Directors

APPOINTMENTS TO THE USET CULTURE AND HERITAGE COMMITTEE REQUESTED

Dear Tribal Leaders and Representatives,

We hope this message finds you well. The United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) have a rich history of collaboration among our member tribes, working together to protect our sovereignty and uphold our responsibilities in Indian Country. One of the oldest subcommittees within USET is the Culture and Heritage Committee, which has played a vital role in advancing our shared mission.

As we continue to uphold the values and traditions of our tribal nations, we recognize the importance of ensuring that our Culture and Heritage Committee remains strong and representative of our diverse communities. To this end, we are requesting that each participating tribe update their appointments with the USET Culture and Heritage Committee.

The pandemic of 2020 severely impacted our committee. Unfortunately, this has caused a severe drop in attendance and participation among our committee members. The Culture and Heritage Committee is in the process of reorganizing its board and seeks to include representatives from each member tribe on this crucial committee. By having input and leadership from every member nation, we can better advocate for our shared interests and ensure that our cultural heritage is preserved and celebrated.

We kindly request that you review your current appointments to the USET Culture and Heritage Committee and, if necessary, make any updates or nominations for representatives who can serve in these roles. Your participation and engagement in this process are essential to the success of the committee and, by extension, our collective mission.

By Friday, January 12, 2024, we humbly request that the Culture and Heritage Committee receive updated appointments or nominations. We would like new appointees to join our committee for USET/USET SPF Impact Week next year. You can send your submissions to our committee chair, Michael Johnson, at mejohanson@mptn-nsn.gov, or Vice-chair Ryan Lopez, at rlopez@tunica.org

Thank you for your commitment to preserving our culture and heritage and for your dedication to the USET organization. Together, we can continue to protect the sovereignty rights of all tribal nations and ensure that the United States upholds its responsibilities in Indian countries.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

In Unity,

Michael Johnson

Chairman,

USET Cultural and Heritage Committee