

**DEDICATION CEREMONY FOR
THE MONUMENT ACKNOWLEDGING
THE WICHITA AND
AFFILIATED TRIBES AND
ALL NATIVE AMERICAN PEOPLES**

*Texas Christian University
Monday, October 15, 2018*

WELCOME

Sarah Tonemah (Comanche/Kiowa; Theatre Department)

OPENING PRAYER

Wichita Cultural Planner/Former President Gary McAdams

OPENING REMARKS

*Chebon Kernell (Seminole; Executive Secretary, Native American and
Indigenous Ministries, United Methodist Church)*

WICHITA DRUM

REMARKS BY TCU ADMINISTRATORS

*Chancellor Victor J. Boschini, Jr. (written remarks)
Provost R. Nowell Donovan*

REMARKS BY WICHITA TRIBAL OFFICIALS

*President Terri Parton (written remarks)
Cultural Planner/Former President Gary McAdams*

NATIVE AMERICAN FLUTE

*Canaan Johnson (Seminole/Creek/Chickasaw;
Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Texas)*

WICHITA DRUM

ALUMNI REMARKS

*Tabitha Tan (Diné [Navajo]; class of 1999)
Albert Nungaray (Puebloan; class of 2017)*

GIVING OF GIFTS

CLOSING PRAYER/BLESSING

Rev. Angela Kaufman (University Minister)

WICHITA DRUM



The Wichita people have lived for centuries in the region spanning from what is now Kansas to central Texas. With agriculture, hunting, and social life centered in their distinctive grass house villages, they resided especially along the Red, Brazos, Trinity, and Sabine rivers. Their encounters with Euro-Americans included an 1841 attack by a group of Texas militia led by General Edward H. Tarrant on several villages located on Village Creek, a tributary of the Trinity River in present-day Tarrant County. By 1859 they had been forcibly removed from Texas to lands located on the Washita River in what is now Oklahoma, where they demonstrated resilience in enduring and surviving extreme adversity. In 1961 they organized as the Wichita Tribe of Oklahoma, with their headquarters currently located in Anadarko, Oklahoma. Later, the name was amended to the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes. As of 2018, there were over 3,000 enrolled tribal members. These descendants of the Wichita, Waco, Tawakoni, Taovaya and Kichai peoples survive as a group perhaps because of their shared memories of the past as well as common experiences of the present and their faith in the future.

The phrase that encircles the plaque in both Wichita and English reflects that all living beings inhabiting this land—humans, animals, birds, insects, fish, plants, rocks, rivers, and all else—are connected and related. We seek to live respectfully on this land with each other.

The monument's rustic mahogany granite, a stone indigenous to this area, and the bronze plaque's circular shape, reflect our connections to this land and how we live in relationship with all beings.

The monument faces east, reflecting life and the rebirth of positive, healthy relationships with all our relations.

The monument expresses Texas Christian University's desire to have respectful and mutually beneficial relationships with all Native American peoples and communities. We look forward to taking the next steps in building a healthy and positive future.

