

As enacted by LB 848 signed into law August 15, 2020, the State of Nebraska celebrates the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day and recognizes the historic, cultural, and contemporary significance of the people indigenous to the lands that are now known as the Americas, including Nebraska, and the many contributions of such people. Also mandated in the legislative bill is the representation of flags from the four Nebraska headquartered tribes (Omaha, Ponca, Santee Sioux, and Winnebago) within the Warner Legislative Chamber of the Nebraska State Capitol. Displayed in the Memorial Chamber will be the flags of any Indian tribes with historic and regional connections to Nebraska as designated by the Commission on Indian Affairs.

Tribal Flag Dedication Ceremony

9:00 a.m., October 11, 2021

Warner Chamber, Nebraska State Capitol
1445 K Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

TRIBAL COLOR GUARD

Omaha Tribe of Nebraska | Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

WELCOME REMARKS

Senator Tom Brewer
Senator Paty Pansing Brooks

DEDICATION OF FLAGS

Flag Song

Big Red Sheridan Family Drum – Omaha Tribe of Nebraska
Winnebago Drum Group – Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

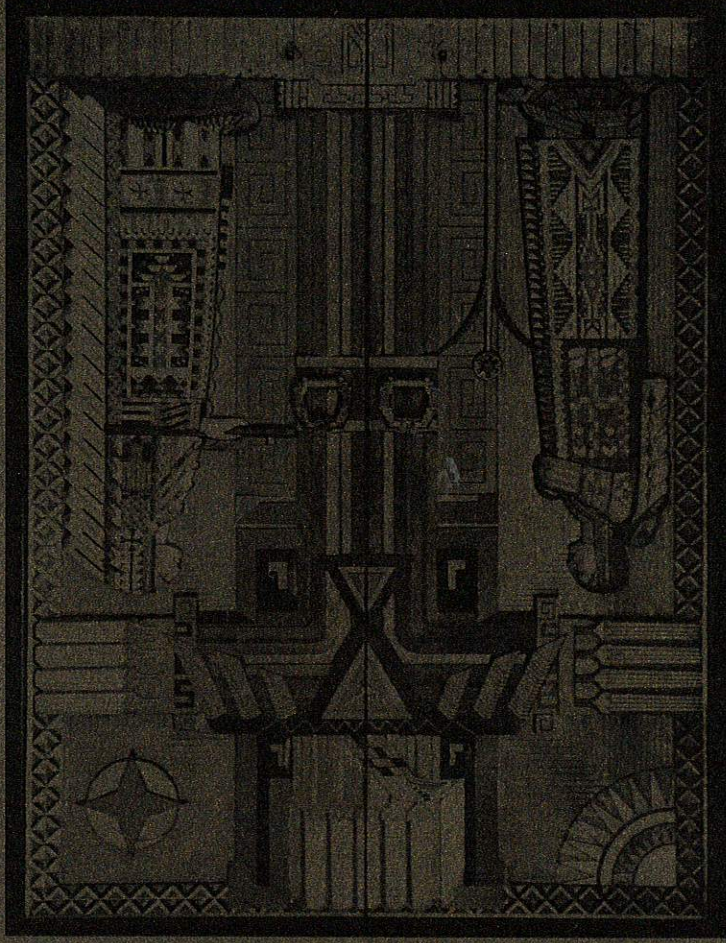
TRIBAL LEADERS COMMENTS

Everett Baxter, Jr. – Omaha Tribe of Nebraska
Larry Wright, Jr. – Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
Roger Trudell – Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska
Victoria Kitcheyan – Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

CLOSE

All attendees are invited to a powwow exhibition hosted by the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska in the Capitol Rotunda followed by a public reception hosted by Senators Brewer and Pansing Brooks in the 1st floor Capitol Cafeteria.

Cover art by Winnebago artist Henry Payer



Dr. Susan La Flesche Picotte Sculpture Dedication

11:00 a.m., October 11, 2021
Heritage Plaza, L-M Streets, Centennial Mall
Lincoln, Nebraska

WELCOME

Judi gaiashkibos – *Executive Director,
Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs*

CEDAR CEREMONY

Dr. Rudi Mitchell – *Omaha Tribe of Nebraska*

SPEAKERS

Senator Tom Brewer

Senator Paty Pansing Brooks

Leitron Gaylor Baird – *Mayor of Lincoln*

Everett Baxter, Jr. – *Omaha Tribal Chairman*

Susan Picotte – *Dr. Susan La Flesche Picotte Descendant*

SCULPTURE UNVEILING

Descendants of Dr. Susan La Flesche Picotte

HONOR SONG

Pierre Merrick and Calvin Harlan

SPEAKERS

Ronnie Green – *Chancellor University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

Congressman Jeff Fortenberry

Larry Small – *Donor*

Benjamin Victor – *Artist*

TRIBAL POWOW EXHIBITION
Big Red Sheridan Family Drum | White Eagle Club

*Members of the public are invited to attend a reception
at the Scottish Rite ballroom immediately following the Powwow Exhibition.*

Dr. Susan La Flesche Picotte



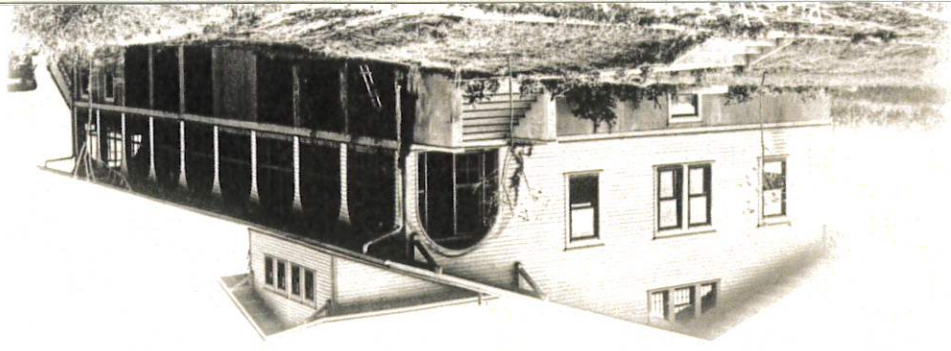
Graduating at the top
of her class from the
Woman's Medical College of
Pennsylvania in 1889, Susan La
Flesche Picotte became the first
Native American doctor and is
one of the most extraordinary
figures in American history.
Yet few know her story.

Daughter of Omaha Chief Iron
Eye (Joseph La Flesche), Susan

always dreamed of becoming a
doctor. It began when she watched an old woman die because
the white reservation doctor never showed up to treat her. As
Susan later wrote, "It was only an Indian and it did not matter."
And so, with the support of her father and many others, Susan La
Flesche went farther than anyone could imagine. Before she died
at age 50, Dr. Picotte had broken numerous barriers.

She studied medicine at a time when few women dared, traveled
on horse-back to care for hundreds of patients, both Indian and
white, became a wife and mother while practicing her full time
career and without government help built a hospital on the
Omaha reservation.

For more information, visit www.dr.susancenter.org



Benjamin Victor – Artist Statement

One cannot overstate the intelligence, work ethic,

fortitude, selflessness, and compassion of Dr. Susan La Flesche Picotte. The journey of creating a sculpture that encompasses her legacy has been both humbling and life-changing.

Dr. Susan La Flesche Picotte is certainly larger than life. She was a leader, a doctor, a counselor, an educator, and a spiritual guide. The sculpture could have been 100 feet tall and still fell short of reaching the heights that this great woman reached in her lifetime.

The sculpture's design is centered around motion. Dr. Susan strides forward as the wind sweeps through her dress, coat, and shawl. The dynamic lines of her windswept drapery lead the viewer's eyes upward along the arc of her dress to her left hand, which holds her doctor's bag—an icon and emblem for her life's work. The doctor's bag refers to her most notable accomplishment as the first Native American doctor. Inside her doctor's bag are the tools of her trade; the tools she used to heal ailments, deliver babies, and help her people and others in the incredibly large area that she single-handedly served.

As the viewer's eyes move up from the doctor's bag, they reach her strong hand, which is clasped tightly to the shawl around her shoulders. Her hand, like her work boots, reflect a woman who wasn't afraid of hard work. Dr. Susan worked hard for her cause and for everything that she gained in her education and career. Her work ethic is one of the things that spoke to me the



most when reading her biography. She was absolutely tireless in pursuit of her education, and later her application of her medical expertise to help those in need.

Up from her clasped hand, the viewer's eyes are led to the portrait of Dr. Susan. She is gazing steadfastly into the distance. Perhaps she is contemplating the many hardships ahead, as she faces obstacles to her people's prosperity. If we look closely, we can see a subtle smile. Her face is undeniably vibrant and positive. It reflects the spirit of a young woman undaunted by the mountainous tasks ahead. She is an unrelenting force for positive change and her people's betterment.

As we look along the piece and our eyes move down and around from her gaze, we notice that the great Doctor's Victorian attire is interrupted by perhaps the most visually beautiful element of all. Her shawl is decorated with the traditional patterns of Omaha applique. The beauty of the applique and fringes blowing in the wind create a visual aesthetic perfectly fit for the 3-dimensional media of bronze sculpture. The shawl sweeps around the sculpture, wrapping the figure of Dr. Susan in her cultural heritage, both literally and metaphorically speaking.

It also creates a visually interesting design from every viewing angle, including both

of the sides and back.



Indigenous Peoples' Day Event Sponsors

City of Lincoln Parks and Recreation

State Senator Tom Brewer

DHHS-Office of Health Disparities and Health Equity

Dr. Susan La Flesche Picotte Center

E.N. Thompson Forum on World Issues

Ho-Chunk Inc.

Virginia and Kile Johnson

Joslyn Art Museum

Legal Aid of Nebraska

Lincoln Commercial Club –

Don Campbell and Dana Walsh

Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation

Office of the Chancellor –

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Omaha Tribe of Nebraska

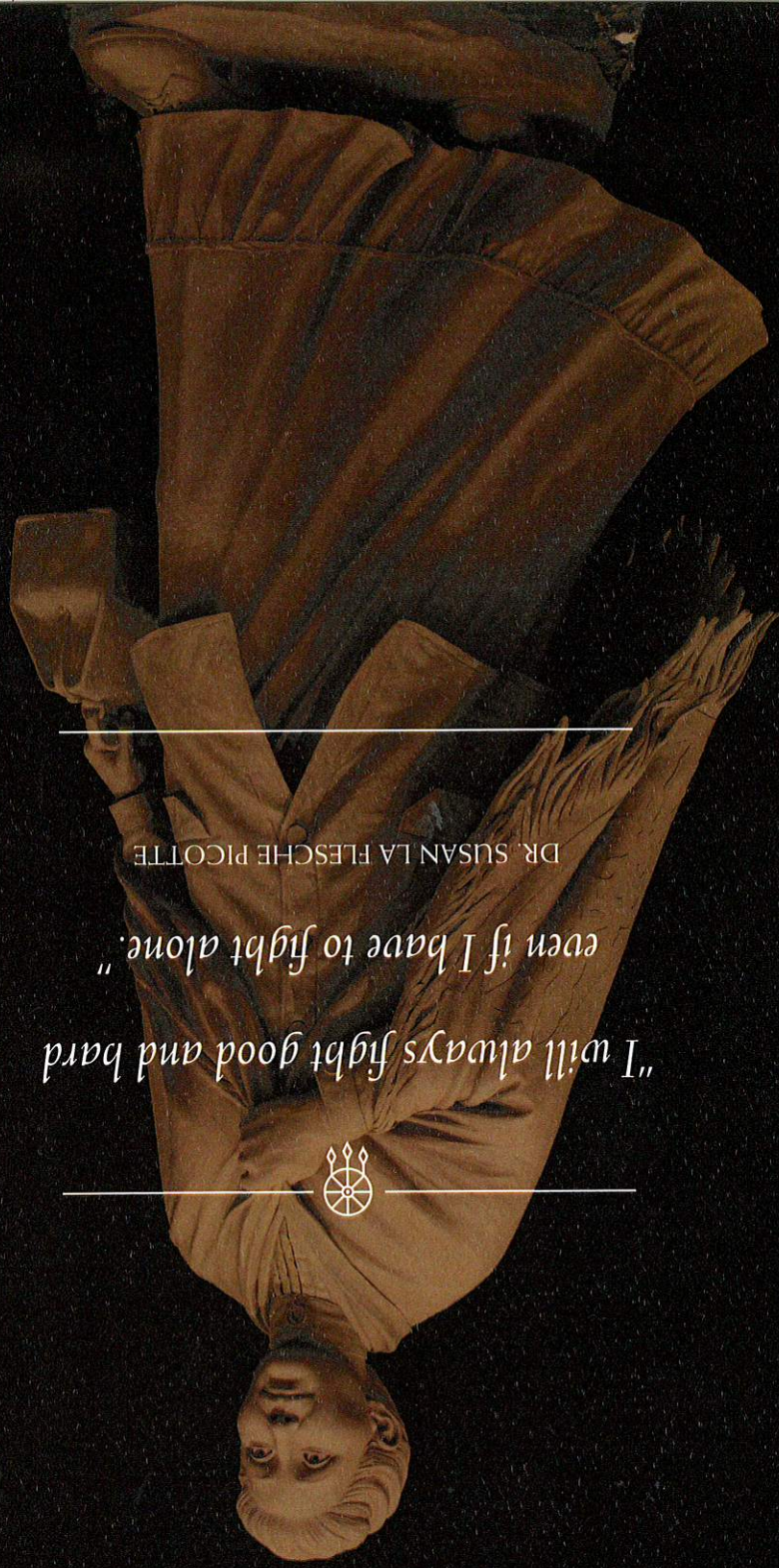
State Senator Patty Pansing Brooks

University of Nebraska State Museum

Winnnebago Tribe of Nebraska

*"I will always fight good and hard
even if I have to fight alone."*

DR. SUSAN LA FLESCHE PICOTTE





Recognizing Nebraska's Tribal Leaders

Omaha Tribe of Nebraska – Everett Baxter, Jr.

Ponca Tribe of Nebraska – Larry Wright, Jr.

Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska – Roger Trudell

Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska – Victoria Kitcheyan