

Own Your Legacy

Own Your Legacy, A Michelle Kirkendall Peterson Memorial Scholarship Foundation, opens presentations to Native American Tribes in Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska. The Legacy Scholarships are awarded exclusive to an Indian Tribe. Applicants are required to be enrolled as a member of the selected tribe and upon application, enrolled in a college, university or vocational program.

My initial thought was present this opportunity exclusively to the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska," said Larry Peterson, Executive Director of Own Your Legacy. My wife Michelle and her mother, Barbara Campbell Crabtree have had an incredible impact on the family and left a remarkable family legacy. Michelle Kirkendall Peterson died in September of 1998 of Chronic Myeloid leukemia her mother Barbara died in September 2013 from complications of breast cancer.

Another reason The Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska and neighboring Indian Reservations are candidates for this scholarship involves some remarkable statistics about graduation rates and employment levels.

Recent data The Department of Health and Human Services National Assessment of Adult Literacy reveals that Nebraska has the highest level employment and Kansas has one of the lowest incidence of dropouts.¹ If we set a mission to build Native American leaders, it makes sense to present our opportunity to tribes to excellent statistics in dropout rates and employment opportunities.

All applications and judging will be processed by a third party administrator. Applications will be "blinded" so that any identifying information will not be available in the evaluation process.