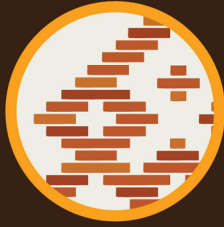


RTCAR Hires Adam Griffith as New Program Director



CHEROKEE
PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

The Revitalization of Traditional Cherokee Artisan Resources (RTCAR) is pleased to introduce Adam D. Griffith as their new program director. Adam has served with RTCAR for the past year as the program assistant and brings valuable hands-on experience to his new role.

"I'm thrilled to be a part of a successful program," says Adam. "RTCAR has been a leader in the community in protecting resources for tribal artisans of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. I'm excited to begin work and start a new chapter in the program."

RTCAR is a grant-making program that assists the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) in their efforts to restore the traditional Cherokee balance between maintaining and using the area's natural resources.

Materials such as river cane, white oak, and clay are integral materials for producing Cherokee traditional art. These natural resources are used to create traditional baskets, pottery, and natural dyes.

RTCAR's main goal is to teach, protect, and promote Cherokee traditional art while caring for the resources and land for present and future generations. RTCAR receives funds from the Cherokee Preservation Foundation and operates through the North Carolina Cooperative Extension program.

With a background at RTCAR and a Ph.D. in Geography from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Adam brings a wealth of experience that benefits him in this new role. Some of his past achievements at RTCAR include the creation of a grant database spanning 15 years. The database allows the organization to recognize trends and patterns in grant distribution and identify areas of success and growth opportunities.

In addition, Adam oversaw the transplanting of river cane from Warren Wilson College to the EBCI greenhouse. The river cane was redistributed among six local non-profits and municipalities and will be replanted in tribal communities as part of stream restoration projects.



Adam plans to grow the success of RTCAR within the community in his new role. "I'd like to continue the success of RTCAR while expanding and reaching new partners in Cherokee and Western North Carolina," says Adam. "I think there is room for growth in RTCAR. There are many local organizations that have similar environmental goals as ours. We aim to work more closely with these types of organizations in the future so we can all be successful in our efforts."

Read other Foundation stories here on our website.

<http://cherokeepreservation.org/>

About Cherokee Preservation Foundation

Cherokee Preservation Foundation (CPF) is an independent nonprofit foundation established in 2000 as part of the Tribal-State Compact amendment between the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) and the State of North Carolina. The Foundation is not associated with any for-profit gaming entity and is a separately functioning organization independent of the Tribal government. It works to improve the quality of life of the EBCI and strengthen the western North Carolina region by balancing Cherokee ways with the pursuit of new opportunities. The Foundation focuses on cultural preservation, economic development, job creation, and environmental preservation. The CPF acts as a catalyst for Cherokee cultural preservation on the Qualla Boundary and the surrounding Haywood, Jackson, Clay, Macon, Graham, Swain, and Cherokee Counties. Learn more at cherokeepreservation.org.

CHEROKEE PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

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