



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Wings of America Announces 2019 National Team Members

Fastest 14-19 year olds chosen from across Indian Country.

For the 31st consecutive year, Wings of America will sponsor a team of the fastest Native American runners to compete at the USA Cross Country Championships. Eight young men and eight young women will represent the organization on February 2, 2019 in the “junior” age division race at Apalachee Regional Park in Tallahassee, FL. With the help of Wings and their high school coaches, these student-athletes will train through the winter to stay in shape for running competition. Team members will also attend a multi-day training camp in Albuquerque, NM between Christmas and New Years to supplement their knowledge of elite conditioning techniques and foster unity before traveling for competition. Kyle Fast Wolf (Oglala Lakota), a former Wings National Team Member and coach for La Cueva High School in Albuquerque, NM, has been selected as an honorary coach for the team.

Runners were selected for the team based on their performance at post-season championship races, including Nike Cross Regionals and Footlocker Regionals. After an open registration period in which runners identified themselves as eligible for selection, those with the 7 fastest times plus 1 alternate were invited to be a part of the team. A total of 49 student-athletes representing 14 Native American Tribes registered to be considered for selection.

Apart from sponsoring the National Team, Wings provided dozens of deserving student-athletes with travel and race registration assistance to attend their regional qualifying race. Lead by the organization’s Program Coordinator, Alicia Littlebear, and Executive Director, Dustin Martin, a caravan of nearly 20 Wings athletes attended the Nike Cross Southwest Regional in Casa Grande, AZ on November 17, 2018. Seven of these runners posted qualifying times fast enough to make the National Team.

A list of those selected for the 2019 Wings National Team is below:

Women's Team Members:

Name	School	Grade	Tribe(s)	Seed Time (5K)
Jasmine Turtle-Morales	Eldorado HS, Albuquerque, NM	11 th	Mescalero Apache/Cochiti/Hopi	17:46
Alisia Honyumptewa	Chinle HS, Chinle, AZ	12 th	Diné/Hopi	17:52
Precious Robinson	Pinon HS, Pinon, AZ	12 th	Diné	17:57
Aliandrea Upshaw	St. Michaels Indian School, St. Michaels, AZ	11 th	Diné	18:09
Reilly Deirdre McClanahan	Eldorado, HS, Albuquerque, NM	12 th	Diné	18:22
Chamique DuBoise	University of New Mexico	College Freshman	Diné	18:42
Rosalie Fish	Muckleshoot Tribal School, Auburn, WA	12 th	Cowlitz	18:53
Tiajhae Nez (Alternate)	Kirtland Central HS, Kirtland, NM	12	Diné	19:10

Men's Team Members:

Name	School	Grade	Tribe(s)	Seed Time (5K)
Lee Nasewytewa	Desert Vista HS, Ahwatukee, AZ	12 th	Gila River Pima	15:30
Bowen Martin	Page HS, Page, AZ	12 th	Diné	15:48
Michael Lee Marshall	Navajo Pine HS, Navajo, NM	11 th	Diné	15:48
Ty McCray	Miyamura HS, Navajo, NM	12 th	Diné	15:52
DeShawn Goodwin	Zuni HS, Zuni, NM	12 th	Zuni	15:52
Galvin Curley	Navajo Pine HS, Navajo, NM	11 th	Diné	15:56

Triston Charles	Piedra Vista HS, Farmington, NM	11 th	Diné	15:59
Jonathan Fragua (Alternate)	V. Sue Cleveland HS	10 th	Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs/Jemez	16:04

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For more information about Wings of America and the National Team, please contact the organization's Executive Director, Dustin Martin, by phone at (505) 977-5057 or email at dustin@wingsofamerica.org