

## Miss NCAI 2001 - 2002

Greetings! My name is Ponka-We Victors and I am the reigning Miss National Congress of American Indians 2001-2002. I am the 20-year-old daughter of Juan and Sandra Victors of Wichita, KS. My grandparents are the late Paul and Ruby Kemble Davila of Wichita, KS. I am the great granddaughter of the late Norman Kemble and Nancy Big Snake Maker of Ponca City, Oklahoma. Also, I am a direct descendant of Chief Standing Bear of the Ponca Tribe. I am a member of the Ponca and San Lucy district of the Tohono O'odham Nation. I have learned to keep close ties with both cultures and communities since they are both very different. Last year, I had the honor of serving as Miss Tohono O'odham Nation for 2001-2002.



In 1999, I graduated from Wichita High School North with honors. In the spring of 2001, I graduated from Central Arizona College with an Associates degree in Science. Currently, I am a senior at Arizona State University majoring in Biology with dreams of becoming an optometrist. At ASU I am a member of the American Indian Medical Society and the S.T.E.P honor society.

I am very active in the Pow-Wow arena and have served on head staff and held princess titles for various organizations. I am a Champion Southern Traditional dancer and have traveled throughout Indian country since I was two years old. I love to travel with my two brothers who are also champions dancers Greg and Shude and my nephew Ross.

It has been a great honor as serving as Miss N.C.A.I and has given me the opportunity to meet new friends and visit many tribal celebrations and conferences throughout Native America. Also, it has given me the chance to showcase my culture heritage and tribal individualism. I want to encourage the Native Youth to achieve academic success and to set educational and personal goals so that someday they can help improve conditions Native American people face. I believe it is up to our generation to be the strong leaders of tomorrow. I would like to encourage all talented young Indian women to compete for Miss N.C.A.I and to represent all Native Americans at a National level. Aho!