



TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION  
OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

EDWARD D. MANUEL  
CHAIRMAN

VERLON M. JOSE  
VICE CHAIRMAN

O'ODHAM HA-WE:HEJED  
*"For the People"*



## PRESS RELEASE

Thursday, Jan. 17, 2019

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **EXPERIENCE THE 81<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION RODEO & FAIR, FEB. 1 - 3** ***Southern Arizona's longest-running All-Indian Rodeo and Fair Offers Weekend of Family Fun***

SELLS, Ariz. – The Tohono O'odham Nation Rodeo & Fair, Southern Arizona's longest running all-Indian rodeo, returns for its 81<sup>st</sup> year on February 1 – 3, 2019. The event highlights top talent in the famed all-Indian rodeo competitions while sharing rich traditions through the musical and dance performances. This year will also be the first to include Indian National Finals Tour Rodeo events.

The Rodeo & Fair takes place at the Eugene P. Tashquinth Sr. Livestock Complex, which is located in Sells on Highway 86, 60 miles west of Tucson. Admission is \$8.00 at the gate for adults, \$5.00 for military youth aged 6-17, and \$2.00 for seniors ages 55 and up. Children 5 and under are free. Discounted advanced tickets are available from the Nation's Treasury Office in Sells until Jan. 26, 2019.

Tohono O'odham Nation Chairman Edward Manuel said *"For 81 years, the Nation has been proud to host this special event that brings together people of all ages in celebration of culture, heritage, and community."*

This family-fun tradition allows Southern Arizona to experience history and excitement through the wide range of events that are planned. Dozens of colorful entries will take part in the parade along Sells Main Street on Saturday, Feb. 2. This year's parade theme is "Celebrating the Resiliency of the O'odham Himdag through Beauty, Health and Wellness." Other activities include a fun run, a pow wow competition, Waila performances including a Battle of the Bands, traditional dances and games, as well as plenty of booths, arts and crafts, and food.

Headlining the weekend's musical performances is norteño and tejano star Michael Salgado, tejano and conjunto group Tejano Highway 281, rising country star Frank Ray, country rock group the Stateline Band, plus many other great performers.

The Tohono O'odham Nation Rodeo & Fair is presented this year by title sponsor Desert Diamond Casinos & Entertainment and co-presenting sponsors the Hunt/Penta Joint Venture and CPK Insurance, LLC. For more information on the Rodeo & Fair, please visit [www.tonation-nsn.gov/81st-annual-rodeo-fair](http://www.tonation-nsn.gov/81st-annual-rodeo-fair). Follow the Rodeo & Fair on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/TONrodeofair](http://www.facebook.com/TONrodeofair).

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