

**LTBB Election Board Nonimination Application Form - SECTION 3**  
**CANDIDATE STATEMENT (Limit to 1 page)**  
**(This Section of Form Will Be Published on LTBB Website)**



Aanii Boozhoo Waganakising Odawa Citizens! Anishinaabe-Odawa nini ndaaw miinwaa Waganakising Odawa ndodabendaagwaz. Anishinaabe aki ndoonjiba. Jenmii Nindizhinikaaz.

My name is Jeremy Steele. I am the son of Joaan and David Steele, the grandson of Joan Shananaquet, and the great-grandson of Robert Shananaquet. Growing up in Chicago, my connection to our culture was through the American Indian Center. There they gave me stories, teachings, and my first drumming experience. My connection to our homelands was the Annual Homecoming Powwow. My tie to our homelands was strengthened each year when we returned for gatherings like the Annual Homecoming Powwow. That sense of belonging was always present, guiding me home. Over a decade ago, my family and I answered that call. We made the decision to return—to be fully present in our community, to learn, to serve, and to contribute in ways that truly matter.

From working with our tribal youth as a tutor and summer camp counselor to coordinating cultural programs that uplift our language, ceremonies, and traditions, my commitment has always been to strengthening the relationships that ground us in who we are. As the current Learning Center Coordinator for the Niigaandiwin Education Department, I ensure that our community has access to knowledge and resources that empower our citizens, from digital literacy to cultural teachings.

This commitment to community extends beyond education. Economic development is a responsibility of Tribal Council, and I have been honored to serve as a former board member and secretary of the Odawa Economic Affairs Holding Corporation. In that role, I worked to strengthen business opportunities and relationships that sustain our Nation. I understand that true economic sovereignty means not just financial growth, but creating systems that benefit all citizens—youth seeking opportunity, families working to build stability, and elders who have given so much to our community. Through my own business, Zintkala Zi Designs, I use my skills in graphic and web design to promote tribal businesses, cultural programs, and community events, ensuring that our voices are seen and heard.

As a Tribal Councilor, I will advocate for accessibility, economic self-sufficiency, and education that empowers our people. I will work to strengthen cultural revitalization efforts and ensure that our community—our elders, youth, and future generations—have the resources they need to succeed. Our ancestors laid the foundation for us to walk a good path, and I am committed to ensuring that path remains strong for generations to come. I humbly ask for your support in this journey. Miigwech for your time, your consideration, and most of all, for your continued commitment to our Nation.

Miigwech, Jeremy Allen Yellowbird Steele

**LTBB Election Board Nomination Application Form - SECTION 2  
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**Jeremy Allen Zintkala Zi Steele**

**Petitioner's Name As It Should Appear On The Ballot**

Petoskey MI

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**City & State of Residency**

**1. Work Experience:**

Zintkala Zi Designs, Petoskey, MI 2022-Present

Owner - zintkalazidesigns.com

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa (LTBB), Harbor Springs, MI 2023- Present

Learning Center Coordinator

Bead & Powwow Supply, Mount Pleasant, MI 2019-2020

Bead & Powwow Supply Associate

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa (LTBB), Harbor Springs, MI 2017-2018

Wiidikendeming Eyaawwing Project Assistant

**2. Educational Background:**

Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI

Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Design

North Central Michigan College, Petoskey, MI

Associate of Arts in General Studies

**3. Traditional Cultural Experience/Knowledge, and/or Other Training, Certificates:**

- Drum practice and teachings
- Sweat lodge and teaching lodge construction and ceremonies
- Pipe ceremonies and lodge teachings
- Assisting with round dance and powwow events
- Seema (tobacco) teachings and offerings
- Copper-making workshops
- Firekeeping responsibilities
- Jiimaan (canoe) teachings and traditions
- Mnoomin (wild rice) harvesting and processing
- Language classes and cultural teachings
- Lacrosse teachings and games

**4. Volunteer Experience, Special Skills and Abilities:**

Graphic Design  
Website Design  
Computer Diagnostics  
Community Outreach  
Event Coordination  
Collaboration  
Administration  
Problem-Solving  
Adaptability  
Outreach within community  
Mowing lawns for elders

**5. Awards, Honors Received (cultural/colonial):**

Grass Dancer award (Chicago IL, American Indian Center)  
Migizi Miigwan (Eagle Feathers) from Citizens in the community for certain milestones

**6. Describe Current and/or Previous Elected or Appointed Positions Held at LTBB or in Any Other Capacity, Government, or Organization (dates, titles, etc):**

Odawa Economic Affairs Holding Corporation (OEAHC) 2020-2023  
Board Member & Secretary  
Secretary Duties: Write and Review board meeting minutes

**7. If applicable, describe anticipated Campaign Information in Detail (Campaign Address, Email, Website, Social Media, Campaign Plan, Any Endorsements, etc):**

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61573960593029>  
jsteeleltbb@gmail.com