

SPEAKER INFORMATION

Lora Ann Chaisson

Principal Chief

United Houma Nation

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Lora Ann Chaisson proudly serves as the principal chief of the United Houma Nation (UHN), the largest Indigenous tribe in Louisiana. With more than 40 years of dedicated advocacy and leadership, Chief Chaisson remains a passionate advocate for her people at the local, state and national levels.

She represents the United Houma Nation at the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) and is currently serving her first term as southeast regional vice president. She previously served two terms as southeast regional alternate area vice president on the NCAI Executive Committee.

Chief Chaisson brings her experience and insight to numerous national boards and initiatives. She serves as an advisor to the Workforce Grantmaking in Native Nations and Communities Committee. She is a board member of First Peoples Fund and of StrongHearts Native Helpline, an organization dedicated to supporting Native communities affected by domestic violence and sexual assault.

She is serving her second term on the U.S. Department of Labor's Native American Employment and Training Council and has long served as a board member of the Inter-Tribal Council of Louisiana's Institute for Indian Development.

Chief Chaisson is an alumna of the prestigious American Indian Opportunity Ambassador Program. She is a partner at Tribal Solutions Group, which provides services in education, gaming, medical, and broadband development for tribal nations.

At heart, Chief Chaisson is a cultural preservationist who also enjoys teaching traditional Houma Indian basket weaving, jewelry making, and cooking. Above all, she cherishes spending time with her family and passing her knowledge to the next generation.