



P. TOWN BOYZ

BIOGRAPHY

P. Town Boyz Ojibwe youth drum group from the Red Lake Indian Reservation in Minnesota originated in the year 2000 while participating with the Ponemah Elementary Drum & Dance Troupe. The group consists of six singers, all of whom are cousins who grew up together in the traditional village of Ponemah in Red Lake: James Cloud III (age 16), Brian Stillday Jr. (age 16), Tony Cloud (age 14), Neal Johnson (age 14), Eldon Cloud (age 14), and Bryce Cloud (age 10).

P. Town Boyz (PTBZ) made their TV debut on the PBS Special “ZOOM” and have since received International recognition and acclaim.

Photo: Savanna Thunder

In 2005, PTBZ began to travel and perform at traditional POW WOWS and schools within Indian Country. The young group performed at the National School Board Conference in Chicago, Illinois; the Kristin Monroe Dance Special in Ball Club, Minnesota; took 1st place at the Bug O Nay Geezhig School POW WOW in Leech Lake, Minnesota, and 2nd place at the Minnesota Drum & Dance Competition in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota; and were also honored with a traditional drum from the Lac Courte Orielles school committee for their leadership, behavior, and respect at the LCO school POW WOW in Lac Courte Orielles, Wisconsin.

P. Town Boyz have also had the honor of performing as the “Youth Host Drum” at the White Fish Bay POW WOW in Ontario, Canada, and at the Honor the Youth Leadership Conference & POW WOW in Red Lake, Minnesota.

In 2006, P. Town Boys were invited by the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to perform at the General Assembly Hall and Cultural Event at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City, New York. With their unique and powerful vocal style, they performed to Indigenous Delegates, World Leaders, and United Nations Officials during the opening ceremony of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples. That fall the PTBZ opened for Red Thunder at the Creek Nations “Native Music Festival” in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

In 2007, the highly anticipated P. Town Boyz self-titled debut CD of original songs was released in Indian Country, and digitally on iTunes and other online music stores. In support of their debut release, PTBZ hit the road on their 2007 “Pow Wow Trail” tour with a live performance

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and interview on WOJB Radio during the Honor The Earth Traditional Pow Wow, and winning numerous singing and drum awards. The PTBZ debut was produced by Robby Romero on Eagle Thunder Records and will be featured in the up-coming 2008 issue of Indian Country Today's – "Pow Wow" Magazine.

Recently, the PTBZ joined Robby Romero and an ensemble of Indigenous musicians from around the world singing and drumming on Robby's newest release entitled "NATIVE ROCK The Singles" scheduled to drop on 'International Mother Earth Day', April 22, 2010. And currently, PTBZ are working on their follow-up CD coming soon....

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