



the Catawba Nation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Catawba Nation Releases Music Album for Language Revitalization

The Catawba Nation's Nŭti Yape(Morning Sun) Tribal Home Visiting program publishes the first album of songs written and sung in the Catawba Language.

Rock Hill, SC (August 13th, 2025) - The album, developed to strengthen familial bonds, cultural awareness, and aid language revitalization, is the result of a group effort between the Nŭti Yape (or Morning Sun) Tribal Home Visiting program, the Catawba Language Working Group, and Catawba Citizens. Hilary Harris, the Nŭti Yape program manager, began work on the album in 2024. Since that time, they've recorded a total of six songs, with three of them (Lullaby Song, Gratitude Song, and Greeting Song) written exclusively for this album.

The Catawba language revitalization began around 2003; earlier this year, the first-ever Catawba language dictionary was published, and a curriculum has been established for eager Catawba Citizens who want to incorporate the historical language into their everyday lives. This album represents another step towards that revitalization by providing Catawba caregivers an opportunity to teach their children the language at a young age and connect with their culture, community, and ancestors through song. Dr. Wenonah Haire, Director of the Cultural Division and member of the Catawba Language Working Group, commented, "It is the first time that such a comprehensive album has been done. The collaboration between our departments has been special!"

The discography titled Wŭtii (Roots): Catawba Songs to Carry Home includes the following:

1. Intro
2. The Number Song
3. Bird Song
4. Lullaby Song
5. Ancestor Song
6. Gratitude Song
7. Greeting Song

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