

**RESOLUTION
PUBLIC SESSION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING
WASHINGTON, D.C.
Monday, October 16, 2023**

7 approved; 1 absent

Resolved,

That the Board of Directors
of the
Corporation for Public Broadcasting
Expresses its Heartfelt Condolences
to the Family and Friends of
Frank Blythe

Founding Executive Director, Native American Broadcasting Consortium, 1976-2006

We will long remember with gratitude Frank Blythe as a visionary leader who was proud of his Native American heritage and who elevated and shared authentic stories of Native American culture.

Frank (Eastern Band of Cherokee/Sisseton-Wahpeton Dakota) was one of six Native Americans on the organizing committee for Native American Public Broadcasting Consortium (NAPBC) and executive director of the organization for its first 30 years.

During his tenure, NAPBC evolved from a library that circulated videotapes and films that public television stations could broadcast locally to an organization that helped create, produce, and distribute films by Native American storytellers. With Frank at the helm, NAPBC launched the CPB-supported \$500,000 annual television program fund (now known as Vision Maker Media's Public Media Fund), for Native producers to produce stories and Native productions. NAPBC also began American Indian Radio on Satellite, which launched The Native Radio Network and Native America Calling as the first daily all-Native live radio talk show, which is still on the air today.

Frank's legacy is Vision Maker Media, which continues to empower and engage Native peoples to share their stories under the outstanding leadership of Frank's daughter, Francene Blythe-Lewis.

The CPB Board of Directors marks Frank Blythe's leadership, vision, and extraordinary service to public media and the American public with deep respect and appreciation and offers our heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues.