

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY  
THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ETHICAL PSYCHOLOGY AND PSYCHIATRY

**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

PRESENTED TO

**DAVID EDWARD WALKER, PHD**

Dr. David Edward Walker is a private practice psychologist, researcher, and writer, who has consulted for many years with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of Yakama Nation. His work aims to expose the Western mental health movement's complicity in cultural oppression of Native Americans, with an overall goal of supporting a liberation psychology movement to help people act as free agents constructing their own lives. Dr. Walker's critique is that psychiatric labels and pills obscure understandable reactions to cultural oppression. In addition to his professional psychology consulting work, he has portrayed his ideas in award-winning fiction and nonfiction literature, as well as music. His novel, *Tessa's Dance*, and its sequel, *Signal Peak*, portrays a fictional story that has roots in reality about the oppressive lives of Native Americans and the Western mental health system's blindness to that reality. His most recent work, *Coyote's Swing: A Memoir & Critique of Mental Hygiene in Native America* is the only comprehensive history and critique of the U.S. mental health system in Indian Country. It is a courageous expose of the violations within the system and his ongoing attempts to provide real help despite opposition. From his website he says: "I'm getting a little older but am still up for making trouble." We hope he succeeds! The distinctive life and achievements of Dr. Walker reflect great credit upon himself and makes him more than deserving of this award for lifetime achievement.

Awarded October 29, 2023



Chuck Ruby, PhD  
Executive Director