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***Express Mail* Exhibition Gives Insight into the Lives of Artists**

Express Mail is a chance to understand the life of an artist by literally reading their mail.

OKLAHOMA CITY – Artists are primarily understood through their finished works of art, but *Express Mail*, a compact exhibition located in the Brodtkin Gallery, offers another way to understand artists – through their written correspondence.

Now through July 24, visitors to the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum will see illustrated letters, custom holiday cards, and elaborate letterhead artists have sent to their friends, family, and professional contacts, all of which have been meticulously archived by the Dickinson Research Center.

“*Express Mail* explores the need for human communication and the relationships between artists – both of which are important to the history of the American West,” said Natalie Shirley, President & CEO at The Cowboy.

Many of the artists featured in the exhibition have works of art on display in the Museum. Featured artists include Joe de Yong, Bill Owen, Bettina Steinke and Hollis Williford.

The exhibition has an interactive component, making audio recordings of the artists’ letters available to hear on the Museum’s website or in person by scanning a QR code.

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About the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum

The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City is America’s premier institution of Western history, art and culture. Founded in 1955, the Museum collects, preserves and exhibits an internationally renowned collection of Western art and artifacts while sponsoring dynamic educational programs to stimulate interest in the enduring legacy of the American West. The Museum is located only six miles northeast of downtown Oklahoma City at 1700 Northeast

63rd Street. Annual family memberships are available beginning at just \$40. For more information, visit nationalcowboymuseum.org.