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**The Cowboy Acquires Large Collection
from the King of Cowboys and the Queen of the West: Roy
Rogers and Dale Evans**

Curators and Archivists at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum recently acquired a massive collection of Roy Rogers artifacts, archival items and memorabilia from the Roy Rogers Foundation Trust.

OKLAHOMA CITY — Dusty Rogers, the son of the iconic on-screen cowboy and cowgirl, Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, recently donated on behalf of his siblings a massive collection of photographs, documents, costumes, hats, toys, guitars and more to the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum through his family's trust, The Roy and Dale Evans Rogers Childrens Trust, making the Museum the owner of the largest collection of Roy Rogers and Dale Evans archives and artifacts.

“Roy Rogers is an icon who influenced so much of what we know as Western culture today,” said Natalie Shirley, Museum President & CEO. “We’re excited to bring this collection under our roof and know it will help our curators show how popular stories of the American West became synonymous with American culture.”

Since April, a team of curators and archivists has been working to pack up, transport, unpack, process and catalog the collection. Items destined to be preserved in the Museum’s archives include letters, contracts, photographs and rare glass and vinyl recordings of Roger’s songs.

Examples already on exhibit in the Museum’s Western Performers Gallery were formerly on loan from the family but will now become part of the museum’s permanent collection.

Other material will eventually be on exhibit for the public to see including costumes from Roy, Dale and Dusty, hats, boots, guitars and numerous examples of Roy Rogers and Dale Evans merchandise such as lunch boxes, watches, toys, air rifles and more

“This collection is important because Roy Rogers and Dale Evans represent everything the National Cowboy Museum stands for,” said Michael Grauer, McCasland Chair of Cowboy Culture / Curator of Cowboy Collections and Western Art. “Roy Rogers influence as a performer and a moral example is still felt in popular Western culture today.”

Roger’s was one of the first movie stars to inspire merchandise, much of which was readily available for purchase decades after his films were released.

For more information about the newly acquired collection and other permanent collections, visit nationalcowboymuseum.org.

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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. For more information, visit nationalcowboymuseum.org.