



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum Announces 2025 Western Heritage Awards Honorees for Creative Achievements

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK, Wednesday, February 26, 2025 – The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum is excited to announce the individuals who will be honored for their creative achievements from 2024 at the 64th Western Heritage Awards. Every year, the Museum recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to Western heritage through exceptional creative works in film, television, literature and music.

Honorees will be presented with a *Wrangler* award at the Western Heritage Award ceremony held at the Museum in Oklahoma City on Saturday, April 12, 2025. The *Wrangler* is a bronze sculpture of a cowboy on horseback created by the late Oklahoma artist and 2017 Hall of Great Westerners inductee Harold T. Holden.

The Western Heritage Awards also serve as the induction ceremony for the Museum's Hall of Great Westerners and Hall of Great Western Performers, as well as the presentation ceremony for the Lifetime Achievement Award and Chester A. Reynolds Award, named after the Museum's founder.

The Presenting Sponsor of this year's Western Heritage Awards ceremony is the National Western Stock Show's "Honoring the Legacy, Building the Future" campaign.

The Museum will once again hold a Kick-Off Party on Friday, April 11 at 5:30 p.m. to offer the public the exclusive opportunity to mingle with inductees and honorees while enjoying complimentary refreshments and live entertainment by Chloe Fredericks. The Kick-Off Party will be Presented by Pendleton Whisky.

Tickets for the Friday Kick-Off Party are \$70 for Museum members and \$85 for general admission. Tickets for the Saturday Western Heritage Awards ceremony are \$250.

Tickets for both events will be available for purchase on February 26, 2025, at 8 a.m. The events are expected to sell out quickly, and reservations will be processed in the order received.

To reserve a ticket, visit <https://nationalcowboymuseum.org/wha-awards-classic/2025-wha-award-tickets/>.

Western Heritage Awards Honorees

FILM & TELEVISION HONOREES

Western Lifestyle Program

The Roundup: A Cowboy State Daily Podcast with “Longmire” Author Craig Johnson, hosted by Wendy Corr and produced by Jimmy Orr

Theatrical Motion Picture

Tokyo Cowboy, starring Arata Iura, directed by Marc Marriott and written by Dave Boyle

Documentary

Playing Cowboy, directed by Bob Terry, produced by Westerns on The Web Productions

Fictional Drama

“Desire Is All You Need,” *Yellowstone*, directed by Christina Alexandra Voros, produced by Taylor Sheridan

LITERATURE HONOREES

Nonfiction Book

The Colfax County War: Violence and Corruption in Territorial New Mexico by Corey Recko, published by University of North Texas Press

Art Book

Making the Unknown Known: Women in Early Texas Art by Victoria H. & Light Townsend Cummins, published by Texas A&M University Publishing

Juvenile Book

Glory Be! It’s Punkin’s Story! by Carolyn Wills, Self Published

Magazine Article

After Birth by Kathryn Wilder, published by The Missouri Review

Western Novel

Malas by Marcela Fuentes, published by Viking Publishing

Poetry Book

Earl’s Own Dakota Odyssey by Bruce Roseland, published by Scurfpea Publishing

MUSIC HONOREES

Original Western Composition

“I Am A Cowboy,” recording artist Caleb Martin, composed by Montie Carol Montgomery

Traditional Western Album

On the Trail with the Lonesome Pines, recording artist Hilary Gardner

Western Heritage Awards Inductees and Lifetime Achievement Honorees**Hall of Great Westerners**

Louise S. O’Connor

Dr. Baxter Black (1945-2022)

Hall of Great Western Performers

Graham Greene

Anthony Quinn (1915-2001)

Chester A. Reynolds Award

Warner Glenn

Lifetime Achievement Award

Brooks & Dunn

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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. For more information, visit nationalcowboymuseum.org.