



# OUR Chisholm Trail Heritage Center NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2014

Our Mission: "To celebrate and perpetuate the history, art and culture of the Chisholm Trail, the American Cowboy and the American West."



## OKIE ECLECTIC THE ART OF MIKEL DAVISON



**Mark Thursday, October 9  
on your calendar!**

A special reception to meet Mikel Davison will be 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. This is a come-and-go event, open to the public at no charge. You'll get to see interesting art created by Duncan's art and history teacher, Mikel Davison.

Visit with the artist and find out why he enjoys creating these unique, eclectic conversational pieces.

One-of-a-kind treasures created by artist Mikel Davison inject personality into the spaces they inhabit. Have someone on your gift list that enjoys quirky? You might find the right item here!

## *Racing to find America's Missing Children*

Nearly 100 Fireball Run drivers made a pitstop here at the Heritage Center, Sept. 30, in their mission to find and recover America's missing children. While here, they ate great chuckwagon food, and completed tasks like roping a longhorn or taking selfies in the saloon. Thank you to all our volunteers and local civic groups for helping!



Linda Ryan and Julie McKinney add humor to the meal; Rick and Carolyn Rodgers show off the Chisholm Trail Casino goody bags; CTHC's Executive Director Stacy Cramer Moore, Astronaut Jon McBride and chuckwagon chef Walker Ryan enjoy a photo moment; bottom row: Jean, Sascha Balzer, Kai Stadler and Marlena show off their Missing Child posters (Jean and Marlena are one team, Sascha and Kai are another team); board members Mark Crutcher, Janet Peters, Rick Rodgers, Barbara Braught and Julie McKinney prepare to serve the chuckwagon meal. A special thanks to premier sponsor Chisholm Trail Casino.

Visit [www.fireballrun.com](http://www.fireballrun.com).

# EDUCATION

## Inspired by art, history

Our 2014-15 education year is off to a great start! We've had schools visit and learn about the Abernathy Boys and their adventurous ways; Oklahoma's Poet Laureate Nathan Brown returned for a fifth year with our Creative Writing program geared to sixth-graders; and our educators have helped our facility achieve the Great Expectations Model School certification for the eighth consecutive year! Our fall program still has openings, so if you want to bring your classroom or homeschool group, call today! This session ends Oct. 31. Teachers and homeschool educators should call Leah at 580-252-6692, or email her at [leah@onthechisholmtrail.com](mailto:leah@onthechisholmtrail.com) to book a field trip.



Nathan Brown, Oklahoma's Poet Laureate, has been writing a poem a day, and making journal entries, for 16 years. This is his fifth year to inspire sixth grade students in our Creative Writing through the Arts program. Students are selected by their teachers for this limited space program. Students attend a session in the fall and again in late winter. A spring reception is held for the participants.



Students from Duncan Middle School, Marlow Middle School, and Empire Middle School sixth-grade classes began learning how to write creatively using art as inspiration. The visual examples of art are exhibited in our Garis Gallery of the American West, and in our temporary special exhibit,

"Okie Eclectic - The Art of Mikel Davison." The students will return in February for another session with Nathan Brown, and their favorite selected poems will be published in a special edition publication, celebrating five years of Writing in Response to Art.

The journals used by the students are provided by Chisholm Trail Heritage Center, made possible by Oklahoma Arts Council funding. If you would like to contribute to our education programs, call us at 580-252-6692. Your contributions are tax-deductible. We are a 501c3 non-profit.



# Awards are result of years of work

Getting an award in the museum and education world can be likened to trying to start a campfire - if you aren't a Boy Scout with skills.

It takes hours of planning, work and then action before you can even consider a program for an award.

Then there is the competition once you do submit your award application.

Oklahoma has more than 250 museums! They cover everything from aeronautics to military, Native American history and the Chisholm Trail. If there is a piece of Oklahoma history worth being told, there is probably a museum to be found.

So when we were told that we've won three awards for programs held during the past year, you could say we might have done a campfire jig like the cattle drovers do in our movie "On the Chisholm Trail." Awards are validation for the hard work our board, administrators and educators do daily.



PRCA 8x World Champion roper, Fred Whitfield pens his autograph in his book, during National Day of the Cowboy, 2013.

The Chisholm Trail Heritage Center received two awards from Oklahoma Museums Association during its annual banquet, held this year at Museum of the Red River, in Idabel, on Sept. 26.

Awards for the 2014 year, were for Exhibit and for Publication, both produced on a budget of \$5,001 to \$15,000.

The Publication award was for our Writing in Response to Art program and the Exhibit award was for Black Cowboys on the Chisholm Trail program in 2013.

Deano Cox, board member for Chisholm Trail Heritage Center, accepted the award on behalf of the museum.

"The founders of the Heritage Center knew the importance of demonstrating the diversity of cowboys on the Chisholm Trail," said Executive Director Stacy Cramer Moore, about the Black Cowboys on the Chisholm Trail Program.

Fred Whitfield, 8-time World Champion steer roper, visited the Heritage Center for National Day of the Cowboy 2013 and signed autographs of his new book, "Gold Buckles Don't Lie: The Untold Story of Fred Whitfield."

Local newspaper coverage of the many events, in-house produced newsletters and photographs, all added documentation to the awards packets for the various programs.



CTHC board member Deano Cox accepts one of the two awards earned for the 2014 year, at the annual OMA banquet in September.

## Great Expectations Awards

Chisholm Trail Heritage Center also earned the Great Expectations Model School certification award status for the 2013-14 academic year. This is the eighth year for this achievement. Our facility is the only non-profit to be designated as a GE Model School.

Attending the Fall 2014 Great Expecations Conference, held at the University of Central Oklahoma's Nigh University Center in Edmond, this year were six of our staff. Executive Director Stacy Cramer Moore, Education Coordinator Leah Mulkey, and educators Cindy Parks, Philonda Heilaman, Beverly Scott and Shari Johnson, were among the 600 educators attending this year's conference. They also took part in various workshops throughout the day.

The Great Expectations Program, founded in 1991, is a scientifically-based research educational reform model that is bringing major change and innovation to PK-12 public and private school classrooms.

## ON THE CALENDAR

Okie Eclectic - The Art of Mikel Davison  
Reception Oct. 9

National Hispanic Heritage Month  
Sept. 15 - Oct. 15

Oklahoma Arts Conference, Norman  
<http://www.arts.ok.gov/> Oct. 21-23

Prairie Circuit's PRCA Finals Rodeo  
Stephens County Fair & Expo Arena Oct. 16-18

Visit [facebook.com/onthechisholmtrail](https://www.facebook.com/onthechisholmtrail) for details  
of all our upcoming events



Board member Rick Rodgers entertains the crowd at his "rodeo" celebrating his 80th birthday. About 100 people gave Mr. Rodgers a big "yee-haw!" Our facility is available for rental purposes such as events, birthday parties, weddings and receptions.

Call Stacy Cramer Moore at (580) 252-6692 to book your party!



1000 Chisholm Trail Parkway, Duncan, OK 73533  
Address Service Requested

### Be sure to visit us!

#### We are a ...

- \* 2014 Great Expectations Model School
- \* 2014 Oklahoma Museums Association Exhibit & Publication award winners
- \* 2013 Oklahoma Arts & Humanities Non-profit of the Year
  - \* Oklahoma Redbud for Outstanding Attraction
- \* Top 10 Western Museum - True West Magazine
- \* 2012 Chickasaw Country's Best Museum Award



## Stay Connected!



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*The Chisholm Trail Heritage Association is a 501c3 non-profit.*

*Your contributions to our programs and exhibits are tax deductible.*

*Consider the Center in your estate and planned giving allocations. [stacy@onthechisholmtrail.com](mailto:stacy@onthechisholmtrail.com) or 580-252-6692.*