



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

# Weaving their life stories

Ancient handwoven techniques, looms, artifacts, history, culture and family are the tools by which textile artists, Tyra Shackelford and Margaret Roach Wheeler produce award-winning art. While many women may spend their entire lives researching their family history, hoping to discover who they are, both Tyra and Margaret know the answers to their life and what inspires them.

Every piece they produce tells a story -- their story. They will share those stories in their own words and through their art, when their show, "Textiles Transcending" opens in April. Reception is 2-4pm Sunday, April 8.

One of Tyra's new pieces (seen at right) is "Twin Turkeys." She was inspired and created her own pattern, based off two pieces of art, an Eagle design, and a Mississippian shell gorget that had a southeastern design.

One of Margaret's pieces includes poles that are near 7-feet tall, with cloth featuring images of her mother (at age 93) herself and her granddaughter (at age 3) and includes Irish lace, a Mexican brass lantern and other found objects. It is a tribute to the women in her family. Both artists were raised in different eras and with different mindsets, but, as Chickasaw artists, each are deeply committed to their cultural history. Margaret was surprised earlier this month with the Oklahoma Governor Arts Award for her work. To learn more, visit our website and please attend the reception to hear their incredible stories in person.



*"I take my inspiration from the weaving techniques themselves, pre-historic artifacts, Mississippian iconography, and Chickasaw culture and stories. Everything I create relates in some way to my culture and provides me a way to share my culture with the world."*

- Tyra Shackelford.

*This is my biography [this show]. It's work that I've done about me and my family. It's a tribute to my parents. I'm a storyteller, that's what I do. My family was my inspiration for this show. It's about being an independent free woman in today's world.*

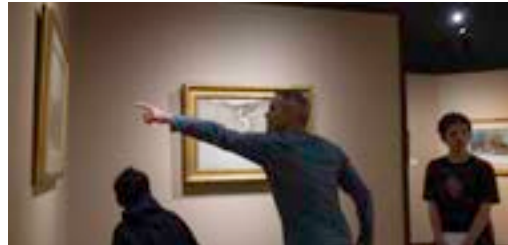
- Margaret Roach Wheeler.

**Two Receptions - One Afternoon**  
**Sunday, April 8**

**Textiles Transcending:**  
**Tyra Shackelford and Margaret Roach Wheeler**  
**2-4 p.m.**

**Creative Writing reception**  
**begins at 1:30 p.m.**

# Creative writing students explore Garis Gallery of Art



Sixth grade students from Duncan, Marlow and Empire visited the Center twice during the school year for specialized instruction in writing poetry and short stories. Each year, Dr. Nathan Brown, former Oklahoma Poet Laureate and published author, instructs the students on how to find inspiration for writing, using artifacts and art throughout the museum. A special reception starts at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 8 to recognize the students for their work.

Everyone is invited to attend this short reception. Funded by CTHC Members, Oklahoma Arts Council, and National Endowment for the Arts.



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Upcoming Events - Spring 2018

- March - Youth Art Month**
- April 6 - May 19: Textiles**
- Transcending, Fiber Artists Tyra Shackelford, Margaret R. Wheeler Reception is 2-4 p.m. April 8.**
- Creative Writing reception starts at 1:30 p.m. April 8**

Follow us on Facebook for Events updates:  
<https://www.facebook.com/pg/onthechisholmtrail/events>

*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.*

# Garis Gallery/Artist Spotlight: Douglas Dillon



Douglas Dillon, center, with friends Cliff Wallraven, a CTHC member who lives in Duncan, and Syble Nolan, of Norman, shows off one of his art pieces.

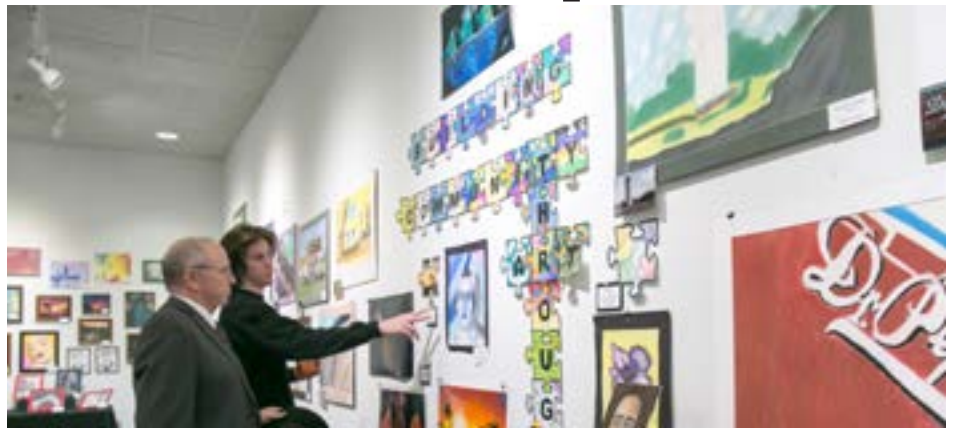
We continue our Featured Artist spotlight in the Garis Gallery of the American West with Douglas Dillon.

Recently, Mr. Dillon returned to Duncan to visit with some of his classmates from Duncan Class of 1954 and he brought some of his art to show them. We heard about it and are excited to display a few of his pieces. Dillon is now a Texas resident.

He is a self-taught artist and enjoys entering the Texas State Fair and he consistently brings home the ribbons.

To learn more about Douglas Dillon, please visit our Facebook page. His art will be displayed through the end of May.

## Youth Art Month reception a success!



Above, Dr. Mike Nelson listens as Dalton Reid discusses his art, during the Youth Art Month reception. Nelson is on our association board and Reid is a senior at Duncan High School and our intern this year. Right: FAME Academy principal Elizabeth Ressel snaps a picture of art students from FAME.



Above, left: Alli Riddle, a sophomore at Marlow High School, stands by her display of five pieces of art in this year's Youth Art Month show. At right, Torah Meadows Homeschool student, Rainy Scott, entered a photograph and a painting in the show. It was the first time for a homeschool entry. We have served as site host for eight years for area high schools. This show ends March 31. To learn more about our educational programs, contact Education Coordinator, Leah Mulkey, or Executive Director, Stacy Cramer Moore, (580) 252-6692.



# Kentucky Daisey to share her land-run story

They're off to grab their piece of Oklahoma land! March 26 to May 25, thousands of students will descend on the Heritage Center for the educational field trip sessions centered around Oklahoma's historic land give-aways.

Kentucky Daisey (As interpreted by Edie Smith Stewart) returns this year to share her story of participating in the land lottery. She was a news reporter from Texas who came to Oklahoma to stake her claim. Her story can be found in the book, "Buckskin, Calico and Lace" by Oklahoma author, Glenda Carlile. (Sold in our gift shop).

Our popular program of the year gives students an interactive educational experience as they learn about the modes of transportation used in the land giveaways; how Buffalo Soldiers came by their name and other lessons. Our programs meet the Oklahoma Academic Standards for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math. To learn more of this and other educational programs we offer, contact Education Coordinator, Leah Mulkey, at (580) 252-6692 or email: [leah@onthechisholmtrail.com](mailto:leah@onthechisholmtrail.com).



Students race to grab their land stake sticks (paint paddles provided by ACE Hardware of Duncan) during the 2017 session. Students learn about the traditional methods used in the 1800s, and also create an art project they can take home.

## Teachers need our support! You can help!

*Just an example of the many letters we receive from school teachers who bring their classes to the Heritage Center.*

>As a third grade teacher, we have the opportunity of teaching the Oklahoma History Curriculum. However, many 8- and 9-year-olds lack the background knowledge to understand much of the terminology and historical relevance in that subject area.

By allowing them to see and experience museums that showcase historical events in Oklahoma, [and] hands-on and visual approaches that let them see history brought to life, they are able to make connections that were otherwise difficult or impossible.

Chisholm Trail [Heritage Center] offers so many realistic exhibits that puts the students "in history" so they are able to experience events we have talked about, but they weren't fully able to understand. Often times, providing these experiences to our students is not at all possible without funding.

Many students come from very fixed or low-income homes and cannot afford to pay for museum admission, and transportation costs. We all know that schools are not equipped with the funding for these activities.

I have [in the past, had] to fundraise to provide money for my students to experience museums, and even that doesn't guarantee the amount of money

needed to fund a field trip, not to mention it takes a lot of time, effort and planning on the teacher's part. As a teacher, [and] single parent on a fixed income, I greatly appreciate the Chisholm Trail museum's willingness and effort to provide students in our community with experiences, that will solidify their learning and memories that will last forever.

*Ashley Smith, 3rd grade, Freedom Elementary, Lawton, April 12, 2017.*

*Your member contributions greatly benefit our education programs, in turn, providing a benefit to our communities.*

*Call Stacy today to discuss how you can contribute. (580) 252-6692.*



Now your support goes 3 times as far

From Mar 12 - 31, Amazon will triple the donation rate to 1.5% on your first eligible purchase at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com).

[amazonsmile](http://smile.amazon.com)

For a limited time, the **AmazonSmile Foundation** will donate 1.5% of the purchase price from your first eligible AmazonSmile purchase. Offer only applies to that first time purchase, and must be made between March 12 - March 31.

Your donation will be accrued to the charity of your choice (Hint: Chisholm Trail Heritage Center)

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*A Meet the Artists Reception  
will be 2-4 p.m. Sunday, April 8  
For*

Tyra Shackelford and  
Margaret Roach Wheeler

Award Winning  
Chickasaw Fiber Artists from Ada

Please see Inside for more information  
on this and all of our events!

Chisholm Trail Heritage Center Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit public organization. We depend on members, donations, and private foundations to maintain our mission. Your gift helps the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center continue our vision of becoming a world-renowned destination that brings alive the heritage of the American West inspiring present and future generations.



*“Saddle Up and Write” is a creative writing experience hosted by the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center, funded by the Oklahoma Arts Council and CTHC members, and taught by the extraordinary Dr. Nathan Brown. Now in its eighth year, exceptional sixth grade writers from Duncan, Empire and Marlow use the Garis Gallery of the American West, CTHC temporary exhibits, and their lives as inspiration to create poetry or prose. These works are then compiled into an award winning mini-magazine.*

**Join us April 8, 2018 at 1:30 for a reception celebrating these young writers and the spirit of creativity at the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center.**  
**Readings and refreshments ... All are welcome to attend.**  
*This program is made possible by:*

