



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

## Meet artist Sandy Magrath - Dogs of the Southwest Exhibit - May 1 - June 30 Reception - May 9th 3:30 - 6:30pm

### Which dog inspired you to start painting?

The first dog I painted was an Australian Shepherd named Scooter that I adopted from the local shelter. He had lots of personality and one bum eye, but I painted him with two good eyes because I didn't want anyone to think I was a bad painter ha ha! He was a great dog!

### Are your subjects tough critics?

That's a great question! They LOVE everything I do ... and a few good treats don't hurt! This unconditional love is available to anyone at their local animal shelters. Save a stray today, you won't regret it!



### Your paintings have so much personality!

#### Is that difficult to achieve?

Thank you for that compliment! I just paint the dogs as I see them. So, the personality actually comes from the dog. Even though my style is contemporary as opposed to being realistic, you can still see the individual personality of each dog. In my paintings of Lacey, her shyness steps forward. Jade's personality is pure goofiness, which I think always comes through in the work I do of her.

### How many dogs claim you?

#### Their names and ages?

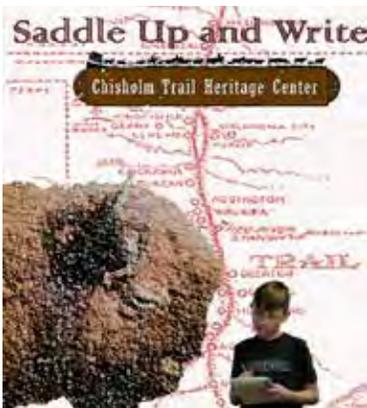
I have had dogs by my side since the 2nd grade. I still feel a connection to each and every one of them and miss them all dearly. Currently, I have 2 rescued Border Collies named Lacey (6 yrs old) and Jade (3 yrs old). They enjoy agility training/competing, hiking, and keeping me company in my studio.



### What's the best compliment you've received on your work?

The best compliment is always the smile I see on the faces of the people observing my work. When someone approaches one of my pieces and a big smile pops up on their face, I know that I have accomplished my goal.

## Reception recognizes young writers in our Saddle Up & Write program



### Join us 1:30 p.m.

### Sunday, April 28

for a reception celebrating young writers and the spirit of creativity, at the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center & Garis Gallery of the American West.

Saddle Up & Write is a creative writing experience hosted by the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center, funded by Oklahoma Arts Council and CTHC members. The classes are taught by Dr. Nathan Brown, award winning author and former Oklahoma Poet Laureate.

Now in its ninth year, sixth grade writers from Duncan, Empire and Marlow use the Garis Gallery of the American West, CTHC temporary exhibits and their own lives as inspiration to create poetry or prose. Students select their favorite works which are compiled into an award winning mini-magazine that is designed by Education Coordinator Leah Mulkey, and produced by the Heritage Center.

Brown will talk about the program, students are invited to read their selections. Refreshments after program.

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Upcoming Events & Exhibits

- Closes April 30: Oklahoma Artists**
- April 28: Saddle Up & Write reception**
- May 1 - June 30: Sandy Magrath: Dogs of the Southwest**
- May 9- Meet the artist reception**
- May 24- July 28: Bison: Ancient. Massive. Wild. - exhibit**
- July 4 - Sept. 22: A Texas State of Mind, artist Larry G. Lemons**
- July 11: Meet the artist reception**
- July 27: National Day of the Cowboy**
- Oct. 1: Designed by Nature opens**

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

*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.*

# Bison exhibit to dominate CTHC this summer



*“In my body, in my blood runs the spirit of the buffalo.”  
 -Arvol Looking Horse,  
 Oglala Lakota Sioux, 2000*

*May 24 - July 28, 2019*

When “Bison - Ancient. Massive. Wild.” opens May 24, CTHC guests will have a chance to explore the long history of this fascinating animal that was nearly extinct, but has always been a great significant resource in America’s history.

Combining history, artifacts and hands-on activities, this Bison exhibit shares the story of this fascinating animal through an interactive environment. The Heritage Center, since its early beginnings has incorporated interactive elements to tell the stories of the past.

Bison is a North American species whose story stretches from Plains Indian hunters to entrepreneurial industrialists to dedicated conservationists and even today’s producers and enthusiasts. \*Bison Exhibit Organization

The Heritage Center’s multipurpose room in the back of the museum will be transformed for this exhibition. Visitors will learn the significance of the bison from pre-history to its relationship with Plains Indians, to near extinction and its current iconic status.

*What role did bison play in the cultures of Plains Indian people - particularly as a resource for food, clothing, shelter and tools.*

You’ll learn the answers to this and many other questions in this nationally touring exhibit.

## Musings from Cowboy Country



George Rhoades has been writing professionally for a long time - yes, a really long time. With “Musings from Cowboy Country” - his third poetry book, Rhoades’ pens reflections that are more than just random thoughts. Reading his newest book is like peeking into the journal of someone who has more stories to share than there are days to write them. Imbued with humor, some serious contemplations and even philosophical thoughts, Rhoades, already a seasoned award-winning writer,

continues to produce work worth mentioning.

A favorite is “May of 1945” and shares the story of a family memory with great details.

Here’s an excerpt:  
 “I found the old newspaper  
 In the jar, crumbling, yellowed,  
 Where my Dad left it  
 In May of 1945.

I was 9 years old then,  
 We lived on a ranch  
 In southern Oklahoma  
 Back in May of 1945.”

There’s 14 more stanzas.

Rhoades’ poem “May of 1945” is a solemn reminder of the fact that no matter who you are, cowboy or not, or where you live - certain events in history impact you.

Not everyone knows how to tell their story, but thanks to Rhoades and his writing, the stories live to tell us.

Rhoades is author of *Along the Chisholm Trail* and *Other Poems*, and *After the Chisholm*. He is winner of the IBPA Benjamin Franklin Award, Will Rogers Gold and Bronze Medallions, and finalist in contests like the Western Music Association Poetry Book. He was born on a farm in Cotton County, Oklahoma. Work titles over the years: rancher, reporter/editor for UPI and Oklahoma newspapers; and college journalism professor.

Autographed copies of *Musings from Cowboy Country*, and his other two books are all available in our gift shop.

## Why you love CTHC!

They do a great job with our kindergarten classes. A few major perks of the trip is that the museum is a Great Expectations Model museum and they have a Title 1 grant that benefits us! This makes the trip very affordable for our students.

The museum staff is very helpful, considerate, and well organized. I highly recommend this as a suitable field trip.

Melanie Miles,  
Kindergarten Teacher  
Will Rogers Elementary  
Ardmore, OK

I am a firm believer in concrete learning before abstract learning. I also believe hands-on experiences are vital for kinesthetic learners. When students are able to see in real life how what they learn impacts, influences and pertains to the world around them, the knowledge "sticks" better.

Upon taking a trip to the museum, my students are better able to understand elements in science as it relates to habitats of animals. They now have a reference to recall information.

This experience makes them better writers because they have more thoughts to pull from.

I appreciate the staff at the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center for sharing of their time and knowledge with my class.

DeMarsha Williams  
Kindergarten Teacher  
Almor West Lawton  
Lawton, OK

# Great Teachers + Great Children = Great Expectations Model Site 13th year!



The Chisholm Trail Heritage Center was notified April 8, that it is an official Great Expectations Model Site for 2018-19, making it the 13th consecutive year to achieve this outstanding educational status.

"It was a great pleasure to witness the quality teaching and learning at the museum yesterday." - ReGina Farquhar, GE Instructional Coach, after spending a day at the Heritage Center when Duncan's Mark Twain Elementary students were here for the interactive Oklahoma land run session.

GE President and CEO Linda Dzialo, Ph.D., said, "Your school will now be held up as an exemplary school at which others can learn to be more effective educators. You and your faculty and staff have worked hard to obtain this honor and we are proud to recognize your level of achievement."

CTHC's educational team includes Leah Mulkey, coordinator; Cindy Parks, Edie Smith Stewart, Mary Lowry and Leanna Matthews, yet all members of the staff interact and



engage with the students in the spirit of GE. CTHC annually sends members of the teaching and administration staff to GE training for certification.

"The teaching quality and the implementation of the 17 Great Expectations practices is simply amazing," Farquhar told Mulkey.

"In the brief time you have a group of students a tremendous amount of learning occurs. I am impressed by your ability to foster quality communication skills and infuse educational standards into the presentations. The student engagement is only surpassed by the teachers enthusiasm and model for learning!

Thank you for leading a program that not only utilizes GE, but provides an opportunity for students to experience learning in a fun, rich, and motivating venue."

Dzialo said, "Your school demonstrates academic excellence and a climate of mutual respect. Your students operate within the framework of the GE Eight Expectations."

## Free Art Mondays returns June 3 - July 29

### CREATE WITH US!

**Every Monday, June 3, to July 29 will be "Free Art Monday."**

**Drop In/Come & Go: 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm**  
All ages welcome with accompanying adult.

A "project of the day" with supplies to complete that project, or create other art with our supplies. It is not an art class.

Thanks to our summer sponsor, Edward Jones Investments, and financial support from Chisholm Trail Heritage Center members just like YOU we can offer this program for FREE!





**Chisholm Trail Heritage Center**  
**& Garis Gallery of the American West**  
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Address Service Requested  
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Great Expectations



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## Inside Your April Newsletter!

**Dogs inspire artist Sandy Magrath**

**CTHC Education team  
earns another award**

**Free Art Mondays returns**

**George Rhoades' new book  
now available**

**Coming Soon:  
Bison: Ancient. Massive. Wild.  
May 24 - July 28**

## Upcoming Receptions

**1:30 Sunday, April 28 - Saddle Up & Write**

**3:30-6:30pm Thursday, May 9 -  
Sandy Magrath**

**3:30-5:30pm Thursday, July 11 -  
Larry Lemons**

**National Day of the Cowboy celebration at  
your Chisholm Trail Heritage Center,  
Saturday, July 27**

More details inside and on our website and Facebook page.