

February 2019

# Chisholm Trail Heritage Center AND THE GARIS GALLERY OF THE AMERICAN WEST

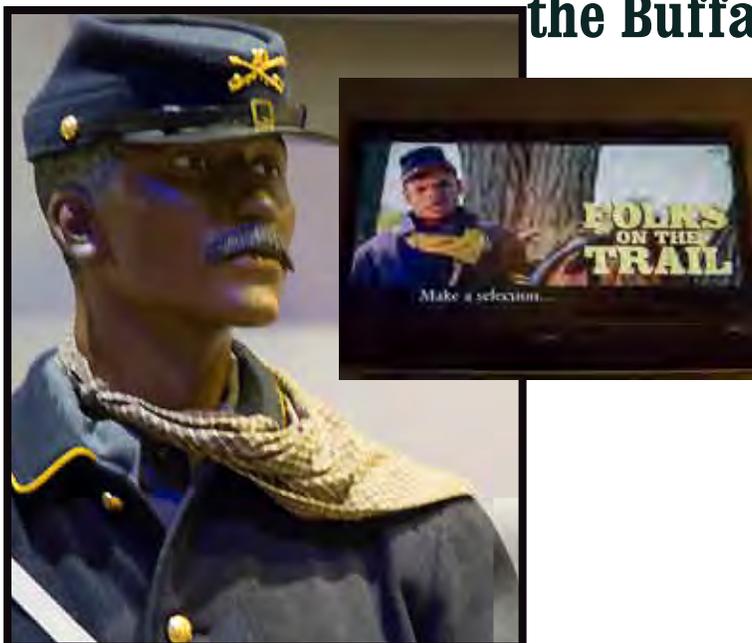
Our Mission: "To celebrate and perpetuate the history, art and culture of the Chisholm Trail, the American Cowboy and the American West."



Don Murveltdt surprised his wife, Barbara, with a kiss in front of the Romancing the Trail exhibit, Monday, Feb. 4. The couple, married 60 years, was on their first visit to the Heritage Center and live north of El Reno. The photographic moment started off innocently enough with Don and Barbara holding hands. They both giggled after sneaking in a kiss during the spontaneous moment. We love it when our guests can create wonderful new memories #OntheChisholmTrail!

Trivia on the Trail:  
Do you know what the names of the movies or songs are in our Romancing the Trail exhibit? Visit us to see what they are!

## Our Folks on the Trail exhibit features the Buffalo Soldier & a few more



Buffalo Soldiers are an important part of the Chisholm Trail history, and our regional history. The Heritage Center's "Folks on the Trail" exhibit provides a quick TV narrative of the roles a trail boss, cow town mayor, Native Americans, and Buffalo Soliders played during the Chisholm Trail. Buffalo Soldiers "Tenth Cavalry" regiment helped build forts, draft maps and keep law and order in the Indian Territory during the late 1800s.

Originally published in 1967, "The Buffalo Soldiers" was the first book of its kind to recognize the importance of African American units in the conquest of the West. Decades later, sales of this classic are over 75,000 copies. In the 2006 revised edition, authors William H. Leckie and Shirley A. Leckie, have expanded their original research to explore more deeply the lives of buffalo soldiers in the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry Regiments. This book is available in our gift shop (also on our website store).

## Chisholm Trail Heritage Center

### Our Mission:

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### Upcoming Events & Exhibits

**Ends Feb. 27 - Brush Strokes of History - Art of Brunetta Griffith**

**March 1-31 - Youth Art Month**

**March 7 - Youth Art Month reception**

**March 5 - May 15: Regional Artist Spotlight in the Garis Gallery (Dee Dodson)**

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.*

# Gifts for your sweetheart



Top row: New Chisholm Trail 150th collectible mugs in three shades of blue - royal blue, navy/denim, and teal. Can't afford the horse? Just get this home decor horse head sculpture. Pair it with the I Love You More than Biscuits & Gravy and you will *reign* in your sweetheart's heart!



Get one or more of these iron horseshoes and spur bits paired with wooden hearts for a bit of country and farmhouse style.

A wooden clip picture frame can also be used to display a favorite recipe in the kitchen. The wooden heart bowl will hold your honey's favorite trinkets - great for cowboys - male and female! Large wooden heart "Home Sweet Home" would look great in the mudroom. These and more heart-felt gifts are available in our gift shop. Items not online, but can be ordered over the phone! *As always, members get 15 percent discount on gift shop purchases.*

## Above the roof!



A section of our roof needed replacing and in one extremely long day, a crew managed to rip off the old and replace it with new. The process was to repair two sections that had been problematic for years. It's one of the many things that goes on behind the scenes here at the Heritage Center. Funded by grants, admissions and gift shop sales.

# Brush Strokes of History exhibit highlights Oklahoma people

Women important in early Oklahoma history, Apache leaders and customs of Indian culture and legends are the stories told in the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center's first exhibit of 2019, "Brush Strokes of History."

Nineteen oil paintings by Brunetta Bernard Griffith, 1919-2006, are on display through Feb. 27.



Mildred Imach Cleghorn Griffith painted her to highlight Cleghorn's dollmaking skills, but the most interesting information about this woman was her role in fighting for Native American rights. Learn more by visiting this exhibit before it ends Feb. 27.

Painted in the 1970s-80s, the artist, who was from Rush Springs, researched in depth the subjects in her work.



Griffith once said in a 1991 interview, written by friend and fellow artist, Frankie Sue Gilliam, "My goal is to preserve history with my paintbrush." And while Griffith was painting the important figures in Oklahoma history, she never realized that she too, would become a central character in the history that she found fascinating.

Griffith served on the board of the Oklahoma Historical Society. She received several awards during her career. Her interest in Native American history was a part of her own history, as she was a Choctaw descendant. Her work was featured in Oklahoma textbooks and has been recognized by the Choctaw Nation.

In 2014, the Heritage Center featured an exhibit of nearly all the Griffith works in its collection.

This exhibit, "Brush Strokes of History" is a curated selection highlighting the individuals and roles they played in Oklahoma history. It includes five Apache leaders, six women and two men of importance to early statehood, Native American rights, arts, culture, and more.



Muriel Wright

Wright may be one of the most under-recognized women in today's Oklahoma history lessons. Wright, a long-time editor of "The Chronicles of Oklahoma" which continues publication today, is in Oklahoma's Hall of Fame (1940).

## Cowpokes kazoo and paint their way through winter



Cowpokes & Brush Strokes kicked off January 21 with the children, ages 2-4, learning art, music and social skills. The program is eight weeks, every Monday, from 1:45-2:30 p.m. Parents can register and bring their children. Call us for more details.



Art projects have included a squirrel, a giraffe, a duck, several paint projects using various items for the "paintbrush" and they've created musical instruments.



Children in the Cowpokes program also get interactive storytime that gets them active and singing. Stories match up with the art project for that day.

**Still time to register!**

**Chisholm Trail Heritage Center**  
**& Garis Gallery of the American West**  
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 f y t i p



Art by Aubrey Topping of Marlow High School, submitted by MHS art instructor, Arlyn Brantley.

**“Your Story - Your Art”**

**Mark your calendars for the annual Youth Art Month reception - March 7, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Recognizing the high school artists of Stephens County and surrounding counties, March 1 - 31.**

Students’ selected works, submitted by their teachers, will be exhibited.

This year’s national theme is “Your Story - Your Art.”

The reception is free, open to the public. We hope you will attend.

Bring a friend, enjoy refreshments. Help us honor our young artists.