

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
ON OR AFTER JULY 6, 2008**

**CONTACT:** Millie Craddick  
Executive Administrator of the Oklahoma  
Hall of Fame Oklahoma Heritage  
Association  
Gaylord-Pickens Oklahoma Heritage  
Museum  
(405) 523-3203  
mc@oklahomaheritage.com

### **2008 OKLAHOMA HALL OF FAME PRESENTERS ANNOUNCED**

OKLAHOMA CITY – Seven outstanding individuals have been selected to introduce the 2008 Oklahoma Hall of Fame class at the 81<sup>st</sup> annual Oklahoma Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction Ceremony on Wednesday, Nov. 12 in Oklahoma City.

The 2008 presenters are: David Boren, Norman; Brad W. Burgess, Lawton; Tulsa native Frank Keating; Larry Nichols, Oklahoma City; Sandra Day O'Connor, Washington D.C.; Stephen M. Prescott, Oklahoma City; and Barry Switzer, Norman.

**David L. Boren**, a 1988 Oklahoma Hall of Fame inductee, will present Charles C. Stephenson. Boren, who has served Oklahoma as governor and U.S. senator, became the 13th president of the University of Oklahoma in November 1994.

A graduate of Yale University in 1963, Boren majored in American history. He was selected as a Rhodes Scholar and earned a master's degree in politics, philosophy and economics from Oxford University, England, in 1965. In 1968, he received a law degree from the University of Oklahoma.

As Oklahoma's governor from 1974 through 1978, Boren established the Oklahoma Arts Institute, the Scholar-Leadership Enrichment Program and the Oklahoma Physicians Manpower Training Program.

During his time in the U.S. Senate from 1979 to 1994, Boren served on the Senate finance and agriculture committees.

Under Boren's leadership, the University of Oklahoma has initiated 20 major programs, including establishment of the Honors College, the Charles M. Russell Center for the Study of Art of the American West, a new expository writing program for freshmen, an interdisciplinary religious studies program, the artist-in-residence program, the International Programs Center and the faculty-in-residence program.

Boren is married to Molly Shi Boren, a former judge and English teacher. He has two children, Carrie Christine Boren, an Episcopal minister, and David Daniel Boren, a member of the U.S. Congress from Oklahoma.

**Brad W. Burgess** will introduce his brother, Bill W. Burgess Jr. Brad Burgess is the managing partner of Burgess & Hightower Law Firm and vice president of Vortex, Inc., an investment corporation. He was appointed by Gov. David Walters in 1994 and Gov. Frank Keating in 2000 to serve on the Oklahoma State Banking Board. Burgess resigned from the Oklahoma State Banking Board in 2002 to

accept appointment to the Oklahoma Transportation Commission by Gov. Brad Henry and was recently reappointed by Henry to serve on the Oklahoma Transportation Commission until February 2013.

Burgess serves on the United Way board of directors and as a member of the Lawton Metropolitan Transportation Policy Committee. He has served on the board for a number of years and was president in 2000 of Crimestoppers of Southwest Oklahoma. Burgess also has served on numerous community boards and been involved with several fundraising efforts for the Lawton-Fort Sill community.

Burgess is an active member of the American and Oklahoma Bar Associations, the Oklahoma Trial Lawyer's Association, the Business Law Section of the American Bar Association and the Cameron University Alumni Association. He was selected as outstanding alumnus from the Cameron University communications department in 1989 to 1990.

**Frank Keating**, a 2005 Oklahoma Hall of Fame inductee, will present Carl R. Renfro. As president and CEO of American Council of Life Insurers, Keating is the representative and spokesman for the life insurance industry in Washington, D.C. and all 50 state capitals. He regularly advocates on Capitol Hill and to the Bush administration on the importance of making Americans' retirement security a national priority.

Keating was born in St. Louis and grew up in Tulsa. He received his undergraduate degree from Georgetown University and a law degree from the University of Oklahoma. His 30-year career in law enforcement and public service includes stints as an FBI agent, U.S. attorney and state prosecutor, and member of the Oklahoma House and Senate. He has served Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush in the treasury, justice and housing departments.

In 1993, Keating returned to Oklahoma to successfully run for governor. He was re-elected in 1998, becoming only the second governor in Oklahoma history to serve two consecutive terms.

Keating won national acclaim in 1995 for his compassionate and professional handling of the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal building. He raised more than \$6 million to fund scholarships for the nearly 200 children left with one or no parents. His accomplishments as governor include winning a public vote on right-to-work, tort reform, tax cuts, major road construction and education reform.

**Larry Nichols**, a 2001 Oklahoma Hall of Fame inductee, will introduce Ronald J. Norick. Nichols is chairman and chief executive officer of Devon Energy Corporation. He joined Devon in 1970, became chief executive officer in 1980 and became chairman of the board in September 2000.

Nichols graduated from Princeton University with a bachelor's degree in geology and completed his juris doctorate at the University of Michigan in 1967.

He served as law clerk to Chief Justice Earl Warren and Justice Tom Clark of the U.S. Supreme Court from 1967 to 1968. He then served as special assistant to Assistant Attorney General William Rehnquist in the U.S. Department of Justice.

Nichols serves as director of the American Exploration & Production Council, the Natural Gas Supply Association, the American Petroleum Institute, National Association of Manufacturers and the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association. Nichols also serves on the boards of Baker Hughes Inc. and Sonic Corp.

**Sandra Day O'Connor** will present Robert H. Henry. O'Connor was nominated by President Ronald Reagan as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court and took her seat Sept. 25, 1981, becoming the first female in history to serve in that role. She retired from the Supreme Court on Jan. 31, 2006.

O'Connor was born in El Paso, Texas, and received her B.A. and LL.B. from Stanford University.

She served as deputy county attorney of San Mateo County, Calif., from 1952 to 1953 and as a civilian attorney for Quartermaster Market Center, Frankfurt, Germany, from 1954 to 1957. From 1958 to 1960, O'Connor practiced law in Maryvale, Ariz., and served as assistant attorney general of Arizona from 1965 to 1969. O'Connor was appointed to the Arizona State Senate in 1969 and was subsequently reelected to two, two-year terms. In 1975, she was elected judge of the Maricopa County Superior Court and served until 1979, when she was appointed to the Arizona Court of Appeals.

She married John Jay O'Connor III in 1952, and they have three sons – Scott, Brian and Jay.

**Stephen M. Prescott** will introduce Jordan J. N. Tang. Prescott became the ninth president of the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation in 2006. A leader in the studies of the basic mechanisms of human disease, he came to OMRF from the University of Utah, where he founded the innovative Eccles program in human molecular biology and genetics. He also served as the executive director of the Huntsman Cancer Institute.

At OMRF, Prescott has initiated the largest campus expansion in the foundation's 62-year history. He served as a senior editor of the influential *Journal of Biological Chemistry* and is on the board of the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*. He also is the founder and chairman of Lineagen, a biotechnology company.

Prescott has been elected to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Association of American Physicians, the American Society for Clinical Investigation, the Royal College of Physicians in Ireland and the Royal Academy of Medicine in Spain. Prescott has worked as a consultant for pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies in the United States, Europe and Japan, and has served on the scientific advisory board or board of directors of four biotechnology companies.

In 2006, following nomination by President George W. Bush and confirmation by the United States Senate, Prescott joined the board of trustees for the Udall Foundation. He also serves as a member of the National Advisory Council of the National Human Genome Research Institute.

**Barry Switzer**, a 1999 inductee into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, will present Donna Nigh. Switzer has the fourth highest winning percentages of any college football coach in history. In 1973, he became the head coach at the University of Oklahoma. During the next 16 years he compiled an overall record of 157-29-4, winning 12 Big Eight Conference Championships and three National

Championships. Switzer was head coach of the Dallas Cowboys from 1994 to 1997, winning Super Bowl XXX in 1996.

Switzer was born in Crossett, Ark. in 1937. He attended the University of Arkansas, graduating in 1960 with his bachelor's degree in business.

For the past 35 years, Switzer has given his name, time and participation as honorary head coach of the Oklahoma Special Olympics. He is also the founding organizer of the Swing for Sight Golf Tournaments, which have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the Society for the Prevention of Blindness.

Switzer has been honored with awards and special titles by the Walter Camp Foundation, the Big Eight Conference, the NCAA, the Washington Pigskin Club, The Sporting News, the Associated Press and United Press International. He previously has been inducted into the Oklahoma and Arkansas Sports Halls of Fame and the National College Football Hall of Fame.

Switzer is retired and living in Norman with his wife, Becky. He has three children and two step children and is the proud grandfather of eight.

The Oklahoma Hall of Fame is a project of the Oklahoma Heritage Association, an 80-year-old non-profit dedicated to preserving Oklahoma history and promoting pride in our great state. Through each of its programs and the new Gaylord-Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Museum, in which all 621 Oklahoma Hall of Fame inductees are honored through high-tech exhibits, the organization strives to tell Oklahoma's story through its people.

The 81st annual Oklahoma Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction Ceremony will be held Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2008, in Oklahoma City at the Cox Convention Center. Tickets for the event will go on sale in August. For more information about the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, the Oklahoma Heritage Association or Gaylord-Pickens Museum, please call Millie Craddick, executive administrator of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, at 405.523.3203 or e-mail her at [mc@oklahomaheritage.com](mailto:mc@oklahomaheritage.com).

###