

Central Oklahoma's FRONTIER COUNTRY

For Immediate Release

Contacts: Lauren Lorenzen, Frontier Country Marketing Association

Public Relations Manager

405.232.6552

Lauren@oktourism.com

Erin Page, Gaylord-Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Museum

Director of Communications & Marketing

405.523.3208

ep@oklahomaheritage.com

Frontier Country Marketing Association names Gaylord-Pickens Museum “Outstanding Attraction”

OKLAHOMA CITY – Frontier Country Marketing Association presented awards to 23 members and two media outlets during its 2009 Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon at Frontier City June 25.

The Gaylord-Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Museum was named “Outstanding Attraction.” Opened in May 2007, the Museum uses high-tech, interactive exhibits to tell Oklahoma’s story through its people. In the popular Oklahoma Through Its People and Oklahoma Hall of Fame galleries, visitors meet the famous and not-so-famous Oklahomans who have shaped our state, country and world. Guests also have the opportunity to become part of Oklahoma history by sharing and recording stories about their own heritage in the ONEOK Tell Your Story exhibit.

The FCMA annual awards, which were voted on by Frontier Country members, recognize outstanding tourist attractions, exhibitions, events and businesses in central Oklahoma. The event recognized the accomplishments of Frontier Country members and media support in 12 award categories.

“There were so many strong nominees in each category this year and the voting response by our membership was fantastic,” said Sherri Rogers, executive director of Frontier Country Marketing Association.

In addition to the Gaylord-Pickens Museum, the following organizations and individuals received awards:

- Outstanding Event: Okemah Chamber of Commerce for “Woody Guthrie Folk Festival”
- Outstanding Event Honorable Mention: Oklahoma Railway Museum for “Christmas Train”
- Outstanding Attraction: Gaylord-Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Museum

- Outstanding Attraction Honorable Mention: Riverwind Casino
- Outstanding Tourism Community: Oklahoma City Convention & Visitors Bureau for Oklahoma City
- Outstanding Tourism Community Honorable Mention: Stillwater Convention & Visitors Bureau for Stillwater
- Outstanding Web site: Oklahoma City's Adventure District
- Outstanding Web site Honorable Mention: Oklahoma City Zoo & Botanical Garden
- Outstanding Cultural Tourism: Red Earth Inc., for "Red Earth Native American Cultural Festival"
- Outstanding Cultural Tourism Honorable Mention: Capitol Hill Main Street for "Fiestas de las Americas"
- Outstanding Media Support: KWTU News 9
- Outstanding Media Support Honorable Mention: Clear Channel Radio for Oklahoma Agrinet
- Outstanding Exhibition: Oklahoma History Center for "Another Hot Oklahoma Night! A Rock & Roll Exhibit"
- Outstanding Exhibition Honorable Mention: National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum for "Craft in America: Expanding Traditions"
- Outstanding Outdoor Activity: Festival of Light
- Outstanding Outdoor Activity Honorable Mention: Tatanka Ranch
- Outstanding Children's Attraction/Event: Oklahoma City Zoo & Botanical Garden for "Dinosaurs Unearthed"
- Outstanding Children's Attraction/Event Honorable Mention: Jasmine Moran Children's Museum
- Outstanding Hospitality: Sooner Legends Inn & Suites
- Outstanding Hospitality Honorable Mention: Mickey Mantle's Steakhouse
- Outstanding Food Festival: Harn Homestead & 1889ers Museum for "Fondue Fondango"
- Outstanding Food Festival Honorable Mention: El Reno Main Street for "Annual Onion Fried Burger Day Festival"
- Outstanding Sporting Event: ASA National Softball Hall of Fame for "NCAA Women's College World Series"
- Outstanding Sporting Event Honorable Mention: Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum for "Annual Memorial Marathon"

This year Frontier Country honored board member Tom Collins with the first-ever George Nigh Award. Also, Frontier Country added an Ambassador of the Year Award which was given to Robyn Healy of Campbell Company for her assistance and time donation.

Frontier Country Marketing Association, a 501 c-6 organization, promotes the economic growth of the tourism industry in the 12 central counties of Oklahoma. For more information about Frontier Country, visit www.oktourism.com or call 800-FUN-OKLA. For more information about the Gaylord-Pickens Museum, visit www.oklahomaheritage.com or call 405.235.4458.

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