

2009 Oklahoma Hall of Fame class announced

By Carrie Coppernoll - Staff Writer
Published: June 5, 2009

The 2009 inductees into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame were announced Friday afternoon.

The honorees are C. Kendric Fergeson of Altus; Marlin G. "Ike" Glass Jr. of Newkirk; V. Burns Hargis of Stillwater; Polly A. Nichols of Oklahoma City; Lee Roy Selmon of Eufaula; Steven W. Taylor of McAlester; and Wayman Lawrence Tisdale of Tulsa.

The seven nominees were announced during a reunion of past Hall of Fame inductees at the Gaylord-Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Museum.

The honorees will be inducted Nov. 12 into the Hall of Fame. So far, 628 people have been inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame since 1928.

C. Kendric Fergeson

Ken Fergeson is the chairman of the National Bank of Commerce in Altus. He is active in the banking profession as well as the arts.

Fergeson is chairman of Creative Oklahoma and the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics Foundation, and he's a member of the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority and the Native American Cultural and Education Authority. He is the national treasurer for Americans for the Arts.

In the past, Fergeson has served as chairman of the American Bankers Association, the Oklahoma Bankers Association, the Oklahoma State Chamber, the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence and Oklahoma Academy. He also has served on several boards, such as for the Oklahoma Arts Council, the Oklahoma Arts Institute, the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, the Mid-America Arts Alliance, Quartz Mountain Music Festival and the Shortgrass Arts and Humanities Council. He is a vice chairman of the Oklahoma Heritage Association Board of Directors.

Fergeson graduated from Texas Tech University. He and wife Mary Ann have a son, Jarrod, and a daughter, Casey.

Marlin G. "Ike" Glass, Jr.

Ike Glass owns Glass Trucking in Newkirk. Aside from running his family business, Glass is active in promoting education and transportation throughout Oklahoma.

He has served on the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education since 1997.

He served as president of the Newkirk School Board and president of the Oklahoma State University Alumni Association. Gov. Frank Keating appointed Glass to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education in 1997, and Gov. Brad Henry reappointed him in 2007.

Glass served with the Oklahoma Transportation Center, the Governors Conference on Small Business, the Oklahoma Trucking Association and the State Chamber of Commerce. He is a vice chairman of the Oklahoma Heritage Association Board of Directors.

Glass served as a U.S. Navy air controller during the Korean War. Glass graduated with a bachelor's degree in management from Oklahoma State University. He and wife Marybeth have a son, Rob, and a daughter, Jennifer.

V. Burns Hargis

Burns Hargis is the 18th president of Oklahoma State University.

Before becoming president of OSU in 2007, Hargis practiced law for 28 years in Oklahoma City. He is the former president of the Oklahoma County Bar Association and the Oklahoma Bar Foundation. He is a fellow of the American Bar Foundation. Hargis also was vice chairman of Bank of Oklahoma.

Hargis was a candidate for the Republican nomination for governor of Oklahoma in 1990.

Hargis served on the Oklahoma State Election Board, the Oklahoma Constitutional Revision Commission, and the Oklahoma Commission for Human Services. Hargis was the first chair of the Oklahoma Creativity Project. He is a member of the Oklahoma Heritage Association Board of Directors.

Hargis earned his accounting degree from OSU and law degree from the University of Oklahoma. Hargis and his wife, Ann, have two children.

Polly A. Nichols

Polly Nichols is a community volunteer and philanthropist who has been involved with more than 20 organizations.

Nichols was born in McAlester and moved to Oklahoma City in 1971.

Nichols survived the Oklahoma City bombing and then co-chaired the fundraising drive to build the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum. She is a member of the museum board of trustees and co-chair of the first Reflections of Hope event for the memorial.

She has served with the Oklahoma City Junior League, Science Museum Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits. She helped found the Juliette Low Leadership Society Luncheon for Girl Scouts-Western Oklahoma. She has co-chaired the Allied Arts fund drive. Nichols and her husband, Larry, co-chaired the 2007 United Way fund drive. She is a member of the Oklahoma Heritage Association Board of Directors executive committee.

In addition to her volunteer experience, Nichols served as executive director of the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence.

She serves on the boards of Integris Baptist Medical Center operations, the United Way of Central Oklahoma and the University of Oklahoma Foundation.

Lee Roy Selmon

Lee Roy Selmon and his two brothers played defensive end for the University of Oklahoma, most notably during the national championship years of 1975 and 1976. In 1995, he became the first OU player to be inducted into the NFL Hall of Fame.

Selmon was a National Football Foundation National Scholar and an All-American while he played for OU. He also earned the Vince Lombardi Award and the Outland Trophy Award. He also was inducted into the GTE Academic Hall of Fame.

Selmon was the first player selected in the 1976 NFL draft; he was the first ever draft pick of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers franchise.

He was selected to Pro-Bowl six times and was named NFL Defensive Lineman of the Year. Selman was a finalist for the NFL's Byron "Whizzer" White Award, given to one player each year for humanitarian service.

After his career in professional football, Selmon worked in the banking industry and then became athletic director for the University of South Florida. The state of Florida named an expressway after him.

Selmon is from Eufaula and earned a degree in special education from OU.

Steven W. Taylor

Steven W. Taylor is vice-chief justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court.

He earned his bachelor's degree from Oklahoma State University in 1971 and his law degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1974. After graduation, he spent four years of active duty in the U.S. Marine Corps. In 1977 he became the youngest judge in the U.S. Armed Forces and was promoted to the rank of Major.

In 1982, Taylor became the youngest mayor of McAlester. An industrial park there has

been named in his honor.

Taylor is a member of the Oklahoma State University Hall of Fame and won the Regents Alumni Award from the University of Oklahoma.

Taylor was a trial judge for more than 20 years and presided over more than 500 jury trials, including the Terry Nichols case after the Oklahoma City bombing.

In 2004, Taylor was appointed to the Supreme Court of Oklahoma. He is a vice chairman of the Oklahoma Heritage Association Board of Directors.

Wayman Lawrence Tisdale

Wayman Tisdale was known for his skills as a basketball player and jazz musician.

Tisdale died May 15, a month after he learned he would be inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame. During his three seasons at the University of Oklahoma, Tisdale averaged 25.6 points and 10 rebounds per game. He was named the Big Eight Conference player of the year and a first-team All-American three times. He was the first freshman to be named a first-team All-American. He has the OU career scoring record with 2,661 points and career rebounding record with 1,048 rebounds.

Tisdale played in the NBA for 12 seasons for the Indiana Pacers, Sacramento Kings and the Phoenix Suns. He averaged 15.3 points per game.

Tisdale was a member of the U.S. Olympic team that won gold in the 1984 games.


Tisdale also was an award-winning jazz musician. Several of his albums broke the top 10 on the Billboard charts.

Tisdale learned he had cancer in February 2007 after breaking his leg. His leg was amputated in August. He formed the Wayman Tisdale Foundation to support cancer patients and amputees.

Tisdale died of cancer at St. John Medical Center in Tulsa, his hometown. He was 44.




ConservaStory prepared for opening: June 5, 2009
Workers prepare ConservaStory for its Saturday opening.



Academy Training
View pictures from the Police Training Center as cadets perform their morning exercise.



Roundabout art: Tuesday, June 2, 2009
Finalists' models in an art competition for public art in the new roundabouts being built in Norman. The models are displayed in the Norman Public Library.



Rock Cafe in Stroud
View pictures from the re-opening
14 photos