



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OKLAHOMA HERITAGE ASSOCIATION TO HONOR OKLAHOMA LEADERS

The Annual Membership Meeting and Awards Luncheon of the Oklahoma Heritage Association will be held on Thursday, March 23, 2006 at the Gaillardia Country Club in Oklahoma City. During the luncheon the Association will recognize three educators, two organizations, one individual, and one periodical for their efforts in preserving and promoting Oklahoma's incredible history.

The Edward L. & Thelma Gaylord Oklahoma Territory Award for Excellence in Teaching Oklahoma History will be presented to Doug Davis of Hinton Public Schools. The Harn Homestead and 1889ers Museum, Oklahoma City, is the 2006 recipient of the Edward L. & Thelma Gaylord Oklahoma Territory Award for Preservation of State and Local History. Davis and the Harn Homestead each will receive the Flame of Knowledge and a \$5,000 cash prize funded by the Gaylord Family, Oklahoma City.

Loyd M. Ingham, Central Ninth Grade Center, will receive the Robert E. & Roxana Lorton and Harold C. & Joan S. Stuart Indian Territory Award for Excellence in Teaching Oklahoma History. The 2006 Robert E. & Roxana Lorton and Harold C. & Joan S. Stuart Indian Territory Award for Preservation of State and Local History recipient is the Ardmore Main Street Authority, Ardmore. Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Lorton and Harold C. and the late Joan S. Stuart have made possible the \$5,000 cash prize and Flame of Knowledge for each recipient.

Wanda L. Bass, McAlester, and The McCasland Foundation, Duncan, have funded the Wanda L. Bass/McCasland Award for Excellence in Teaching Oklahoma History at the college or university level. Dr. Patricia Loughlin, Assistant Dean of the History Department at the University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, will receive the Flame of Knowledge and a \$5,000 cash prize.

The Oklahoma Heritage Distinguished Service Award will be presented to Lee Allan Smith, Oklahoma City, for his constant fostering of Oklahoma pride and the promotion of our great state. The *Pauls Valley Daily Democrat*, Pauls Valley, will receive the Association's Oklahoma Heritage Distinguished Editorial Award for their efforts in preserving Oklahoma history in their community.

Oklahoma Heritage Association Chairman of the Board Roxana Lorton, Tulsa, will serve as master of ceremonies for the luncheon and Judge Lee West, Oklahoma City, will be the featured speaker. Following the luncheon, guests will have the opportunity to congratulate the 2006 recipients and attend the book signing featuring the Association's most recent publications—*Law & Laughter: The Life of Lee West*, *Lee Allan Smith: Oklahoma's Best Friend*, and *Norick: Mayors of Oklahoma City*.

To purchase luncheon reservations telephone the Association's office at 405/235-4458 or toll free 888/501-2059. Individual reservations are \$35 each and sponsorship opportunities are available. To learn more about the Oklahoma Heritage Association and the Annual Membership Meeting and Awards Luncheon visit the Association's website at www.oklahomaheritage.com.

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