



OKLAHOMA HERITAGE Association  
GAYLORD-PICKENS Museum

# STUDY GUIDE

2010 Oklahoma Heritage Scholarship Competition

GENEROSITY • INDIVIDUALISM • OPTIMISM • PERSEVERANCE • PIONEER SPIRIT

2010  
Oklahoma  
Heritage  
Scholarship  
Competition

Saturday,  
April 24  
at  
16 Test Sites  
Statewide

Students Must  
be Pre-  
Registered to  
Participate

Registration  
Forms Available  
at  
[www.oklahomaheritage.com](http://www.oklahomaheritage.com)

## Featured Oklahomans

C. Kendric Fergeson  
Marlin G. Glass, Jr.  
V. Burns Hargis  
Polly A. Nichols  
Lee Roy Selmon  
Steven W. Taylor  
Wayman Tisdale

### C. Kendric Fergeson

With economic degrees from Texas Tech, Ken Fergeson commenced his banking career in Oklahoma City before purchasing the majority of NBC Bank in Altus in 1985 and settling his family in southwest Oklahoma.

Fergeson has played key roles in the banking industry, including serving as chairman of the American Bankers Association, the Oklahoma Bankers Association and the Oklahoma State Chamber. He is currently chairman of Creative Oklahoma and the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics Foundation and serves on the Native American Cultural and Education Authority and the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority by governor appointments. He has previously chaired the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence and Oklahoma Academy.

Fergeson's interest in supporting the arts is exemplified by his role as national treasurer for American for Arts. His belief in the importance of the arts has led him to serve on boards 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. Fergeson and NBC Bank created the Oklahoma Artists Series, commissioning paintings and distributing their prints and posters to customers.

Fergeson and his wife, Mary Ann, are the parents of a son, Jarrod and a daughter, Casey.



### Marlin G. "Ike" Glass, Jr.

Glass, a patriot, entrepreneur and successful businessman in Newkirk, learned a strong work ethic from his father while participating in the family-owned trucking business as a young man.



Glass is now CEO of the company and has turned it into a major enterprise that operates throughout the Midwest.

After graduating from Newkirk High School, Glass joined the U.S. Navy, serving in the Korean conflict for four years. He returned to graduate from Oklahoma State University with a degree in business administration, where he met and married Marybeth Brunsteter. They have two children, Rob and Jennifer, and three grandchildren. Glass is most highly thought of for his efforts to make higher education and post-secondary education available to all children and citizens of our state. He has financially supported multiple scholarship programs and given encouragement and financial assistance to many young people, enabling them to pursue higher education.

He served as president of the Newkirk School Board, past president of the OSU Alumni Association and, in 1997, Gov. Frank Keating appointed Glass to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for a nine-year term. In 2007, he was reappointed by Governor Brad Henry. Glass served as president of the Oklahoma Transportation Center, vice chair of the Governors Conference on Small Business, president of the Oklahoma Trucking Association and chairman of the State Chamber of Commerce.

## Study Materials

The contents in this Study Guide are a supplement to the information found in Oklahoma History textbooks adopted by the State of Oklahoma. Individuals featured are the most recent inductees into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame.

The majority of questions on the Oklahoma Heritage Scholarship Examination will come from information in the adopted textbooks.

## V. Burns Hargis

V. Burns Hargis has been a passionate and creative Oklahoma leader for nearly 40 years. Today he serves as the 18<sup>th</sup> president of Oklahoma State University. He is only the second OSU graduate to serve as president and holds degrees in accounting from OSU and in law from the University of Oklahoma.

Hargis has brought incredible enthusiasm and energy to OSU. Shortly after becoming president, Hargis led a record-setting fund-

raising initiative. He has a bold vision of creating a modern land-grant university that combines disciplines to better prepare students for a new world.

Prior to becoming president of OSU, Hargis had a distinguished banking and legal career and led many active civic and philanthropic initiatives. Hargis was a candidate for the Republican nomination for governor of Oklahoma in 1990 and is familiar to many

Oklahomans through the political perspective and wit he provided on the award-winning television program “Flashpoint.”

A firm believer in the power of imagination and collaboration, Hargis was the first chair of the Oklahoma Creativity Project, which seeks to catalyze a culture of creativity in culture, commerce and education.

Hargis and his wife, Ann, have two married children and three grandchildren.



## Polly A. Nichols



Polly Nichols, community volunteer and philanthropist, has served Oklahoma nonprofits most of her life. Born in McAlester, she has been involved with more than 20 organizations since moving to Oklahoma City in 1971.

A survivor of the Oklahoma City bombing, she co-chaired the \$29.1 million dollar fundraising drive to build the Okla-

homa City National Memorial & Museum and continues to serve on the Memorial board. She has served as chair of the Memorial, Oklahoma City Junior League,

Science Museum Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits, where she has worked to build a coalition of nonprofits in Oklahoma.

In addition to her volunteer experience, Nichols served as executive director of the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence from 1990 to 1997, a period of substantial growth for the organization. She was co-chair of the founding Juliette Low Leadership Society Luncheon for

Girl Scouts-Western Oklahoma, co-chair of the first Reflections of Hope event for the Memorial, co-chair of the Allied Arts Fund drive, and with her husband, Larry, co-chair of the 2007 United Way fund drive.

She is currently serving on the boards of INTEGRIS Baptist Medical Center, the United Way, the Kirkpatrick Family Foundation, and the University of Oklahoma Foundation.

## Lee Roy Selmon

Lee Roy Selmon and his two brothers gave the University of Oklahoma one of the greatest football defenses in history, winning back-to-back national championships in 1975 and 1976.

After graduating from high school in Eufaula, Selmon attended the University of Oklahoma, where he earned a degree in special education. While at OU, he was named a National Football Foundation Na-

tional Scholar and an All-American in 1974 and 1975. He also earned the Vince Lombardi Award for top lineman in the nation and the Outland Trophy Award.

Selmon was the first player drafted into the NFL in 1976. He was inducted into the GTE/CoSIDA Academic Hall of Fame and was the first Sooner to be enshrined in the NFL Hall of Fame. He was selected to Pro-Bowl six times and was named

NFL Defensive Player of the Year. Selmon was nominated for the NFL's Byron “Whizzer” White Award for Humanitarian Service, and the state of Florida has named a major Hillsborough County Expressway the “Lee Roy Selmon Expressway.”

Selmon was hired as associate director of athletics of the University of Southern Florida in 1994 in preparation for the university's initiation of intercollegiate football. Prior to joining the USF Bulls, he had a successful banking career that began while he was still playing for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.



## Steven W. Taylor

Vice Chief Justice Steven W. Taylor, McAlester, earned his B.A. from Oklahoma State University in 1971 and his Juris Doctor from the University of Oklahoma in 1974. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1970 and served on active duty from 1974 to 1978. In 1977 he became the youngest judge in the U.S. Armed Forces and was promoted to the rank of Major.

In 1982 he was elected mayor of McAlester, the youngest in the city's history, and a multi-million dollar industrial park has since been named for him in recognition of his economic development efforts.

Taylor was inducted into the Oklahoma State University Hall of Fame and has received the Regents Alumni Award from the University of Oklahoma, making him the only person to have received the highest alumni recognition from both schools.

Taylor was a district judge for 21 years and presided over more than 500 jury trials, including the Terry Nichols Oklahoma City bombing case. In 2004, Taylor was appointed to the Supreme Court of Oklahoma.

During the Oklahoma Centennial year, *Oklahoma* magazine named Justice Taylor as



one of the "100 Who Shaped Us," a list of living and past Oklahomans who influenced the first 100 years of our state.

## Wayman Tisdale



Known as both a successful basketball player and jazz musician, the 6'9" Tulsa native spent three years at the University of Oklahoma before his 12 seasons in the NBA, including stints with the Indiana Pacers, Sacramento Kings and the Phoenix Suns. Tisdale then became an award-winning jazz musician, with several of his albums making the top 10 on the Billboard charts.

In 1983, Tisdale became the first freshman to make *The Associated Press'* first-

team All America list, which he repeated twice more. He averaged 25.6 points and 10.1 rebounds per game during his seasons with the Sooners, earning Big Eight Conference player of the year each season.

He stills holds OU's career scoring record with 2,661 points and career rebounding record with 1,048. He played on the U.S. team that won the gold medal in the 1984 Olympic Games and went on to average 15.3 points per game during his professional career. In April, Tisdale learned he had been chosen for induction into the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame.

Tisdale first learned he had a cancerous cyst below his right knee in February 2007. His leg was amputated last August, after which he wore a crimson prosthetic in honor of his beloved Oklahoma Sooners. To help oth-

ers going through the same ordeal, he formed The Wayman Tisdale Foundation to counsel amputees and help them afford the prosthetic process.

Tisdale lost his two-year battle with cancer at the age of 44 on May 15 at St. John Medical Center in Tulsa. After learning of and accepting his selection as a member of the 2009 Oklahoma Hall of Fame class in April, Tisdale was looking forward to his November induction.

## Did you Know?

Induction into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame is the highest honor an individual can receive from the State of Oklahoma

The Oklahoma Hall of Fame Banquet & Induction Ceremony is held annually in November, the month of Statehood

More than 600 individuals have been inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame

Each member of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame is featured in the Gaylord-Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Museum

The Oklahoma Hall of Fame is Televised on OETA

Educational opportunities annually offered by the **Oklahoma Heritage Association** include:

- More than \$500,000 in scholarships to high school students.
- Heritage Week competitions for students in grades 4 through 12.
- Summer Camp for ages 5 to 15.
- Oklahoma Voices Series for all ages.
- Field trips to the Gaylord-Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Museum—voted Nickelodeon’s Parents’ Choice Best Pick for Teens.
- “I Am Oklahoma” program for students of all ages.
- In-Class Oklahoma History Supplements
- Excellence in Teaching Oklahoma History awards for educators.
- *Oklahoma: Magazine* distributed to high school libraries statewide.

## Oklahoma Hall of Fame Medallion

Upon induction into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, the Honoree is presented with an Oklahoma Hall of Fame medallion.

The white star of the medallion, taken from the State Seal, represents Oklahoma as the 46<sup>th</sup> state of the Union and the 46<sup>th</sup> star on the flag of the United States. The gold center, Uncle Sam blessing the union of Oklahoma and Indian territories, is taken directly from the Oklahoma Heritage Association’s early impression stamp. The star is surrounded by a mistletoe wreath, like that of the impression stamp and the Oklahoma State Seal. The Mistletoe wreath first was used as an element of the Great Seal of the Territory of Oklahoma.

The five “T” shapes above the star honor the five Indian Nations that inhabited Indian Territory prior to Statehood. Surrounding the Ts are rays of the sun, the Indian symbol for constancy—unchanging or unwavering. The medallion hangs from a ribbon, reddish in color that depicts Oklahoma’s rich red earth. Originally hung from a short ribbon and pinned to the recipient, current medallions are hung from a ribbon around the neck.



*The generosity of Edward L. Gaylord, 1974 Oklahoma Hall of Fame Honoree, and T. Boone Pickens, 2003 Oklahoma Hall of Fame Honoree, made possible the Edward L. Gaylord—T. Boone Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Museum and a state-of-the-art Oklahoma Hall of Fame Gallery.*

[www.oklahomaheritage.com](http://www.oklahomaheritage.com)



For additional information contact:

Gini Moore Campbell  
Oklahoma Heritage Association  
Gaylord-Pickens Museum  
1400 Classen Drive  
Oklahoma City, OK 73106  
888.501.2059  
405.523.3202  
gmc@oklahomaheritage.com