

For Immediate Release:  
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### **Booth Western Art Museum Announces Finalists of 2008 Youth Cowboy Poetry Contest**

CARTERSVILLE, Ga. – The Booth Western Art Museum is pleased to announce the finalists of the 2008 Youth Cowboy Poetry Contest. The contest was open for students in three age groups: grades five and six, grades seven and eight and grades nine through twelve. Students selected from topics relative to the theme *The Spirit of the American West* and submitted their entries to a panel of judges. The top fifteen semi-finalists in each age group competed at the Booth Western Art Museum on Saturday, March 8 as part of the Cowboy Gathering.

The finalists will return to the Booth to compete for cash prizes in the final competition on Saturday, April 19, 2008 in honor of National Cowboy Poetry Week.

*Finalists in the 2008 Cowboy Poetry Competition include:*

#### **Grades 5 and 6**

- Joseph Nease from Cartersville, Ga., Bartow County 4-H
- Victoria Staley from Cartersville, Ga., Cartersville Middle School
- Lauren Nicole Seymour from Cartersville, Ga., Cartersville Middle School

#### **Grades 7 and 8**

- Ben Vagase from Cartersville, Ga., Cartersville Middle School
- Maria Cabanas from Cartersville, Ga., Cartersville Middle School
- Mallory Fleming from Cartersville, Ga., South Central Middle School

#### **Grades 9 through 12**

- Rachel Potter from Rydal, Ga., Adairsville High School
- Omicha Stapleton from Peachtree City, Ga., McIntosh High School
- Kayla Frazier from White, Ga., Adairsville High School

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#### **About the Booth Western Art Museum**

The Booth Western Art Museum, an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is an 80,000 square foot museum located in Cartersville, Georgia, where guests are invited to explore the American West through contemporary Western artwork. The Museum also houses a Presidential Gallery, Civil War art gallery, and Sagebrush Ranch – featuring hands-on art activities. Visitors to Booth Museum also enjoy the intimate downtown setting with unique specialty and antique shops, boutiques and nationally featured restaurants all within walking distance of the Museum. Open since August 2003, the Booth Museum is the only museum of its kind in the Southeast and is the second largest art museum in the state of Georgia. To learn more about the Booth Western Art Museum, visit [www.boothmuseum.org](http://www.boothmuseum.org).