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**The Booth Western Art Museum presents the
3rd Annual Kids Cowboy Up! Art Exhibition**

CARTERSVILLE, GA – The Booth Western Art Museum will feature artwork from local children this month as part of the third annual ***Kids Cowboy Up! Art Exhibition***. The exhibit will open November 21 in the Borderlands Gallery and be on display until December 17. A **Meet the Artists Reception** will be held on November 30 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The exhibit is part of the Kids Cowboy Up Outreach Program at the Booth Museum, which serves youth who are enrolled in the Cartersville-Bartow County Boys and Girls Club and the Hands of Christ after school programs. The Kids Cowboy Up program exposes children to art at a young age and often provides the students with their first museum experience. Through visits to the Booth Museum, regular visits by Museum education staff members, and a variety of hands on activities, children learn about the basic elements of sculpture, printmaking, pottery, drawing, painting and collage.

Booth Museum Director of Education Lisa Wheeler said, “It is very exciting to see children participating in the show for the third year in a row and how their artistic talent has developed each year. We feel this outreach program makes a positive difference in the lives of children in the community.”

The highlight of the Kids Cowboy Up Program is the special display of the children’s artwork each fall. Exciting paintings, drawings, sculptures and pottery produced by children throughout the past year make up the exhibition.

Throughout the school year children are also treated to special performances by Jim Dunham, Director of Special Projects, and Doc Stovall, Entertainment and Sponsorship Manager, at the Booth Museum. The performances include cartooning, gun slinging, roping, singing and story telling.

To help generate funds for the Kids Cowboy Up Program, the Booth Museum held a Celebrity Painted Pony Art Auction and a special wine dinner called *Fire in the West* earlier this year. As part of the Booth Museum’s May celebration of the Trail of the Painted Ponies 16 artists and media celebrities created original ponies for the event. Tom Sullivan of Star 94 and Cheryl White of Fox 5, along with artists such as Lori Musil and Eric Strauss, were among those who donated their time and talent, helping to raise over \$3,000.

Patrons of *Fire in the West*, a wine dinner held at the Booth Museum and D. Morgan's restaurant in downtown Cartersville, enjoyed a six course meal with wine pairings. Each course was prepared by a different Atlanta chef. Participating chefs included Chef Charles Vosburgh of Barnsley Gardens Resort, Chef Hector Santiago of Pura Vida, Chef Derek Morgan of D. Morgan's, Chef Tom Harvey of NAVA, Chef Gerardos Ramos of Mitra, and Chef Anne Quatrano of Bacchanalia. All proceeds from *Fire in the West* went towards the Kids Cowboy Up Program.

About the Booth Western Art Museum:

The Booth Western Museum 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 features a Presidential Gallery, a Civil War art gallery, and Sagebrush Ranch – a children's interactive gallery - featuring hands-on art activities and areas for role-playing, storytelling and reading, all presented with a Western flair. 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. For more information about the Booth Western Art Museum call 770-387-1300 or visit www.boothmuseum.org.

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