

Georgia Youth Cowboy Poetry Contest 2009 - 2010

Sponsored by the Booth Western Art Museum

The Booth Western Art Museum is happy to announce our Annual Cowboy Poetry Contest for students in Georgia. The contest is for students in grades five through twelve and is held in conjunction with the 7th Annual Southeastern Cowboy Gathering sponsored by the Booth Western Art Museum.

The contest is open to students in four grade level designations: grades five and six, grades seven and eight, grades nine and ten, and grades eleven and twelve. The top ten finalists in each age group will compete at the Booth Western Art Museum in Cartersville, GA on Sunday, March 14, 2010 as part of the 7th Annual Southeastern Cowboy Gathering. Students will select from topics relative to the theme *The Spirit of the American West* and will submit their entries to a panel of judges for evaluation.

As cowboy poetry is a new area for most students in Georgia, the Booth Museum will offer free workshops on cowboy poetry as time and scheduling permit. The workshops cover several topics including the basic structure of poems, rhyme schemes and patterns, and presentation of the poetry. These workshops will be conducted by working cowboy poets who will come to your classroom or 4-H club meeting and outline some of the basics of cowboy poetry. For more information contact Doc Stovall at the Booth Western Art Museum.

First, second and third place **cash prizes** will be awarded at the final competition on March 14. Scoring will be based on the following areas: adherence to contest rules, material organization, vocabulary and style, and presentation of the poem. Applications and a complete set of rules are attached.

Entries are due by February 15, 2010. *If you have any questions or would like to arrange a workshop for your students, please see the contact information listed below.*

Contact Information:

Doc Stovall
Entertainment & Sponsorship Manager
Booth Western Art Museum
PO Box 3070
501 Museum Drive
Cartersville, Georgia 30120

770-387-1265
DocS@boothmuseum.org



The Grassroots Arts Program is supported in part by the Georgia Council for the Arts through an appropriation of the Georgia General Assembly and administered by the Creative Arts Guild.

Application for the 2009 - 2010 Georgia Youth Cowboy Poetry Contest Sponsored by the Booth Western Art Museum

Theme: The Spirit of the American West

Topics:

1. Landscapes and Vistas
2. Cowboys and Cattle Drives
3. The Price of Change
4. Horses
5. Native American Culture
6. Women of the West



Section 1 General Rules

1. The Booth Western Art Museum is the official sponsor of the Georgia Youth Cowboy Poetry Contest.
2. The contest is open to students in grades 5 through 12.
3. To be eligible to enter the contest, contestants must compose an **original** cowboy poem and submit it according to contest rules.
4. The Booth Western Art Museum reserves the right to edit, publish or otherwise duplicate any poem entered in the contest without payment to the author.

Section 2 Contest Rules

1. Each contestant must complete an entry form and be given a copy of the rules. The rules contain information about the contest, judging and awards.
2. Participants can only submit one entry in the contest.
3. Participants must write their poem about one of the six official topics.
4. There is no pre-determined word limit or length for the poem but the poet should be able to recite it between two and four minutes.
5. Contestants should not put their names on the poem or make any references in the poem that would identify the contestant.
6. Poems must be type written and double-spaced with one extra space between each new verse.
7. Poems should be titled at the top of the first page.
8. Each page of the poem must be numbered at the bottom of the page.
9. To submit the poem, staple the application and poem together in the upper left-hand corner. Please do not use a report cover.
10. **Entries must be delivered to Doc Stovall at the Booth Western Art Museum by 5:00 pm on Monday, February 15, 2010 to be eligible for judging.**



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Section 3 Workshops and Judging

1. The contest and related poetry writing workshops will be coordinated by Doc Stovall, at the Booth Western Art Museum in Cartersville.
2. Judging will be completed by a panel of qualified judges who are not employed by the Museum.
3. In an effort to conceal the identity of each contestant, each entry will be assigned a number by the contest coordinator. The assigned number will be placed on the application and first page of the poem. The application form will then be detached and retained by the contest coordinator. The judges will then be given the poem bearing only the assigned number.
4. Judging will be based on a point system. An average of points awarded by each judge will determine the selection of the top 10 contestants from each age group, who will be asked to come to the Booth Museum on Sunday, **March 14, 2010** to recite their poems.
5. First, second and third place winners will be selected at the Finals and the following cash awards will be awarded in each age group: First place - \$500, Second place - \$300, Third place - \$200

Section 4 Scoring of Contest

1. Material Organization (logical interpretation of the subject, adherence to topic): 45 points
2. Vocabulary and Style (phrasing and continuity): 45 points
3. Adherence to contest rules (prepared in the proper format): 10 points
4. Final presentation (reciting the poem): 100 points

For more information or to submit an entry contact:

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Application for the 2009 - 2010 Cowboy Poetry Contest

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ Date of Birth _____

School / 4-H Club _____ Grade _____

School / 4-H Club Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Teacher / Sponsor _____