

Celebrate History at Cowboy Festival

Cartersville, Ga. - October 22 – 25, the Booth Western Art Museum will host the 7th Annual Southeastern Cowboy Festival and Symposium, the South's largest celebration of Western art. Special guests for this year's event include artist Buck McCain and cowboy poet Baxter Black.

The weekend begins Thursday evening, October 22 with a lecture by McCain, a fifth generation rancher equally well known for his paintings and sculpture. On Friday, McCain will present a daylong art workshop at the Booth Art Academy.

The theme for this year's art symposium is "Western Art in Context." On Friday art curators Jerry Smith, Phoenix Art Museum; Dr. Graham Boettcher, Birmingham Museum of Art; Anne Morand, C. M. Russell Museum; Mindy Besaw, Buffalo Bill Historical Center; and Dr. Stephen Graffe, Maryhill Art Museum will discuss Western art in American art galleries, the exhibition of Native American artifacts and more.

Throughout the rest of the weekend guests can enjoy concerts Friday and Saturday, re-enactments of the Gunfight at the O.K. Corral, children's activities, chuck wagon cooking, Native American dancing, cowboy church and living history encampments. All activities take place on the grounds of the Booth Museum or at the Grand Theatre, both located in downtown Cartersville.

The Cowboy Festival and Symposium celebrates America's rich Western heritage. The Booth Museum's Executive Director Seth Hopkins said, "The Symposium is a unique opportunity for area residents to experience the West without leaving the South. Those attending the event will hopefully come away with a greater appreciation of our Western experience as it is portrayed in the Museum's collections. There are plenty of fun and entertaining activities planned for all ages, but we also want to emphasize the educational aspect of each activity that will be part of the weekend."

The Booth Museum was recently expanded to 120,000 square feet of space and has more gallery space dedicated to Western art than any museum in the country. Guests at the museum explore the American West primarily through the work of living artists. Recent additions include historic Western art borrowed from museums across the country and an exhibition of Native American artifacts. The Museum also features a Presidential Gallery, a Civil War art gallery, and Sagebrush Ranch – a children's interactive gallery.

For more information about this event or the Booth Western Art Museum call 770-387-1300 or visit www.boothmuseum.org.

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