

NATIONAL MULTICULTURAL WESTERN HERITAGE MUSEUM

PRESS RELEASE
November 3, 2009

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“Chesapeake Energy to Receive 2009 Corporate Western Heritage Award at National Multicultural Western Heritage Museum Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony”

FORT WORTH, TX – The National Multicultural Western Heritage Museum will host its annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Weekend of Activities November 6-November 7, 2009. The excitement and participation has grown steadily each year as the museum continues to introduce the history of multicultural people involved in western culture to an ever-increasing multicultural audience.

Chesapeake Energy will receive the 2009 Corporate Western Heritage Award at the induction ceremony and banquet for their corporate giving and community support. Chesapeake supports projects such as community and public service improvements, primary and higher education, public safety, health care, youth programs, historical preservation and environmental protection. Community involvement and enhancement initiatives are among the founding principles of Chesapeake Energy. The 2009 Hall of Fame Inductees will include Mayisha Elaine Hook Akbar, founder of the Compton Jr. Posse Youth Equestrian Program; Alex Dees, champion Brangus breeder; Dean Smith, Olympic Gold Medalist and movie stuntman and Ben Tahmahkera, a descendent of Quanah Parker and Comanche Nation advocate. 2009 posthumous inductions include Calvin Greely, Jr., an African-American pioneer in Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association competitions, Henry Harris, legendary wagon boss and ranch foreman, Isaac Burns Murphy, the first of only two black jockeys elected to the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame in Saratoga Springs, and Albino Tais, accomplished horseman in the Spanish vaquero tradition. Tickets to attend the induction ceremony and banquet are available through the museum’s business office, (817) 922-9999 or email info@cowboysofcolor.org. The weekend line up begins Friday, November 6, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. with a Hall of Fame Weekend Sponsor VIP Reception held at the National Multicultural Western Heritage Museum, located at 3400 Mount Vernon Ave., Fort Worth, Texas 76103-2525. VIPs from the sponsors of the 2009 Hall of Fame Weekend along with the 2009 honorees, alumni and invited symposium presenters will gather to network with one another, greet event attendees and enjoy good food and conversation. The reception is open to the public. For tickets to attend, please RSVP the museum’s business office at info@cowboysofcolor.org or call (817) 922-9999.

The weekend continues on Saturday morning, November 7, 2009 with the “Forgotten Cowboys” Western Heritage Symposium, sponsored in part with a grant from Humanities Texas, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The symposium is scheduled to take place from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m at the National Multicultural Western Heritage Museum. During the symposium, museum guests will attend a series of western heritage sessions, in which they will learn about a proud heritage, learn to embrace diversity and tolerance, and encounter new role models, as they hear from western heritage historians and guest speakers who will increase museum guests’ knowledge of the complete history of the settlement of the western United States. During each session, museum guests will be presented with the stories of the underrepresented persons who significantly contributed to the development of the American Western Frontier. The sessions will consist of oral presentations by western heritage historians and guest speakers, the viewing of historic photographs and artifacts as well

as opportunities for museum guests to interact with the speakers, test their knowledge of history and win prizes. Museum guests are also invited to tour the National Multicultural Western Heritage Museum free of charge during the symposium. The symposium is free of charge and open to the public, however, pre-registration is requested. Students, educators, adult groups, youth groups and families are all encouraged to attend. Box Lunches will be available for purchase (\$8.00) or feel free to bring a “brown bag”. To register for the event, please contact the staff of the National Multicultural Western Heritage Museum at (817) 922-9999 or at info@cowboysofcolor.org. Free parking is available.

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“Chesapeake Energy to Receive 2009 Corporate Western Heritage Award at National Multicultural Western Heritage Museum Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony” (continued)

The weekend activities conclude on Saturday evening, November 7, 2009 with the 2009 Annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Banquet, beginning with a reception for the honorees at 6:00 p.m. and followed by the Induction Ceremony and Banquet at 7:00 p.m. at the Sheraton Fort Worth Hotel & Spa. The Hall of Fame induction ceremony salutes outstanding pioneers who contributed to the settling of the early American Western Frontier as well as acknowledge individuals who continue to be trailblazers committed to the legacy of western culture.

The National Multicultural Western Heritage Museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2001 to acknowledge the contributions of Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, European Americans and African Americans in the settlement of the Western Frontier. The museum's regular operation hours are Wednesday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For more information about the museum or the 2009 National Multicultural Western Heritage Museum Induction Ceremony Weekend Activities, please contact the staff.

MUSEUM LOCATION:

3400 Mount Vernon Avenue
Fort Worth, Texas 76103

817-534-8801 – **Museum Phone**
817-534-6277 - **Museum Fax**

MUSEUM HOURS OF OPERATION:

Wed - Sat 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

MUSEUM ADMISSION: \$6.00 for adults, \$4.00 for senior citizens, \$3.00 for students with I.D., and children 5 and under are free.

BUSINESS OFFICE LOCATION:

2401 Scott Avenue
Fort Worth, Texas 76103

817-922-9999 – **Business Office Phone**
817-923-9304 - **Business Office Fax**

BUSINESS OFFICE HOURS OF OPERATION:

Mon – Fri 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

E-MAIL: info@cowboysofcolor.org

WEBSITE: www.cowboysofcolor.org

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