









Lawton Arts REVIEW

The Official Newsletter of the Arts & Humanities Division



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OUR MISSION

To encourage and promote artistic expression and diversity in the City of Lawton.

OUR VISION

To create an enduring artistic and cultural community.

WHO WE ARE

- Jason Poudrier | A & H Administrator
- Andrea Morman | A & H Deputy Administrator
- Michell Rosario | Community Events & Outreach Coordinator
- Haley Moore | Digital Media & Records Specialist
- Reagan Williams | Administrative Assistant
- Nick Sasseen | Theatrical Technical Coordinator
- Terry Gresham | Maintenance Technician
- Stavis Morman | PT House Manager
- Manuel Smith | PT Maintenance Technician

May EVENTS



14

SCORE GRADUATION

PRESENTED BY GREAT PLAINS TECHNOLOGY CENTER
MCMAHON MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM



16

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

CAMERON UNIVERSITY'S BUDDY GREEN ROOM
MCMAHON MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM



18

OUT OF THIS WORLD

PRESENTED BY SOUTHSTAR DANCE ACADEMY
MCMAHON MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM



18

MOVIES IN MAY - LILO & STITCH

CELEBRATING ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER MONTH
ELMER THOMAS PARK - AMPITHEATRE STAGE



24 & 25

42ND ANNUAL SPRING DANCE CONCERT

PRESENTED BY SHERRI'S DANCE CENTER
MCMAHON MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM



25

MOVIES IN MAY - TBD

CELEBRATING ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER MONTH
ELMER THOMAS PARK - AMPITHEATRE STAGE



31, 1, 2

SLEEPING BEAUTY

PRESENTED BY LAWTON BALLET THEATRE
MCMAHON MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

International Festival Luau Fundraiser

Join us for an unforgettable evening at the International Festival Luau Fundraiser on May 17th at the Lawton Farmer's Market! Your ticket purchase directly supports our community's annual International Festival in September, where we celebrate diversity and culture.

Tickets are \$50 each, or you can reserve a sponsorship table for \$400, which includes wine and hors d'oeuvres. For tickets and sponsorships contact Arts@lawtonok.gov or visit SWOKarts.com.

This event will include a live performance of traditional Hawaiian dancers: Keali Thompson and the Polynesian Dancers; Gawad Kalinga and the Filipino/American Dancers, and Singer and Ukulele player Grace Norbury. Along with traditional Hawaiian foods



International Festival Volunteer Performer Application

The International Festival Committee is looking for Volunteer Performers for the 45th annual International Festival. The festival takes place September 27, 28, 29 and the deadline to submit is Friday, July 26th.

The International Festival Committee is also taking International Festival Poster submissions. **Deadline for submissions is Tuesday, May 28, 2024.** You can find the list of guidelines and requirements also on SWOKarts.com on the International Festival page.

If you're interested in applying, please visit SWOKarts.com to submit the application or for more information email Arts@lawtonok.gov or call (580) 581-3470



The Oklahoma Experience: Looking for Home



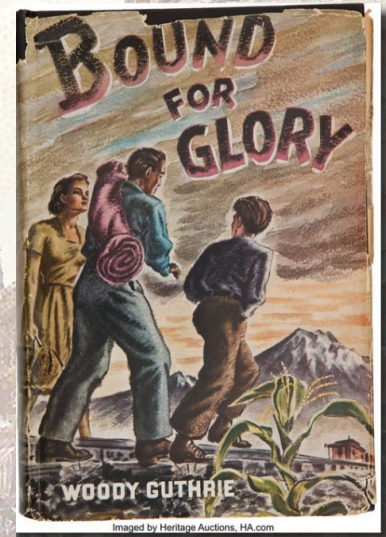
LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

The McMahon Auditorium Authority, in collaboration with the City of Lawton Arts and Humanities Division, The City of Lawton, and Cameron University, is excited to announce the launch of the new series theme of Let's Talk About It, "The Oklahoma Experience: Looking For Home."



Let's Talk About It is a four-part scholar-led discussion group that brings books to life and encourages thought-provoking discussions. This series is made possible through funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and aims to explore the literary response to the social changes of that era.

The series continues on Thursday, May 16, at 6:00 p.m. with the reading of *Bound for Glory* by Woody Guthrie. The discussion will be led by Cameron University Professor Dr. William Carney in the Cameron University Buddy Green Room.



Copies of the books are available for check out at the City of Lawton Arts and Humanities Office - 801 NW Ferris Ave, (580) 581- 3470.

Ethiopian Artist Gebre Kristos Desta



On Monday, April 29, Dr. Kate Cowcher from the University of St. Andrews visited Lawton, Oklahoma, to uncover the life of Gebre Kristos Desta, a renowned Ethiopian artist and refugee.

With the assistance from the City of Lawton Arts and Humanities Division and the Museum of the Great Plains, Dr. Cowcher revealed a vibrant side to his time in Lawton, where he engaged with the community through festivals, workshops, and exhibitions.

It was discovered that the City of Lawton possibly owns one of Desta's last works—a unique oil lamp painting now residing at the Museum of the Great Plains. On Tuesday, April 30, she presented her findings at the University of Oklahoma. Discover more about Gebre Kristos Desta's fascinating journey on the University of Oklahoma's YouTube channel.

MOVIE in the PARK

Celebrating Asian American & Pacific Islander Month

Saturday, May 18th @ 8:30 pm- Lilo and Stitch
Saturday, May 25th @ 8:30 pm- TBD

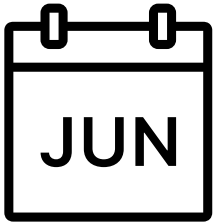
Elmer Thomas Park Amphitheatre Stage
Free & Open to the Public!

Free Family Movie Night Presented by Fidelity Communications

The collaboration between the City of Lawton Arts & Humanities and Fidelity Communications continues, as we resume the Free Family Movie Nights Presented by Fidelity Communications at McMahon Memorial Auditorium on the first Friday of each month. Kicking off on Friday, June 7th, the movie series will feature Sing!

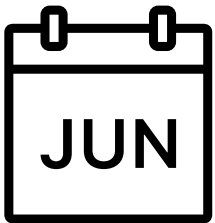


NEXT AT A GLANCE MONTH



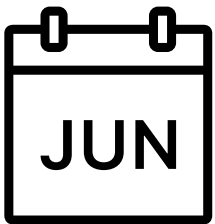
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SLEEPING BEAUTY
PRESENTED BY LAWTON BALLET THEATRE
MCMAHON MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM



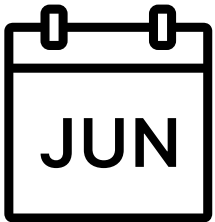
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FREE FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT
SING
PRESENTED BY FIDELTY COMMUNICATIONS
MCMAHON MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM



8

NATIVE NATURALS
PRESENTED BY FIERCE FITNESS
MCMAHON MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM



20-23

SCHOOL OF ROCK
LAWTON COMMUNITY THEATRE
MCMAHON MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM



28&29

**LAWTON FORT SILL
FREEDOM FESTIVAL**
PRESENTED BY CITY OF LAWTON
ELMER THOMAS PARK

