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Opening Reception for *Willard Stone Centennial: A Legacy of Art Through Family*

OKLAHOMA CITY – The Oklahoma Hall of Fame at the Gaylord-Pickens Museum is hosting the temporary exhibit, *Willard Stone Centennial: A Legacy of Art Through Family* in the museum's Tulsa World | Lorton Family Gallery from Jan. 23 through Apr. 30. *Willard Stone Centennial* coincides with the mission of the gallery and museum to showcase Oklahoma artists.

Exhibiting regionally and nationally, Willard Stone gained world-wide recognition for his stylized figures of humans and animals created from a variety of locally grown wood and occasionally cast in ceramic or bronze. Stone's work is preserved in public and private collections throughout the United States and abroad. On February 29, 2016, Willard Stone would have celebrated his 100th Birthday.

“He believed every piece of wood had a story to tell and using a pocket knife and chisel, he unveiled that story,” said Linda Stone Callery, the artist's daughter. “He had a lot to say about creation, politics, war and life in general, and he expressed his thoughts through animals, birds, men, women and children. He had a great sense of humor, often conveyed through his pieces.”

An opening reception will be held on Thurs., Feb. 25 from 5 to 7 p.m. in conjunction with Stone's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. The reception is free to the public. RSVP's are encouraged to Marissa Raglin at 405.523.3231 or [mbr@oklahomahof.com](mailto:mbr@oklahomahof.com).

*Willard Stone Centennial: A Legacy of Art Through Family* is a multi-media exhibit showcasing artwork by the late Willard Stone and his family members and will be on at the Oklahoma Hall of Fame at the Gaylord-Pickens Museum, located at 1400 Classen Drive in Oklahoma City. For more information about this exhibit or the Museum's Tulsa World | Lorton Family Gallery, contact Marissa Raglin at [mbr@oklahomahof.com](mailto:mbr@oklahomahof.com).

An artist talk and story writing workshop are scheduled in conjunction with the temporary exhibit. For more details about these events and upcoming exhibits visit [OklahomaHOF.com](http://OklahomaHOF.com).

Through interactive exhibits, the Oklahoma Hall of Fame at the Gaylord-Pickens Museum allows visitors to experience Oklahoma's story through its people. Video-driven displays and computer touch screens provide guests a unique look into the lives of famous and everyday Oklahomans who have impacted our state, country and world.

For more information about the museum, the Tulsa World | Lorton Family Gallery or *Willard Stone Centennial*, visit [www.oklahomahof.com](http://www.oklahomahof.com) or call 405.235.4458.

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