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Oklahoma Hall of Fame seeks
nominations for 2016 class

OKLAHOMA CITY - The Oklahoma Hall of Fame is accepting nominations for the 89th annual Oklahoma Hall of Fame induction, the highest honor an Oklahoman can receive from the state.

“Since 1927, the Oklahoma Hall of Fame has recognized notable and unknown Oklahomans who have made strides in their industry and bettered mankind,” said Shannon L. Rich, president and CEO of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame and Gaylord-Pickens Museum. “We inspire Oklahomans of all ages and instill state pride by inducting extraordinary people.”

Each year the Oklahoma Hall of Fame seeks nominations for Oklahomans from across the state who have showcased pioneer spirit in their industry and generosity to the state.

Since the Oklahoma Hall of Fame’s inception in 1927, 677 accomplished individuals have received this honor, including most recent inductees: Kevin Durant, Oklahoma City; Jim Halsey, Tulsa; Bill Hancock, Hobart; Mike Larsen, Perkins; William J. Ross, Oklahoma City; Sharen Jester Turney, Ardmore; Steadman Upham, Tulsa; and Francis Tuttle, who was inducted posthumously.

Anyone can make an Oklahoma Hall of Fame nomination – the nominator does not have to be related to or know personally the individual he or she wishes to nominate. Nominees to the Oklahoma Hall of Fame may be either living or deceased. To be eligible for nomination, the individual must:

- Reside in Oklahoma or be a former resident of the state;
- Have performed outstanding service to humanity, the state of Oklahoma and the United States;
- Be known for their contributions throughout the state and, above all;
- Have demonstrated their generosity with time and commitment to the Oklahoma community.

Individuals who have never resided in Oklahoma may be nominated if they have been distinguished in their profession or if their public service has brought honor or distinction to Oklahoma or contributed to the state’s heritage.

Those making nominations are asked to include information about the nominee’s education, business and professional affiliations, awards or special recognitions, philanthropic involvement and volunteerism, and leadership positions. Information on the individual’s ties to Oklahoma as well as his or her unique talents in his or her field should be included as well.

Both the Oklahoma Hall of Fame nomination form and posthumous nomination form can be downloaded at OklahomaHOF.com under the Hall of Fame tab. A list of all past inductees also can be found there. Nomination forms are due to the Gaylord-Pickens Museum, at NW 13th Street and Shartel Avenue in Oklahoma City, by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 4, 2016.

The 2016 Hall of Fame inductees will be announced at a luncheon at the Gaylord-Pickens Museum in May. They will be inducted during the 89th annual Oklahoma Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction Ceremony on November 17, 2016 at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City. Tickets will go on sale August.

Inductees are celebrated in the Gaylord-Pickens Museum with their portraits showcased throughout the Museum. In the Oklahoma Hall of Fame Gallery, visitors can look up information on inductees via interactive touch screens. Guests also can test their knowledge of notable Oklahomans by playing the Oklahoma Hall of Fame trivia game in the gallery. In addition to learning about members of the Hall of Fame, visitors meet famous and everyday Oklahomans from all walks of life as they tour the Museum.

For more information about the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, contact Millie Craddick at 405.523.3203 or mc@oklahomahof.com. For more information about the Oklahoma Hall of Fame or Gaylord-Pickens Museum, call 405.235.4458, toll free 888.501.2059, or visit OklahomaHoF.com.

The Oklahoma Hall of Fame preserves Oklahoma's history and inspires pride in the state by supporting education, celebrating the accomplishments of Oklahomans and leading the industry in publishing books on Oklahoma history. Through each of its programs and the Gaylord-Pickens Museum, the organization is dedicated to promoting Oklahoma's living heritage through its people.

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