

Guide to the Inasmuch Gallery



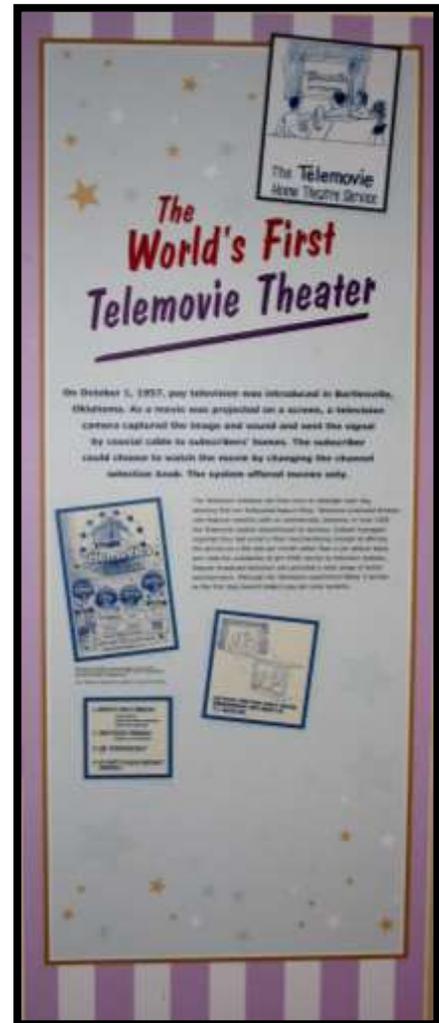
Voice, Vision & Vacuum Tubes

The broadcast industry made its Oklahoma debut in 1928 when the AM radio station, later known by the call letters **WKY**, went on the air. TV followed in 1949 with Channel 4 in Oklahoma City and Channel 6 in Tulsa. Exhibits in this section of the gallery trace the history of the broadcast industry and introduce you to the many personalities it featured.



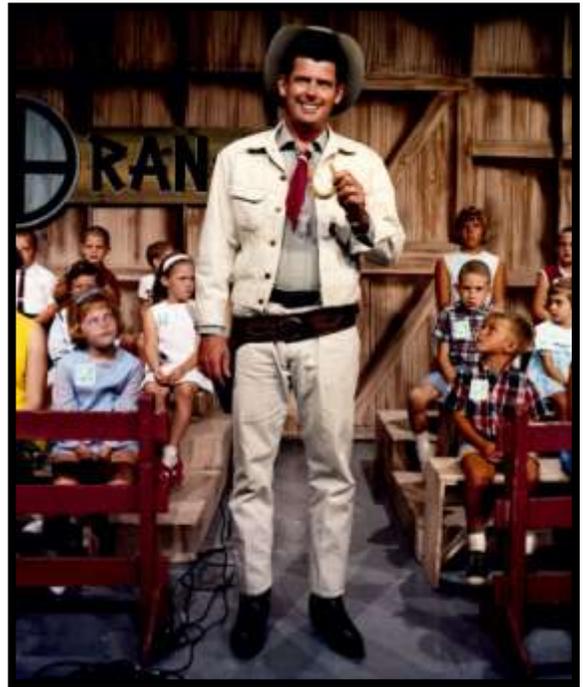
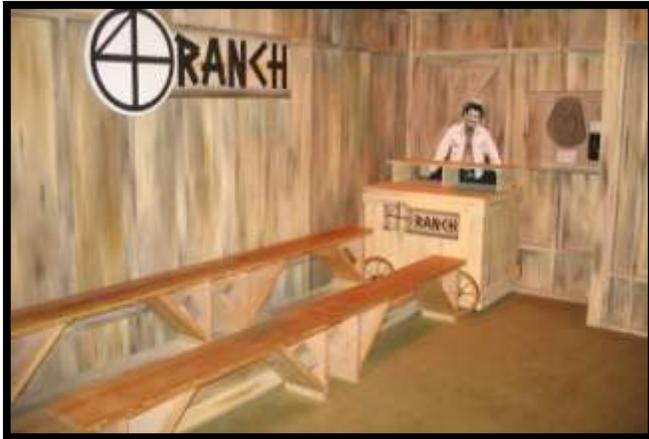
Cable Television

Oklahoma was an ideal candidate for CATV (community access television) since virtually all of the large cities in the state were remote from major broadcasting centers. In order to receive programming from the major networks, cities had to build tall receiving towers. Signals from the towers were "cleaned up" to remove noise and amplified before they were routed to individual homes through cables.



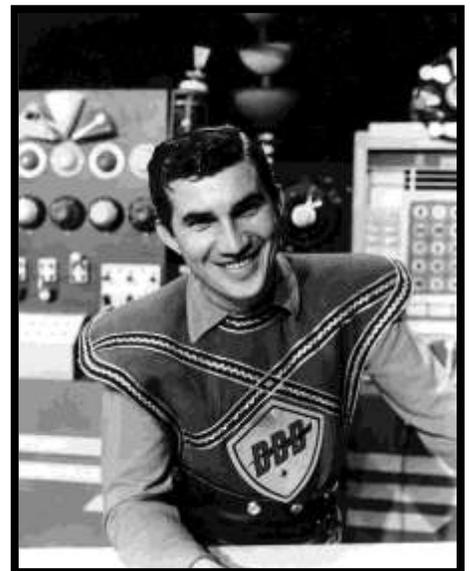
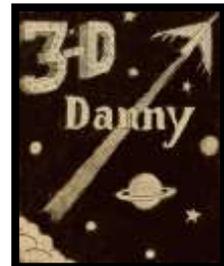
"Foreman Scotty" TV Show

Foreman Scotty was one of the first characters made popular on "children's TV." Enter a portion of the Circle 4 Ranch set complete with Woody, the birthday horse. There is a video with clips from several programs.



Children's TV in Oklahoma

In 1953 Danny Williams introduced Oklahoma City audiences to Dan. D. Dynamo (better known as "3-D Danny") on Channel 4. Ed Birchall was better known as Ho-Ho the clown on KOCO-TV. He starred in a daily kid's show with his sock puppet, Pokey.



Early TV Test Equipment

Cross the aisle to the display case. The case contains examples of early TV test equipment including an oscilloscope, a tube tester and a color bar generator.

Radio Service Truck

Lee Fish 'made his rounds' in this 1936 Dodge panel truck using the repair equipment displayed in the back to repair radios in customers' homes. The standard fee was \$1.50 plus parts. If a radio needed to be taken to the shop for repair, Lee would just strap it onto the running board. Lee bought the truck for \$550 in 1936. Lee owned and used this truck until 2003 when he sold it to the museum. Fish finally concluded he no longer needed the truck at age 99.



WKY Radio Station

Inside the model radio station there is a video showing the early days of WKY-AM as well as an array of early radio equipment. There's even a **sound effects desk** where you can try your hand at making background sounds including rain, a galloping horse, a ringing bell, a door slam, and door locks and latches. Sound effects were a big deal in early radio since everything that went on the air was live. The creation of sound effects became a performance art (Foley art, named after Jack Foley, a Hollywood pioneer of sound effects).

The original radio 'control room' is housed in a cabinet in the front of the exhibit.



Arch

Facing the truck is an arch shaped like an old cathedral radio. Walk into the arch to see some very old vacuum tubes on the right. On the other side of the arch is an assortment of early transistor radios from the 1960s. If you time your visit right, you can listen to an announcement of the 1995 bombing of the Murrah Federal Building made by a WKY newscaster.

TV Camera

Walk through the arch and come upon a display case containing an old WKY-TV camera. This is not just any old TV camera, this is the first color TV camera used in Oklahoma and the first color TV camera outside New York City.



Wild West Shows

A typical Wild West Show consisted of a series of historical scenes interspersed with feats of showmanship, sharp shooting, racing, and rodeo events. Eastern and European audiences were attracted by the carnival-like atmosphere that masqueraded as historical and scientific fact. Two of the largest shows, the Miller Brothers 101 Ranch *Real Wild West Show* and Pawnee Bill's *Historic Wild West Show* had roots in Oklahoma.

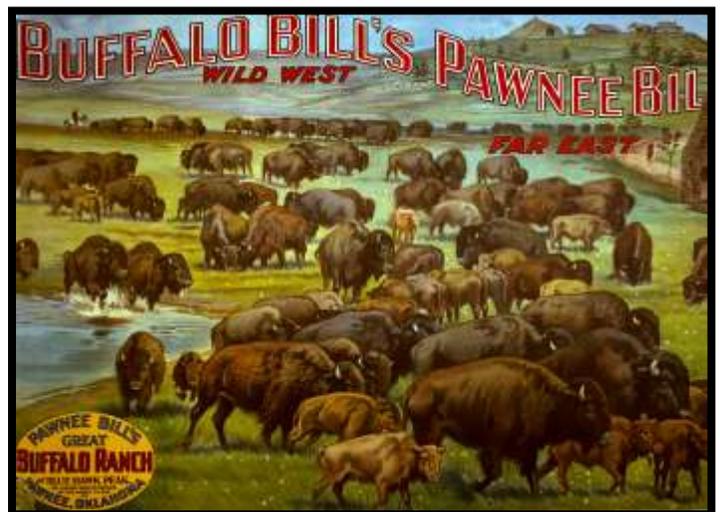


Miller Brothers 101 Ranch *Real Wild West Show*

In the late 1800s Colonel George W. Miller founded the 101 Ranch near what was to become Marland. The ranch was 100,000 acres and produced both wheat and cattle. In its 'heyday' the ranch employed more than 300 cowboys and ranch hands. When ranching became less profitable in the late 1890s Miller and his sons came up with the idea of creating a Wild West show. The *Real Wild West Show* saw its first performance in 1908. It ran continuously until 1932 when it fell victim to the Great Depression. Early shows were performed at the ranch and featured the likes of Bill Pickett, Hoot Gibson and Tommy Grimes. In later years the show toured the U.S. and Europe.

Pawnee Bill's Historic Wild West Show

Gordon W. Lillie (Pawnee Bill) was born in Illinois in 1860. He came to Indian Territory in 1875. He joined Buffalo Bill's *Wild West Show* in 1883 and worked with that show until 1888 when he left to start his own. He and Buffalo Bill combined their forces in 1908 to form the *Two Bills Show* which toured the world until 1913 when it went bankrupt.



Stagecoach

Every Wild West show had to have a stagecoach chase, and this coach was at the 101 Ranch show. This coach was constructed at the Abbot-Downing Coachworks in Concord, New Hampshire. It was designed to carry 12 passengers and was originally used in central Massachusetts in the early 1800's as part of a passenger transport system.



Sports

Sports in Oklahoma has many faces...from racehorses to racecars and from football to golf. The state has been home to a number of athletes. In this exhibit you'll learn more about Jim Thorpe, Mickey Mantle, Hank Iba, Shannon Miller and many more.

1956 John Zink Special

John Zink, Jr. entered at least one car in the Indianapolis 500 from 1952 (when he was 20 years old) to 1967. One of his most unique cars was this 1956 entry. The body was custom-designed by his chief mechanic, A.J. Watson. It featured an aerodynamic design with a front-mounted engine that was offset from the driver for balance.



Famous Oklahoma Athletes

Jim Thorpe

Jim was born on May 28, 1887, in Prague, Oklahoma, to a white father and a Potawatomi Indian mother. He attended college at the Carlisle Industrial Indian School, where he played football and ran track. He was selected for the 1910 All-American football team. He made the American Olympic Team in 1912, setting new world records and winning gold medals in the decathlon and the pentathlon. After the games, Olympic officials learned that Jim had played two years on a semi-professional baseball team and stripped him of his medals. (The awards were returned to his estate after his death.)



Bud Wilkinson

Bud Wilkinson played collegiate football at the University of Minnesota, leading the team to three national championships in the '30s. Following World War II, he coached at the University of Oklahoma from 1946 to 1963. He coached National Championship teams in 1950, 1955 and 1956. His coaching career record was 145-29-4, making him one of the most celebrated coaches of all time.

Henry (Hank) Iba

Hank Iba began coaching at Oklahoma State University (then Oklahoma A&M) in 1934. He was selected as Coach of the Year in 1945 and 1946. He is the only person to have coached three Olympic basketball teams, winning in the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo and the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City. His career as a professional coach at OSU continued until his retirement in 1970.



Mickey Mantle

Mickey was born in Spavinaw, Oklahoma, on October 20, 1931, and his family soon moved to Commerce. Even in high school it was apparent that Mickey was a "cut above" everyone else in his athletic abilities. He began playing semi-pro baseball at age 16 where he was spotted by a scout for the New York Yankees. The scout offered to sign him up "on the spot," until he learned that Mantle still had another year of high school to complete. The scout was waiting to sign Mickey up the day he graduated from high school. Mantle spent two seasons on the Yankee's Class D Independence team. He moved up to the "big time" in 1951 and didn't look back. Mantle played in 12 World Series, hitting 18 home runs.



High School Sports

Football and basketball are "big business" in the small towns in Oklahoma. One of the greatest high school football teams of all times was the 1933 Oklahoma City Capitol Hill team. There is a picture of the team in the display case. Their reputation spread far and wide. The Harrison Tech team from Chicago paid \$1200 to come to Oklahoma City to play Capitol Hill.

Other Sports

Jim Shoulders

Jim Shoulders is a member of the Professional Rodeo Hall of Fame. His first win came in bull riding at age 14 in Oilton, Oklahoma. Shoulders was named World All Around Champion in 1949, '56, '57, '58 and '59. He received Bull Rider Championship awards in 1951 and consecutively in 1954-1959. He was named Bareback Champion in 1950, '56, '57 and '58.



Bill Pickett

Bill Pickett gained the reputation of being “the first black rodeo rider.” Actually that was not true since he was ½ black, ¼ white and ¼ Cherokee Indian. He frequently had to point out his Cherokee roots in order to enter rodeo events. Pickett became an accomplished cowboy, forming The Pickett Brothers Broncho Busters Company, and is credited with inventing the *bulldogging* event in rodeo. He later joined the Miller Brothers 101 Ranch *Real Wild West Show* and toured the world showing off his rodeo prowess. Pickett was kicked in the head by a horse on the 101 Ranch and died in 1932 at age 62.

Freckles Brown

Freckles Brown competed in bull riding, saddle bronc riding, bareback riding, team roping and bulldogging. He was the World Champion Bull Rider in 1962. Brown was inducted into the PCRA Hall of Fame for Bull Riding in 1979.

Bart Connor

Bart Connor is the most decorated male gymnast in United States history. He is a USA Gymnastics Champion, an NCAA Gymnastics Champion, and a Pan American Games Champion. He competed in the 1976, 1980, and 1984 Olympics, winning two gold medals (team and parallel bars) in 1984. Following his Olympic career, he married Nadia Comaneci, a Romanian Olympic champion in her own right, and established a gymnastics school in Norman, Oklahoma.

Shannon Miller

Shannon Miller is perhaps the most famous gymnast (male or female) in American history. She grew up in Edmond, Oklahoma, where she began training at age five. She won 5 Olympic gold medals in 1992. In 1996 she came “out of retirement” to lead the American women’s gymnastics team to its first team Olympic gold medal ever. She also won a gold medal on the balance beam (her favorite event) that year. Shannon spent seven years on the U.S. National Team. Miller was awarded medals in the 1997 World University Games, the 1995 World Championships, the 1994 World Championships (individual and team) and the 1993 World Championships.



Jesse Mashburn

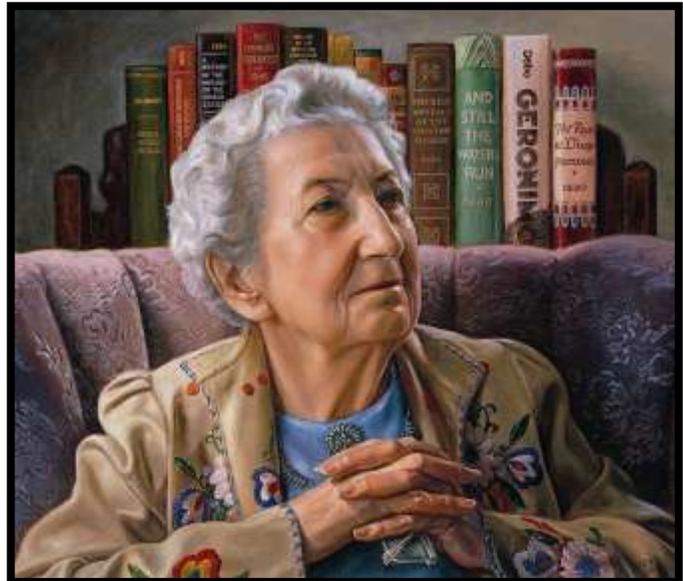
Jesse Mashburn won a gold medal as a member of the 4x400-meter relay in the 1956 Summer Olympic Games. He also was the AAU Champion in the 440-yard Dash (1953). During his college years at Oklahoma State University he was the NCAA 440-yard Champion (1955, 1956). In 1955 he won a gold medal as a member of the 4x400-meter relay in the Pan American Games.

Culture and the Arts

Oklahoma is not just about sports and the Wild West; it also has a cultural side as well. It is the home of performers including: Woody Guthrie and Gene Autry, authors such as Ralph Ellison and Angie Debo, and a number of artists such as Dee Lafon and Nan Sheets.

Angie Debo

Although she did not take part in the Land Run, Debo did travel with her parents to the place that would become Marshall, Oklahoma, in 1889 via covered wagon. She obtained her teaching certificate at age 16 and went on to receive a Bachelor's Degree in history from the University of Oklahoma. In 1924 she obtained her Master's Degree in international studies from the University of Chicago. Ten years later she attained her doctorate in history from the University of Oklahoma. Debo signed a



contract with the university to write a book about the American Indians and completed *And Still the Waters Run* in 1936. The university refused to publish the book because it dealt with the theft of Indian lands by the white man and represented Oklahoma in a less than favorable light. Princeton University finally published the book in 1940. Debo went on to write eight more books based on the history of the American Indian, completing the last book (dealing with Geronimo) when she was 85.

Chet Baker

Chet Baker, a famous jazz trumpet player, worked with artists including Charlie Parker and Gerry Mulligan. Perhaps his most remembered recording was "My Funny Valentine." Baker was noted for his lyrical style on the horn. He developed a heroin problem in the 1960s that would hound him the rest of his life. Baker moved to Europe in the 1980s, returning to America only once a year. His heroin addiction forced him to work almost constantly, and he turned out a prodigious list of recordings. In 1988 Baker died after falling from a second-story window in an Amsterdam hotel. Governor Brad Henry and the House of Representatives declared July 2, 2005, as "Chet Baker Day."



Gary Busey

Gary Busey was born in Texas but moved to Oklahoma at an early age. His father was an American Indian; his mother Irish. A talented drummer, Gary played with Leon Russell, Kris Kristopherson and Willie Nelson. Gary made his first film appearance in 1971. Since then he has appeared in more than 180 films. Gary is the father of emerging actor Jake Busey, who strongly resembles his father. Gary is an avid motorcyclist and nearly died in a 1988 accident that left him with a plate in his skull.

Oscar Jacobson

Oscar Jacobson was born in Sweden and immigrated to the U.S. with his family. He became a cowboy before he attended college in Kansas, and later at Yale where he specialized in landscape painting. Jacobson met and later married Jeanne d'Ucel and moved to Norman, Oklahoma. He became head of the Fred Jones, Jr. Museum of Art at the University of Oklahoma, a position that he held until 1952. He specialized in Native American art and encouraged Native American art students to study art at the University of Oklahoma.

Roger Miller

Roger Miller grew up during the Great Depression. Because of family circumstances, Miller was sent to live with his aunt and uncle, Amelia and Elmer Miller, in Erick, Oklahoma. They were poor farmers, which meant that Roger quickly became accustomed to chopping cotton. During high school Roger ran away. When he was caught, he was given the choice of going back to school or going into the Army. He chose the Army. While in the Army, Miller honed his skills on both the guitar and the fiddle. After leaving the Army, he moved to Nashville and landed a job playing fiddle in Minnie Pearl's road band. Finally he "clicked" and wrote a string of hits including *Chug-A-Lug*, *Dang Me*, and *King of the Road*. His followers encouraged him to set his sights on more ambitious projects. Miller complied by writing the musical comedy *Big River* in 1985. The show was an instant success, earning him seven Tony awards and making Miller the first country and western artist to succeed in writing music for the stage. Miller died from lung cancer in 1992 at age 56.

Johnny Lee Wills

Johnny Lee Wills was born into a musical family in Jewett, Texas, on September 2, 1912, and later moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma. He is the younger brother of Bob Wills and was one of the original "Texas Playboys." He switched to fiddle when he left the "Playboys" to form "Johnny Lee Wills and His Boys." His career really caught fire after World War II. His most memorable tunes, *Rag Mop* and *Peter Cottontail*, both appeared in 1950.



Images of Oklahoma

Photography is an integral part of Oklahoma history. Traveling photographers toured Indian Territory in the late 1800s documenting the relocation of Indian Nations in the period following the Civil War. Studio photographers documented family history and the development of communities. More recently, photography has become more widely used allowing individuals to document their personal lives.



Model Photographic Studio

Inside the model studio is an assortment of images taken by Oklahoma photographers. Photographers worked in permanent establishments and in portable, horse-drawn studios. Nearly 10% of the professional photographers in the 1800s were women. There were also a number of popular African-American photographers. View the video program to review biographical sketches of a number of famous Oklahoma photographers.

Movie Theater

The Express Personnel Services Theater depicts a historic nickelodeon theater. The name is a combination of the word 'nickel' (the entrance fee in 1920) and the Greek word 'odeon' (which translates into 'theater' in English). Nickelodeon theaters were especially popular during the Great Depression years. People would stand in line for hours to enter the theater and escape into a fantasy world that was far from their day-to-day existence. Enter, take a seat, and enjoy 16 minutes of clips taken from films that depict Oklahoma as Hollywood has seen it.



Oklahoma Crossroads

Diversity

Oklahoma is a land of diversity. This ensures that there are a wide variety of cultures, religions, languages, foods, and musical styles represented across the state. Non-Indian immigrants began moving into Oklahoma following the Civil War. These early settlers were drawn by the cattle drives, railroads, and coal fields. Following the first Land Run in April 1889 individuals from across the United States, as well as the rest of the world, have streamed into Oklahoma creating a rich and diverse culture.



A list of "Sooners" compiled by Captain A.B. Woodson, 5th Cavalry, in the 1880s includes Sam Ioo, "Chinaman." As early as 1889 the Oklahoma City directory listed 17 Chinese laundrymen. During the 1970s and 1980s the number of Chinese immigrants coming to Oklahoma increased dramatically as the number of students and professionals surged.

