



The Cowgirl Who Became a Justice: Sandra Day O'Connor

Organizing Institution:	National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame
Exhibit Contents:	22 exhibition panels, 10 original artifacts and 3 reproductions, all casework necessary, mounting hardware, 2 sets of scrim panels, and 3 large soft panels
Exhibit Space required:	Minimum of 140 linear feet. Covers approximately 2,000 to 2,500 sq. ft.
Rental Fee:	\$12,000 for 16 weeks
Shipping:	National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame will make all shipping arrangements. Venue will pay for round-trip climate controlled shipping.
Insurance:	Venue must provide a certificate of insurance.
Security:	Moderate, please submit current facility report for review.
Educational Programming Materials:	Docent guide, PowerPoint presentation with script for school groups, exhibit guide for teachers, list of online resources, video footage of Sandra Day O'Connor's confirmation hearings, list of social studies TEKS covered by exhibit
Media Materials:	Media alert, press release, exhibit talking points, O'Connor press biography, promotional images
Dates Available:	January 2021 onward
Contact:	Ashley Kowalski, Collections Manager 817-509-8983 or ahenderson@cowgirl.net

Prior to Sandra Day O'Connor, no other female in the United States had been given as heavy and as public a yoke to carry in representing women, the West and in turn the best interests of the nation. President Ronald Reagan appointed Justice Sandra Day O'Connor to the United States Supreme Court in 1981; she was the first woman to serve on the Supreme Court since its inception in the late 1700s.

The National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame proudly celebrates 2002 Hall of Fame Honoree Sandra Day O'Connor with this exhibition. Associate Executive Director Diana Vela submitted a general idea of what an exhibition on her might contain and then worked with the Justice to isolate themes. It was the Justice's idea to demonstrate the intersection of her ranch life and her bench life. Drawing largely from the book co-authored by Justice O'Connor and her brother, H. Alan Day, *Lazy B: Growing Up on a Cattle Ranch in the American Southwest*, the exhibition takes moments from her life and expands upon them. Issues of practicality connect both ranch life and bench life, while distinctive issues faced either on the ranch in Arizona or during confirmation in Washington are explored.

The exhibition features family and public-life photos, ranch artifacts on loan from the Day family, and selected editorial cartoons which illuminate the national conversation at the time to having a female Justice. Arid desert scenes are juxtaposed with the confirmation hearings and the publicity that surrounded the future Justice. Vela notes that "Justice O'Connor sees herself as a cowgirl; it is an undeniable part of her identity. We are not in the least surprised that it was a cowgirl who broke a 192- year tradition of an all-male United States Supreme Court legislative body."

Exhibit Installation Views





