



NOMINATION FORM

Instructions

The National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame is the only museum in the world dedicated to honoring women of the West, and from around the world who have displayed extraordinary courage and pioneer spirit in their trailblazing efforts. The Museum proudly celebrates living and deceased honorees who represent diverse backgrounds, ethnicities, and cultures.

General Criteria

To be considered for Induction to the Hall of Fame, a NOMINATION FORM must be completed for each nominee. Instructions enclosed on this form must be followed or your nomination will be returned.

Please read thoroughly, as our nomination and induction guidelines have changed.

Nomination Guidelines

Before attempting a nomination, please read the following to ensure that it is complete and correct:

- Nominees may be contemporary or historical. It is not necessary for them to be citizens of the United States, but the nomination must be written in English. Their contribution(s) should be of **national or international importance and of enduring value**. International nominees need to show their influence on the American West.
- The nominator *must* receive permission from the nominee to apply.
- No self-nominations.
- Employees cannot nominate employers.
- Sitting board members cannot be nominated.
- Materials that may be included with the nomination form are photographs, newspaper clippings, multimedia items, URL addresses for online videos, or relevant passages from books that include biographical information on the nominee, to cite a few examples. If these are sent in, they will not be returned; they become property of the Museum. It is suggested to send copies.
- Be sure the materials are well organized, duplicates are unnecessary.
- If you are in doubt regarding certain information, state best-known facts and identify with a (?) following the unverifiable information listed.
- If additional space is needed, please add pages.
- It **must** include at least three letters of recommendation. See guidelines below.
- Do not send any three-ring binders or over-sized items. Nomination forms and supporting materials must be submitted UNBOUND on traditional letter size paper (8.5" x 11").
- Completed forms **must be post-marked by August 15** of each calendar year to be considered for the following year's induction.
- It can be mailed physically to the Museum or emailed to bdodson@cowgirl.net.
- ***Those nominated should be cognizant of the fact that any information listed will be made accessible to the public or media. Please mark materials that are sensitive.***

Guidelines for Letters of Recommendation

- **Three** letters of recommendation are required.
- A nominator's letter does not count as one of the three required.
- Letters from individuals or on behalf of organizations that operate in the same professional field as the nominee can provide credible evidence for the nomination.
- These letters should directly address the nominee's influence on a national/international level.
- The letter writer **MUST** explain why he/she is qualified to speak to the nominee's accomplishments in her field.
- If the nominee is deceased, possibly look to professionals who study her field and can authoritatively substantiate the facts of her life.
- Sitting board members cannot write recommendation letters.

What Happens Next

Upon receiving your nomination, we will send you an acknowledgment of receipt of materials.

*This acknowledgement of materials does NOT indicate a successful nomination.

Within eight months of this receipt, you will receive one of the following:

1. Notice that the nomination is formally accepted for consideration of induction.
 - If the form is formally accepted, your person officially becomes a **NOMINEE** of the Hall of Fame.
 - Once a person receives nominee status, she has achieved the first step towards eligibility to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Nominee status does NOT guarantee becoming a Hall of Fame Inductee.
 - The induction selection process is rigorous and lengthy. Out of a competitive list, only four or five successful candidates per calendar year are honored with the prestigious distinction of becoming a National Cowgirl Hall of Fame Inductee.
 - There are several steps. Each accepted nominee is reviewed by committees comprised of men and women from varying backgrounds and from around the country.
 - All materials sent in the nomination packet are a permanent donation to the Museum. The Museum will no longer hold all successful nominations in perpetuity.
 - The nomination will be filed in the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame archives and reviewed for three years. If the person is not inducted in that time frame, the nomination will become void. Materials will not be returned.
2. Notice that the nomination is rejected, and the materials are returned to you.
 - In the event of a returned nomination, a new nomination may be re-submitted in two years. Re-assess how the nominee's influence on her field affects it on a national/international level. Remember that the pool of nominees is very competitive. Please indicate any new material added to the original nomination packet in a letter attached to it.
 - If, for some reason, you have not heard from us within the above timeframe, please contact us.

Nomination Checklist:

- ☐ Completed Nomination Form
- ☐ Attached Biography
- ☐ Supplemental Materials
- ☐ Three Letters of Recommendation
- ☐ Post Date Sent: _____

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact:
Bethany Dodson | Director of Research & Education
National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame
1720 Gendy Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76107
bdodson@cowgirl.net
(817) 509-8665



NOMINATION FORM 2025-2026 (Only use current version)

Nominee Information

Nominee Name _____

Living ☐ Deceased ☐

Nickname(s), Stage Name(s), or Maiden Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number and Email _____

Date and Place of Birth _____

Date of Death (if deceased) _____

Burial Date and Location _____

Nominee's Family Contact Information (If nominee is deceased)

Contact _____

Relationship to Nominee _____

Address _____

Phone Number and Email _____

Nominator Contact Information

Nominated by _____

Relationship to Nominee _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

Has the nominee given you permission to apply?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Signature

Date

RETURN COMPLETED FORM
TO:
National Cowgirl Museum
and Hall of Fame
Attn: Nomination
1720 Gendy Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76107
Phone 817.336.4475

Nominee's Family History

Mother's Name _____

Father's Name _____

Spouse's Name _____

Date Married _____

Living ☐

Deceased ☐

List ALL Siblings

List ALL Children

Ethnic Background (optional) _____

Nominee's Professional Fields of Influence

Check appropriate choice(s):

☐

Artists & Writers

☐

Champions & Competitive Performers*

☐

Entertainers

☐

Ranchers (Stewards of Land and Livestock)

☐

Trail Blazers & Pioneers

☐

Contributors to the Cowgirl Legacy**

NOTES:

***Champions & Competitive Performers:** Be sure to include quantitative proof of their achievements, such as national championships and from which association. Include a brief description on association's background and national importance to the field.

****Contributors to the Cowgirl Legacy:** This field of influence is defined by women who work to open equine culture to those who might not otherwise become exposed to its historical importance or its contemporary influence. Serving as role models within their communities, these honorees are ambassadors of the cowgirl way of life by utilizing it to positively impact the lives of those around them.

Education

Name of School/Location	Year Graduated	Degree Achieved

☐ Check if additional pages added

Major Employment or Occupations

Dates	Name/Location of Employer	Brief Description of Duties

☐ Check if additional pages added

Public Offices Held

List all positions held by virtue of election or appointment	Date

☐ Check if additional pages added

Memberships

List memberships in civic, community, fraternal, and/or business organizations on a local, state, national, and international level.	Date

☐ Check if additional pages added

Awards and Honors

List all major awards, championships, and honors received	Date

☐ Check if additional pages added

Published Works (Books, Articles, Music)

List published works	Publishing House	Year published	Co-authors (if any)

☐ Check if additional pages added

Published Works (Photography, Artwork)

Published Books	Exhibitions (indicate solo/group)	Permanent Public Collections

☐ Check if additional pages added

Philanthropy & Public Service

Charity or Organization	Personal Role	Date

☐ Check if additional pages added

BIOGRAPHY

Address the following criteria in narrative form explaining why this candidate deserves to be inducted, based on their influence on a **NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL** level. (300-500 words)

- Accomplishments in the field (achievements)
- Ranking in the field (national/international importance)
- Contributions made to the field
- Enduring value or historical significance of accomplishments

☐ Check box to acknowledge that you have attached a bio on additional pages to the back of this form.

List all sources including personal interviews, publications, records, and persons who assisted in the preparation of the nomination. Please list contact information if appropriate.

[illegible]