



Autry

Keisha Raines
323.495.4370

communications@theautry.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The Autry Presents Its 28th Annual Gala
Honoring Emmylou Harris
With the Spirit of the West[®] Award
Entertainment by The Texas Tenors
Saturday, October 3, 2015, 6:00 p.m**

Los Angeles, CA (September 3, 2015) — [The Autry National Center of the American West](#) will present its annual gala on October 3, 2015. A lively night honoring the best of the American West, the gala is one of the Autry's largest fundraisers of the year. This year's gala celebrates the beauty and diversity of Western landscapes, many of which are depicted in artworks throughout the Autry's museum galleries.

Held at the Autry's campus in Griffith Park, this annual gala includes the presentation of the Spirit of the West Award, a cocktail reception, silent and live auctions, an elegant dinner, and dancing under the stars at the after-party. **Chuck Henry**, NBC4 Southern California Anchor, will emcee this year's event while musical entertainment will be provided by **The Texas Tenors**, a vocal group whose classical and country crossover took them to the final four in the reality television show *America's Got Talent*.

This year's recipient of the Spirit of the West Award, which recognizes organizations and individuals who have made significant contributions to the art, culture, and legacy of the American West, is **Emmylou Harris**, 13-time GRAMMY[®] Award-winning singer and songwriter. A pioneer in the music industry, Harris embodies the Western ideals of individuality, talent, and hard work. With her captivating lyrics and voice, Harris established herself as a hallmark country singer of the 1970s and continued onward to create a musical career spanning over 40 years.

DawnMarie Kotonis (a.k.a. The Gavel Girl) will lead a spirited live auction of exquisite items, notably a round-trip excursion for two on the world-class Emirates Airline to Dubai; *Buffalo Hunt*, a pastel and charcoal piece by renowned artist Allan Houser; a week-long travel package to a five-bedroom sanctuary in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico; Gene Autry's Royal Ride Cart, a Rolls Royce inspired electric cart Gene Autry used to traverse the grounds of his hotel in Palm Springs; a breathtaking oil painting by artist Jay Moore; and others.

Schedule of Events

6:00 p.m. **Silent Auction and Reception**

8:00 p.m. **Dinner, Live Auction, Presentation to Honorees, and Entertainment**

10:00 p.m. **After-Party**

Sponsorship and Tickets

For sponsorship and ticket information, please call 323.495.4331. The gala enhances awareness of the Autry's mission and secures support for a variety of exhibitions, public programs, on- and off-site educational programs, and research. The Autry's educational programs serve tens of thousands of children and their families and teachers each year.

About the Autry National Center of the American West

The Autry is a museum dedicated to exploring and sharing the stories, experiences, and perceptions of the diverse peoples of the American West, connecting the past to the present to inspire our shared future. The museum presents a wide range of exhibitions and public programs—including lectures, film, theatre, festivals, family events, and music—and performs scholarship, research, and educational outreach. The Autry's collection of more than 500,000 pieces of art and artifacts includes the Southwest Museum of the American Indian Collection, one of the largest and most significant of Native American materials in the United States.

Museum admission is \$10 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors 60+, \$4 for children ages 3–12, and free for Autry members, veterans, and children age 2 and under. Admission is free on the second Tuesday of every month.

Hours*

Museum and Autry Store:

Tuesday–Friday, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Crossroads West Cafe:

Tuesday–Friday, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

The museum, store, and cafe are closed on Mondays. Visit TheAutry.org for more information.

****Please note that the museum, store, and cafe will close at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 3.***

###

IMAGES ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST