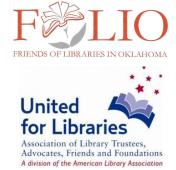
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Robert J. Conley Literary Landmark Dedication Ceremony

Cushing Upper Elementary School Gymnasium Cushing, Oklahoma

Saturday, November 7, 2020, 10:00am



Robert J. Conley (1940-2014)

Born in Cushing, Oklahoma, Mr. Robert J. Conley was a member of the Cherokee Nation and the author of over 80 books, short stories and poems. He was the recipient of numerous awards for his works including the Western Writers of America's Owen Wister Award for Lifetime Contributions to Western Literature in 2014. Mr. Conley, a Native American scholar, was the Sequoyah Distinguished Professor of Cherokee Studies at Western Carolina University at the time of his passing.

Literary Landmarks in Oklahoma

Literary Landmark sites honor a deceased literary figure, author or his or her work. http://www.ala.org/united/products services/literarylandmarks

- 1. Woody Guthrie and Okemah (2001). Okemah, OK
- 2. Ralph Ellison and the Ralph Ellison Library (2002). Oklahoma City, OK
- 3. Lynn Riggs and Territorial Claremore (2003). Claremore, OK
- 4. *Angie Debo* (2004). Two locations: Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, and Marshall, OK
- 5. John Berryman and McAlester Public Library (2005). McAlester, OK
- 6. Sequoyah and Sequoyah's Cabin State Park (2006). Near Sallisaw, OK
- 7. Will Rogers and Will Rogers Memorial Museum (2007). Claremore, OK
- 8. John Joseph Mathews and the Osage Tribal Museum (2009). Pawhuska, OK
- 9. Wilson Rawls and the Tahlequah Public Library (2011). Tahlequah, OK
- 10. Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel and Stroud Public Library (2013). Stroud, OK
- 11. Harold Keith and the Norman Public Library (2015). Norman, OK
- 12. Marquis James and the Enid Public Library (2016). Enid, OK
- 13. Bill Wallace and the Centennial Kids Place Park (2020). Chickasha, OK
- 14. Robert J. Conley and the Cushing Public Library (2020), Cushing, OK



United for Libraries

Literary Landmarks Register

Robert J. Conley Literary Landmark Plaque 1940-2014

A citizen of the Cherokee Nation, Robert J. Conley was born in Cushing, Oklahoma. Conley held the prestigious position of Sequoyah Distinguished Professor in Cherokee Studies at Western Carolina University. His numerous literary awards include three Golden Spur Awards, the Western Writers of America's Owen Wister Award for Lifetime Achievement, and the Arrell Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award. Conley's use of Native American protagonists was groundbreaking. Some of his best known books are *The Cherokee Nation: A History*, and *Mountain Windsong: A Novel of the Trail of Tears*. Cushing, Oklahoma, is designated a Literary Landmark.

Cushing Public Library Friends of the Cushing Public Library Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma, FOLIO

November 7, 2020

Order of Program

Welcome

Michael Hanes, Director, Cushing Public Library

Introductions and Opening Remarks

Dr. Karen Neurohr, Master of Ceremonies

Keynote Address

Dr. Blue Clark

Reading from 'Mountain Windsong'

Cushing High School Drama Students

Family Remarks

Evelyn Conley, wife

Unveiling of Literary Landmark Plaque

Evelyn Conley and Family

Closing

Representative of the Cushing Library Advisory Board