

HIGH DESERT MUSEUM

W I L D L I F E *and* L I V I N G H I S T O R Y

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Museum to Showcase Award-Winning Documentary On the Gay Rodeo

Screening followed by Q&A with director Matt Livadary and competitor Wade Earp

Bend, OR – The High Desert Museum will hold a special screening of the documentary film *Queens and Cowboys: A Straight Year on the Gay Rodeo* followed by a discussion with the film’s director and a competitor featured in the film on Friday, January 26 at 7:00 pm. The documentary follows four competitors over a year of competition on the International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA) circuit. The critically-acclaimed film won the 2014 Dallas International Film Festival’s Audience Award Winner Documentary Feature, the Best Documentary Feature at the Arizona International Film Festival 2014 and the Atlanta Film Festival’s Pink Peach Feature 2014 Grand Jury Prize, among other awards.



“This award-winning documentary will challenge assumptions about cowboys and cowgirls,” said the Museum’s Executive Director Dana Whitelaw, Ph.D. “*Queens & Cowboys* also tells the important story of challenges that these competitors face both in and out of the arena.”

Director Matt Livadary and gay rodeo competitor Wade Earp will hold a Q&A discussion at the Museum immediately following the film. For the competitors in the IGRA, rodeo is an important focus in their lives, but so too is the camaraderie and emotional support they find on the gay rodeo circuit.

The film is being show in conjunction with the current exhibition *Blake Little: Photographs from the Gay Rodeo*. Attendees are invited to explore the exhibit prior to the film screening.

Doors open at 6:30 pm and the Museum’s café will be open for food and drinks, including wine and beer. The screening starts at 7:00 pm, followed by the discussion. Cost for the movie is \$7 for members and \$10 for non-members. Visit highdesertmuseum.org/events/documentary to purchase tickets or call 541-382-4754 ext. 241 for more information.

Blake Little: Photographs from the Gay Rodeo. This exhibit is made possible by Cascade A&E, Oregon Cultural Trust and Zolo Media. This project has been funded in part by the Oregon Heritage Commission, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, and with support from the James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation. This exhibit is a Program of ExhibitsUSA and The National Endowment for the Arts.

ABOUT THE MUSEUM:

HIGH DESERT MUSEUM

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THE HIGH DESERT MUSEUM opened in 1982 and brings regional wildlife, culture, art and natural resources together to promote an understanding of the natural and cultural heritage of North America's high desert country. The Museum uses indoor and outdoor exhibits, wildlife in natural habitats, and living history demonstrations to help people discover and appreciate the high desert environment. The Museum is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and is a Smithsonian Affiliate.

<https://www.highdesertmuseum.org>

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