



COWTOWN OPRY BUCKAROO CLUB

The Buckaroo Club was established in February 1998 as a way of mentoring youth under 18 years old to learn and perform Texas heritage music deriving from the cattle ranching culture. Coordinated by “Yodeling Queen” Janet McBride (CTO Buckaroo Director) and assisted by Devon Dawson (CTO Artistic Director), the Buckaroo Club meets on the second Sunday of each month. Buckaroos receive exposure to great, historic western music, Texas history lessons, advice and practice on acoustic guitar, personalized yodeling instruction from Janet, and performance practice in front of a live audience. Janet provides copies from her extensive private collection of old recordings of the great old cowboy music unfamiliar to many of the Buckaroos. Qualified Buckaroos receive opportunity to perform at various other events throughout the year (including Cowtown Opry’s annual Gala) and may apply for Cowtown Opry’s annual scholarship award.

RULES AND FENCELINES

Upon paying your dues (\$25 individual, \$40 family) and becoming a member, you will be entitled to:

- 1) Attend Cowtown Opry at 131 E. Exchange Ave. Ste #140, Fort Worth, Texas, on Buckaroo Sunday (the second Sunday of each month), arriving no later than 1:30pm, ready to perform by 2:00pm! Attendance every Buckaroo Sunday is only required for those Buckaroos wanting to be invited to outside performance opportunities and to be applying for a scholarship award. Vacation and sickness absences are allowed and can be made up by other performance opportunities to be provided by Janet and Devon. Buckaroo Sundays are normally the 2nd Sunday of each month, except Mother’s Day, unless the Buckaroo Director needs to change the date. If that happens, she will notify all Buckaroos as far in advance as possible of the schedule change.
- 2) Cowtown Opry Sunday performance calendar follows this pattern every month, unless specifically noted on the website:
 - First Sunday of the month: Western Swing
 - Second Sunday of the month: Buckaroo Sunday
 - Third Sunday of the month: Western Hour
 - Fourth Sunday of the month: Silver Screen
 - Fifth Sunday of the month: Gospel Hour

3) Dress in official Cowtown Opry attire:

- long sleeve white shirt (yoke may have color, no t-shirts)
- red cowboy bandana or red wild rag (bandanas may be purchased at Hobby Lobby or WalMart for \$.99)
- blue jeans or blue jean skirt (of modest length, tights underneath are acceptable)
- cowboy boots (no athletic shoes, sandals, etc.)
- cowboy hat (hat is optional for girls, no ball caps)
- denim vests are permitted

This attire is expected at all CTO performances, including the Gala, for anyone who expects to perform. Cowtown Opry keeps many of these items in the wardrobe in the office should someone leave something at home and need to borrow something in order to perform.

4) Come prepared to sing two songs, have them memorized. Only 1 song required if younger than 8 years old. Song choice must be wholesome, age appropriate and have a Texas or western, historic connection. At least 2 days before performance, email Janet and Judy whether or not you will attend and, if so, what songs you are prepared to sing and their key.

Emails are: jmcbride.yodeler@sbcglobal.net and judy@judyjames.com

INSTRUCTION

By appointment, introductory instruction is available to you at 1:00pm on Buckaroo Sundays for the following:

- 1) Any additional performance questions or help: Judy James
- 2) Yodeling: Janet McBride
- 3) Basic Guitar Chords: Janet McBride
- 4) Swing Guitar (for advanced Buckaroos only): Devon Dawson
- 5) Voice (for 12 years old and up): Judy James
- 6) Stand-up Bass: Teresa Walton
- 7) Accordion: Phil St Marie

OUTSIDE PERFORMANCES

You are welcome to perform with the CTO Saddle Pals on Saddle Pal Sundays when you:

- 1) Have at least 2 songs memorized (at least one appropriate to the Sunday theme)
- 2) Know your key for each song
- 3) Stay on pitch
- 4) Stay on beat
- 5) Be able to perform with instrumentals without rehearsal

- 6) Let Devon know you will be coming at least 2 days before performance. Give her your songs and keys. Devon's email: cowtownopry@sbcglobal.net

Outside performance opportunities will be provided for Buckaroos who:

- 1) Are active participants of Buckaroo Sundays. An active Buckaroo is one who has attended 4 out of 6 consecutive Buckaroo Sundays (allowing for sickness or vacation). In the case of a first year or new Buckaroo, has attended a minimum of 3 consecutive Buckaroo Sundays. On a yearly basis, an active Buckaroo is defined as one who attends 8 or more Buckaroo Sundays in a year.
- 2) Have a minimum of 2 songs perfected and approved (only 1 song for children under 8 years old)

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Cowtown Opry offers the opportunity for all Buckaroos to qualify to apply for the **CTO Texas Heritage Music Scholarship!** Once a year, at the CTO Texas Independence Day Gala, Cowtown Opry awards up to five \$250 music scholarships and one \$500 college scholarship to qualified Buckaroos. See Scholarship Application for details.

You may apply for a **music** scholarship at the end of the year when you:

- 1) Are in good standing for current year (have dues paid).
- 2) Are an active Buckaroo. Active Buckaroo is defined as one who has attended 8 or more Buckaroo Sundays for the calendar year (Jan-Dec).
- 3) Have attended a **minimum** of 12 Cowtown Opry events during the year, including the 8 Buckaroo Sundays. Twelve Buckaroo Sundays qualifies as 12 events however you may have 8 or more Buckaroo Sundays and fill in the remainder with outside performances. (**you** must keep a record of all events you attend outside of Buckaroo Sundays, participation dates and event must be listed on application).

You may apply for a **college** scholarship at the end of the year when you:

- 1) Are in good standing for current year (have dues paid).
- 2) Have been an active Buckaroo for a minimum of two years. An active Buckaroo is one who has attended 8 or more Buckaroo Sundays in each calendar year that you are a Cowtown Opry Member.
- 3) Have attended a minimum of 48 Cowtown Opry events (you should keep a record of all events you attend outside of Buckaroo Sundays because participation dates and events must be listed on application).
- 4) Are in your senior year of high school, planning to enter college in the fall (or sooner).