

NOOSE RELEASE

From **Ron Wilson**, "*Poet Lariat*"

(not Laureate)

Lazy T Ranch

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For Immediate Release -

Cowboy Poet will be performing locally

Cowboy poet Ron Wilson, called the "Poet Lariat," will be performing his original cowboy poetry in our community.

Wilson performs all original poetry in full costume, complete with audience participation. He says, "The poetry is fun, family-oriented, patriotic, relates extremely well with rural audiences, and most of the time, it even rhymes."

Wilson is winner of the Horizon Award from the Heartland Chapter of the Academy of Western Artists. He also won first place in the cowboy poetry competition at the Kansas Cowboy Symposium in Dodge City and has appeared on RFD-TV. In 2002, then-Governor Bill Graves issued an official state proclamation proclaiming Wilson as a "Poet Lariat" – not laureate – in Kansas. Wilson presented poetry at the Kansas Family Festival held in conjunction with the inauguration of Governor Kathleen Sebelius and has performed at national and international meetings.

Wilson grew up on a place called the Lazy T Ranch near Manhattan. He has a B.S. in Agricultural Education with an animal science specialty and a masters in mass communications from Kansas State University. He was legislative assistant for agriculture to Senator Nancy Landon Kassebaum in Washington D.C. He worked for the U.S. Senate Agriculture Committee and later the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives. He served as Vice President of Public Affairs for the Farm Credit Bank of Wichita. Since 1990, he has been director of the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at K-State. Each week he is heard on the Kansas Profile radio program on a network of stations around the state.

Wilson and his family moved back to the family ranch in 2006. He is a life member of the Kaw Valley Rodeo Association and vice-president of the Bibles & Boots Chapter of Cowboys for Christ. He has produced two books of original poetry and a CD. He also offers a money-back

guarantee: For every performance, he will write and perform an original, customized cowboy poem about that group or event -- or their money back.

Citizens in the region are invited to come join the fun.