

## FORMER PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT TO SPEAK AT **PLACE**

At the invitation of the **place**, President Theodore Roosevelt has agreed to address the people of **city or region** at **time and date**. The public has been invited. President Roosevelt, portrayed by Dr. Gary M. Gray, will speak on his impact upon the West, and in particular address his love for the people of Oklahoma, the only new state during his presidency.

Dr. Gray is the author of *MR. PRESIDENTS: Voices of Freedom, Equality, and Dignity* (Presidential Press, ISBN: 0-9774194-0-1), now available at bookstores everywhere. Along with TR, the book features nine historical “moments in time” featuring George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Johnson, James A. Garfield, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Eleanor Roosevelt (with Erma Stewart as the first lady), and General Douglas MacArthur.

President Roosevelt will be introduced by Governor Frank Frantz (portrayed by **add name**), the last Territorial Governor of Oklahoma. Frantz served with Colonel Roosevelt’s Rough Riders in Cuba and maintained close working relationship as the two “enabled” Oklahoma to become a state in 1907.

Dr. Gray is a historian, actor and writer renowned for his brilliant and historically accurate portrayals of seven of America’s greatest citizens. His performances have received acclaimed reviews and standing ovations. Dr. Gray holds graduate degrees from Phillips University, Southern Methodist and Notre Dame, along with a doctorate in education from Oklahoma State. He has performed/lectured in every state and worldwide, and taught at Phillips University and Northwestern Oklahoma State University. Dr. Gray is the author of eleven books and the former publisher and editor of two national magazines.

Dr. Gray has spent years researching TR. He studied his writings, read biographies on him by many authors, visited his homes in New York and North Dakota and traversed the Panama Canal. In his presentation, Gray finds Roosevelt on July 29, 1910. Roosevelt is in Enid, Oklahoma at the invitation of fellow Rough Rider and Territorial Governor Frank Frantz, he has agreed to speak briefly on his way through the state.

During that speech Roosevelt will tell stories of working with cattle on his ranches in Dakota Territory and about getting caught up in a stampede and riding off a cliff into the river. He will share his deep love for the vast resources and beauty of the west and how they should be preserved for future generations. In particular, he will talk about Oklahoma friends Frantz, Comanche Indian Chief Quanah Parker, and Jack Abernathy, the wolf hunter.

Gray says that during his formative years, TR became a lover of natural history. He traveled to Europe, Egypt, where he also traveled the Nile, the Holy Lands, Greece and Constantinople. *“His impact on the American west is historic. As a ranch owner and cowboy he understood the value of grazing land. Through his understanding of natural history and the western way, TR led the nation’s conservation movement.”*

Dr. Gray believes Theodore Roosevelt was the most dominant figure in America from 1898 until his death in 1919. Sickly as a child he was determined to rise above his weaknesses. He went from the sickly child to one of the most physically fit presidents in American history. He was an adventurer and prolific writer.

*“He was also a visionary,” Gray believes. “Most of the issues Roosevelt and the Progressives promoted in the presidential campaign of 1912 were adopted and are in existence today.”*

**Host directors’ name** suggests *“the people of city or area will have a ‘Bully’ time at this Teddy Roosevelt presentation. President Theodore Roosevelt bounded through life with a relentless and contagious spirit. Dr. Gray’s presentation gives people the feel of TR’s tremendous bundle of energy and infectious vision, along with a love of the common people he encountered. Please plan to join us on **date.**”*