

Large Crowd Expected for Thursday's Bill Cosby Show at SWOSU

04.01.2014

A large crowd will attend the first major act—comedian Bill Cosby—in the new Pioneer Cellular Event Center on the Weatherford campus of Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

As part of SWOSU's Panorama Series and Comedy Central's *Far From Finished Tour*, comedian Bill Cosby will appear this Thursday, April 3, at 8 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Brian Adler, chair of the Panorama Committee, said over 2,600 tickets have been sold for the show. Because of the large number of people expected from four states, he encourages western Oklahomans to take advantage of the multiple parking spaces located on the SWOSU campus east of the Pioneer Cellular Event Center.

Nathan Smith, director of the Pioneer Cellular Event Center, said people from 110 different communities in Oklahoma will be coming to the show. There are some tickets remaining that can be purchased online through the SWOSU website at www.swosu.edu or at stubwire.com. If tickets remain, they can be purchased at the door.

One of America's most beloved comedians of all time, Cosby has captivated generations of fans with his comedy routines, iconic albums and best selling books such as *Fatherhood*. His comedy transcends age, gender and cultural barriers.

Cosby broke television's racial barrier with *I Spy*, becoming the first African American to costar on a television series while winning three consecutive Emmys. He created and produced the Emmy-winning cartoon *Fat Albert* and the *Cosby Kids*, which began airing in the 1970s and was made into a film in 2004. The show, based on Cosby's childhood in Philadelphia, was designed to educate and entertain.

Perhaps Cosby's greatest contribution to American entertainment and culture is *The Cosby Show*, about a close-knit, upper class black family. Cosby said his intent was to portray an American family. *Time* magazine called the show "an encouraging sign of maturity in matters of race." *The Cosby Show* dominated the number one spot for years, earning nearly unanimous critical praise.

The Pioneer Cellular Event Center opened in January of this year. The \$24 million, 93,000 square foot center was made possible by the citizens of Weatherford, SWOSU and SWOSU students.

For additional information, call the SWOSU Public Relations & Marketing Office at 580.774.3063.