

Gary England Speaking Tuesday at SWOSU

09.17.2010

Gary England will share personal stories, discuss scientific developments in the field of meteorology and show powerful images of Oklahoma's weather this Tuesday, September 21, at 7 p.m. at the Southwestern Oklahoma State University Fine Arts Center in Weatherford.

The evening presentation is free and open to the public.

Gary England, director of meteorology at KWTU-Oklahoma City (News 9), is recognized worldwide as an authority on severe weather. He is a recipient of numerous awards and honors, including two Emmys, the Silver Circle Award by the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, Lifetime Achievement Award by the Society of Professional Journalists, the Oklahoma Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame, Western Oklahoma Hall of Fame, and the Governor's Humanitarian Award.

A native of Seiling, England is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics and meteorology. He began a distinguished career in meteorology in 1965 and joined KWTU (Oklahoma City), the local CBS affiliate, in 1972 where he serves as the station's chief meteorologist. In 1981, Gary England became the first person in history to use Doppler radar for direct warnings to the public. England is also credited with the development of 'First Warning', an automated severe weather computer warning system, and 'Storm Tracker', an automated severe weather tracking and projection computer system, both in use nationwide.

His career and expertise has garnered special recognition on national and international televised programming, from National Geographic and the Discovery Channel to documentaries airing in Australia, Canada, Japan and Great Britain. And his notoriety offered him a cameo appearance in the opening scene of Steven Spielberg's movie, *Twister*, and he also served as a consultant for the film. England has authored several books, including his autobiography, *Weathering the Storm: Tornadoes, Television, and Turmoil*. Recognized for continued excellence, Gary England and his weather team received the National Edward R. Murrow Award (in 2009) for Best in the Nation in the category of "Breaking News/Weather" among all large television markets.

For more information about Tuesday's event, please contact Jason Dupree, head of public services, SWOSU Libraries, at 580.774.3031 or email jason.dupree@swosu.edu.