



## OSU, OETA, League of Women Voters to present gubernatorial debate

(STILLWATER, Okla., August 20, 2014) -- Oklahoma State University, in partnership with OETA and the Oklahoma League of Women Voters, will be the host site for a state gubernatorial debate between Republican incumbent Mary Fallin and Democratic challenger Joe Dorman on Tuesday, Oct. 2 at 7 p.m., as part of the *OSU Debate Series: Decision 2014* and OETA's Oklahoma Votes 2014 statewide election coverage.

The one-hour debate will be held at the OSU Student Union Theater in Stillwater. Both Fallin and Dorman are graduates of Oklahoma State University.

OETA will air the debate live across the state and stream online at [www.oeta.tv](http://www.oeta.tv), with viewers encouraged to join the conversation on their social media platforms by using the hashtag #okvotes14.

A panel of Oklahoma journalists, including OETA managing editor Dick Pryor, will ask the candidates questions, plus there will be questions from OSU students. Dr. Brandon Lenoir, a visiting OSU assistant professor in political science, will moderate the debate and OSU students will help facilitate the event. The debate also will be streamed live at [www.ostate.tv](http://www.ostate.tv).

OSU President Burns Hargis said the university is pleased to team with OETA and the League of Women Voters to host the debate. "OSU is proud to welcome back two alums running for the state's highest office," Hargis said. "The debate provides our students and the residents of Oklahoma a wonderful opportunity to hear each candidate's vision for the state."

"I'm looking forward to an opportunity to share my positive vision for Oklahoma with a statewide audience," said Gov. Fallin. "My thanks go out to OSU, OETA and the League of Women Voters for organizing an event that will allow Oklahomans to compare and contrast their candidates for governor. It will be a spirited and fun event."

Dorman said, "I look forward to returning to Stillwater for the gubernatorial debate sponsored by OETA, OSU and the League of Women Voters. I appreciate every opportunity to visit my alma mater and I am very pleased for this to serve as the first debate on the issues and policies facing Oklahomans. I firmly believe in the importance of civic engagement and dialogue in the election process. This will serve as the perfect avenue for Oklahoma voters to learn the differences in the

candidates through a civil, spirited discussion. I am grateful for the hard work and efforts by OSU, OETA and the League of Women Voters to make this happen.”

There is no charge to attend the debate, however seating is limited and on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Both candidates will be available to the press following the debate.

Media inquiries about the event should be directed to Carrie Hulsey-Greene, Oklahoma State University, [carrie.hulsey\\_greene@okstate.edu](mailto:carrie.hulsey_greene@okstate.edu), 405.744.9081

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#### *About OETA*

*OETA is America’s most watched PBS network, reaching 3.8 million Oklahomans and providing all ages the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and online content. Through multiple broadcast and digital platforms, OETA invites Oklahomans to connect with local arts, history and state government; to experience the worlds of science, history, nature and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front row seats to world-class drama and performances. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade turn to OETA for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life, and parents rely on OETA and PBS KIDS content to help prepare kids for learning and life. More information about OETA, including schedules, digital content access, educational resources, community events and more, is available at [www.oeta.tv](http://www.oeta.tv), or by following [OETA on Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) or through our [e-newsletter, InsideOETA](#).*

#### *About League of Women Voters of Oklahoma*

*The League of Women Voters of Oklahoma is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging informed and active participation in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League never supports or opposes any political party or candidate. The League of Women Voters of Oklahoma has chapters in Lawton, Norman, Stillwater, Bartlesville and Tulsa and also has at-large members across state.*

#### *About Oklahoma State University*

*Oklahoma State University is a modern land-grant university that prepares students for success. OSU is America’s Brightest Orange. Through leadership and service, OSU is preparing students for a bright future and building a brighter world for all. As Oklahoma’s only university with a statewide presence, OSU improves the lives of people in Oklahoma, the nation, and the world through integrated, high-quality teaching, research, and outreach. As America’s Healthiest Campus, OSU is committed to the health and well-being of its students, employees and the community. OSU has more than 36,000 students across its five-campus system and more than 25,000 on its combined Stillwater and Tulsa campuses, with students from all 50 states and around 120 nations. Established in 1890, OSU has graduated around 255,000 students to serve the state of Oklahoma, the nation and the world.*