

Minnesota Music Hall of Fame Inductee



Johnny Western

Inducted in 2011

When Johnny was five years old, his parent took him to see the western film *Guns and Guitar*, which starred the actor, Gene Autry. The young boy decided he wanted to be a singing cowboy.

At the age of 12 he received a guitar and within a year he was performing professionally.

At the age of 13, he accepted a job on the radio which got him named in *Billboard* magazine as the youngest disc jockey and singer on American radio.

He performed with Gene Autry and for 30 years was a part of the Johnny Cash road show.

Johnny wrote and performed the theme song *The Ballad of Paladin* for the TV show *Have Gun-Will Travel* and co-wrote songs for the TV show *The Rebel* and *Bonanza*.

