

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Briscoe Western Art Museum Raises Record Amount at Opening Weekend of *Night of Artists Art Show & Sale***

**San Antonio, TX** (March 29, 2018) ---The Briscoe Western Art Museum raised a record-breaking \$2.4 million during the first weekend of the **2018 *Night of Artists Art Sale & Exhibition***, including nearly \$1.9 million in total art sales. This year's show is the biggest to date with over 280 works of painting, sculpture, and mixed media art on display by 74 of the country's top contemporary Western artists. Proceeds from the sale benefit the programs, exhibits, and collections of the Briscoe Museum.

The public exhibition and sale continues through May 6 at the Briscoe Museum's Jack Guenther Pavilion, located at 210 W. Market Street on the San Antonio River Walk, with all unsold artwork available for purchase. The exhibition is free with Museum admission.

Now in its 17<sup>th</sup> year, the Briscoe's annual fundraising event was revamped for 2018 with the addition of the Bison Society Collectors Summit, a live art auction hosted by legendary auctioneer Troy Black, and the addition of several new artists.

Top sellers at the live auction included *Warriors on the Greasy Grass* by Martin Grelle which sold for \$150,000 and *Grizzly Bear Man* by Z.S. Liang which commanded a price of \$70,000.

"This year's show was great – beyond expectations," exclaimed Jack Guenther, Briscoe Board Member and avid art collector. "[It] Will definitely put San Antonio on the map of the western art world!"

The 2018 *Night of the Artists* opening weekend was attended by more than 800 artists, sponsors, and guests. Internationally recognized artists participating in the show include **Billy Schenck, Mark Maggiori, Logan Maxwell Hagege, Tim Cherry, Sandy Scott, John Coleman, Jan Mapes, George Hallmark, Kent Ullberg, and Kim Wiggins**. The range of subjects reflects the vastness of the great American West from dreamy landscape vistas, to rugged frontier cowboys, historic missions, and detailed Native American themes.

"We wanted to make sure that this weekend was a very special and memorable experience for, not only the guests and patrons of the Briscoe, but for the artists who come from all over the country to share with us the beauty and history of the American West," stated Marianne Malek, 2018 *Night of Artists* Committee Chair. "The positive feedback we have received is overwhelming and the art sales for this year speak for themselves."

Get a preview of this extensive collection of art on the Briscoe website gallery at: [BriscoeMuseum.org/gallery](http://BriscoeMuseum.org/gallery). For more information on art available for sale and museum hours, please call 210.299.4499.

#### **2018 *Night of Artists* Award Winners**

***Briscoe Museum Purchase Award:*** Jan Mapes, *Tools of the Trade*, Bronze

***David Crockett Award for Artists' Choice:*** Greg Beecham, *Lord of the Dust Bowl*, Oil on linen

***Sam Houston Award for Painting:*** Z.S. Liang, *Grizzly Bear Man*, Oil on linen canvas

***James Bowie Award for Sculpture:*** John Coleman, *The Healer*, Bronze

***William B. Travis Award for Patrons' Choice:*** Kim Wiggins, *The Texians*, Oil

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