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2023 NIGHT OF ARTISTS SHOWCASES THE BEST OF TODAY'S WESTERN ART

THE BRISCOE'S ANNUAL EXHIBITION AND SALE AGAIN PROVES THE STRENGTH OF THE GENRE

Collectors Summit and Opening Weekend Events: March 24–25
Public Exhibition and Sale: March 26 – May 7

San Antonio, TX – (January 2023) If you imagine Western art as dusty, historic relics of the past, you need to set your sights for San Antonio and the Biscoe Western Art Museum's 2023 Night of Artists Exhibition and Sale, March 24–25. With the opportunity to view and purchase nearly 300 new works of painting, sculpture and mixed media by 80 of the country's leading contemporary Western artists, Night of Artists draws artists, collectors and art enthusiasts to the banks of the San Antonio River Walk for two days of unforgettable festivities kicking off one of the premier Western art exhibitions and sales in the world. Beyond the opening celebration, Night of Artists is a public exhibition and sale that spans six weeks at the Briscoe, March 26 – May 7, and is included with general admission to the museum.

"With a rich array of works from today's top artists, events like *Night of Artists* prove the strength of Western art. The genre continues to flourish thanks to the talent showcased by our participating artists and the increasing number of collectors and enthusiasts drawn to the beauty and spirit these works capture," said Michael Duchemin, President and CEO of the Briscoe Western Art Museum. "Last year's event set a new record for *Night of Artists*, with sales surpassing more than \$2 million and more than 72% of the available works available for sale. We have no doubt 2023 will be another stellar year. These artists and their talents deserve to be celebrated. We are grateful to the collectors and buyers who recognize the quality showcased and look forward to welcoming everyone to this year's event."

The <u>wide range of artworks</u> reflect the vastness of the great American West. From scenic landscapes and inspired Native Americans, classic cowboys and dazzling vaqueros to stunning wildlife and detailed portraiture, *Night of Artists* features something for every art enthusiast. Some of the <u>featured artists</u> include Billy Schenck, Don Oelze, Z.S. Liang, C. Michael Dudash, George Hallmark, Kim Wiggins, Bonnie Marris, Michael Ome Untiedt, Teresa Elliot and Jan Mapes.

Notable new artists participating this year include Jeremy Lipking, Eric Bowman, Glenn Dean, Dustin Van Wechel, Bob Guelich, Kevin Red Star and Tony Pro.

The Briscoe's signature event and a must for any collector, *Night of Artists*, serves as the primary fundraiser for the museum, benefiting the Briscoe's full array of exhibitions and programs throughout the year. The event's two-day opening weekend kicks off with the annual <u>Briscoe Bison Society Collectors Summit</u>, where artists, collectors and gallery owners gather to share their insights during panel discussions and conversations exploring the Western art market and trends. Intended for everyone from the novice to the seasoned art collector, the panels feature nationally recognized Western artists, experts and gallery owners. The two-part summit takes place March 24 and March 25 at The Westin Riverwalk.

The Exhibition Preview, Dinner and Live Auction taking place in the Briscoe's Jack Guenther Pavilion on the banks of the San Antonio River Walk unfolds on March 24 with an evening of cocktails in the *Night of Artists* exhibition, an elegant seated dinner and a vivacious live auction. Conducted by Troy Black, the live auction features 35 separate works.

The *Night of Artists* Awards Luncheon takes place March 25, honoring the artists in this year's exhibition and recognizing the <u>annual award winners</u>.

Night of Artists' signature event, the Exhibition Opening, Art Sale and Reception, takes place March 25. This memorable evening includes the "Luck of the Draw" Art Sale, where works of art are available for purchase at a fixed price established by the artist. Attendees are provided with a ballot book and may place an intent to purchase slip in the box by a work of art they would like to purchase. When time expires, two slips are randomly drawn, allowing the first drawee the opportunity to purchase the piece or pass it along to the second drawee. All the excitement happens to the tune of live music under the stars in the museum's McNutt Sculpture Garden.

<u>Tickets</u> for all *Night of Artists* events are available online or by calling 210.299.4499. The *Night of Artists* public exhibition will be on display during <u>regular museum hours</u> March 26 – May 7 and is included in museum admission. Unsold works during opening weekend will be available for purchase both in-person and online.

About The Briscoe Western Art Museum: Preserving and presenting the art, history and culture of the American West through engaging exhibitions, educational programs and public events reflective of the region's rich traditions and shared heritage, the Briscoe Western Art Museum is located on the San Antonio River Walk at 210 W. Market Street in the beautifully restored 1930s former San Antonio Public Library building. Named in honor of the late Texas Gov. Dolph Briscoe Jr. and his wife, Janey Slaughter Briscoe, the museum includes the three-story Jack Guenther Pavilion, used for event rentals and programs, and the outdoor McNutt Sculpture Garden. Follow the Briscoe on social media, @BriscoeMuseum.