

THE BRISCOE WESTERN ART MUSEUM ELECTS NEW CHAIR

Uvalde Businessman Barry Hendler to Lead the Museum's Board of Directors

San Antonio, TX – (October 2023) San Antonio's home of Western art and heritage, the Briscoe Western Art Museum, is pleased to announce the election of Barry Hendler, President and Chief Executive Officer of The American Trade Group, as Chair of the museum's board of directors. Elected to a two-year term, Hendler assumed office on October 1.

Hendler has served on the [Briscoe's Board of Directors](#) since 2018, previously holding the positions of Vice Chair, Education & Programs Chair and Finance Vice Chair. In recognition of Hendler's support of the museum, the Briscoe's museum store was named the [Hendler Family Museum Store](#) in 2022. He succeeds John T. Montford, CEO, JTM Consulting, Inc., Independent Director, Southwest Airlines and Chancellor Emeritus of the Texas Tech University System, who served as Chair of the Briscoe Board of Directors, 2019–2023. Montford continues to serve on the museum board as Immediate Past Chair.

“Barry's unwavering support and commitment to the Briscoe will serve the Briscoe well as we mark our 10th anniversary and help set our course for the next 10 years,” said Liz Jackson, President and CEO of the Briscoe Western Art Museum. “Our board of directors has provided our young museum with a fantastic roadmap. Having a leader like John T. Montford provide his expertise and insight helped us navigate the trials of the pandemic, growing our collections and programming in spite of the impact of COVID-19. We cannot thank John enough for his steady leadership and support and we have no doubt that Barry's leadership and guidance will continue to grow the Briscoe.”

In addition to Hendler and Montford, the museum's board includes McLean Bowman, Dolph “D.B.” Briscoe, IV; Jay Clingman, Robert A. Dullnig, Jessica Elliott Middleton, Brandon Grossman, Jack Guenther, Valerie Guenther, Jose “Che” Guerra, Derrick Howard, William “Bill” Klesse, Nancy Loeffler, Jane Macon, Kenneth J. Maverick, Rob McClane, Debbie Montford, John Phillip Santos, Mike Sohn, Reed Williams and Bradford Wyatt. Advisory Directors include Daniel Biggs, J. P. Bryan, Laura Gill, Hollie Hendler Gilleland, Marcie Ince, Mark Johnson, Janell Kleberg, Ricardo Romo and Lionel Sosa. Emeriti Directors include Fully Clingman, Enrique Guerra and Mark E. Watson, Jr.

“As the Briscoe continues to grow its collection and meet its mission to bring the art, history and culture of the American West to the world, I am honored to serve alongside such a distinguished board as we work to foster and further vision of the museum's namesakes, Gov. Dolph Briscoe and his dear wife, Janey. I am committed to growing the museum's success and ensuring the world comes to see Western art, history and culture at the Briscoe,” said Hendler.

A native Texan, Hendler has been actively involved in various entrepreneurial endeavors since 1974. A 1971 graduate of Texas A&M University, he was a proud member of the Corps of Cadets and has continued to devote his time and efforts to Texas A&M throughout his career. In addition to his volunteer efforts at his alma mater, Hendler is a member of the Board of Trustees at Schreiner University, Past President of the Concho Valley Council – Boy Scouts of America, Recipient of the Boys Scouts of America Silver Beaver Award, Past President of the Uvalde Chamber of Commerce, Past President of Rotary, and Past Co-Chairman of the Luv Ya Uvalde Thanksgiving Dinner.

Hendler and his wife, Laura, are the parents of one daughter and two sons. All three of their adult children are involved in sales, management and manufacturing at American Lumber. Barry and Laura also have eight grandchildren. When he is not leading his company or volunteering his time, Hendler enjoys watching Aggie football and baseball, cycling, backpacking, mountain climbing, working on his ranch in Uvalde County and reading and researching Texas history.

The West Starts Here

The Briscoe's collection of Western art and artifacts showcases the stories of the West through visual art. Collection highlights include Santa Anna's sword, works by Frederic Remington, Pancho Villa's last known saddle, a fantastic Alamo diorama and artifacts, contemporary and historic paintings and sculptures, as well as cowboy and Native American relics, weapons and photography. Beyond the McNutt Sculpture Garden, the Briscoe's acre and a half campus features eight additional outdoor sculptures, including two overlooking the river. The Briscoe's collection then fills 14 galleries in its restored 1930s building. Museum hours, [parking](#) and admission details are available [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.*