

BRISCOE WESTERN ART MUSEUM'S 2025 NIGHT OF ARTISTS ACHIEVES \$2 MILLION IN ART SALES

Annual Exhibition and Sale Continue through May 11

San Antonio, TX – (April 2025) The Briscoe Western Art Museum proudly announces the overwhelming success of its [2025 Night of Artists Exhibition and Sale](#), which generated \$2 million in art sales thus far, with total event proceeds reaching more than \$2.92 million through sponsorships, ticket sales and art purchases. As one of the premier Western art events in the nation, *Night of Artists* once again proved to be a must-attend celebration of Western heritage, culture and artistic excellence.

Collectors and art enthusiasts from across the country gathered for a dynamic opening weekend, where spirited bidding led to some remarkable sales. The top live auction lot, Bonnie Marris' "The Best Stick Ever," ignited an intense bidding war before selling for an impressive \$103,500 hammer price including buyer's premium. Other notable auction sales included John Coleman's "Of Heaven and Earth" and Don Oelze's "On the Edge of the World" and Jim Vogel's "A Bird in the Hand," all of which sold far above estimates.

"This year's *Night of Artists* showcased the incredible talent and vision of today's top Western artists, and we are thrilled by the enthusiastic response from collectors and guests," said Liz Jackson, President and CEO of the Briscoe Western Art Museum. "The energy, excitement, and record-breaking sales reinforce the importance of preserving and celebrating Western art. We are grateful to our artists, patrons and supporters for making this event such a success."

One of largest Western art exhibitions and sales of its kind, the museum's signature fundraiser and exhibition draws artists, collectors and enthusiasts to the Briscoe each year. Opening festivities welcomed more than 1,700 guests, who enjoyed the event's new Small Works Sale, which saw an incredible 85% of works sold, as well as the engaging Luck of the Draw Sale. Through opening weekend alone, the event secured 66% of available artwork sold, a number expected to grow as the exhibition and sale remain open for additional purchases through May 11. More than 270 works from 85 artists are included in the exhibition and sale.

Annual Awards Honor Best in Show

Each year, *Night of Artists* recognizes outstanding works across various categories, celebrating the depth and diversity of Western art. This year's [distinguished honorees](#) include:

- **Sam Houston Award for Painting**
Martin Grelle, *Trackers at Blacktail Ponds*, Oil on linen, 36 x 36 in.

- **James Bowie Award for Sculpture**
Ed Natiya, *Silent Hunter*, Bronze, 18 x 17 x 16 in.
- **David Crockett Award for Artists' Choice**
William Haskell, *Heavens in Motion*, Acrylic on panel, 24 x 30 in.
- **William B. Travis Award for Patrons' Choice**
Thomas Blackshear, *The Blue Bird*, Oil on linen, 35 x 22 in.
- **"Cowboy Bob" Museum Purchase Award**
Dustin Payne, *What Man Can Conceive*, Bronze wall relief, 37 x 20 x 10 in.
- **Alamo Award for Best Body of Work**
T. Allen Lawson

The "Cowboy Bob" Museum Purchase Award recognizes a work chosen to be added to the Briscoe's permanent collection. At the conclusion of the *Night of Artists* exhibition, Dustin Payne's "What Man Can Conceive," will be added to the Briscoe's permanent collection.

The "Best Body of Work" award is a new recognition category. The Sam Houston, James Bowie and Alamo Awards represent "Best in Show" recognition, chosen by the *Night of Artists* Art Selection Committee, an anonymous panel of Western art collectors who are deeply involved with the museum. The David Crockett and William B. Travis awards are selected by fellow artists and show patrons respectively.

The Artists Behind the Works

This year's exhibition and sale welcomes an [extraordinary lineup](#) of returning favorites and exciting new voices in Western art. New artists include Thomas Blackshear II, Sean Michael Chavez, Scott Christensen, Quang Ho, Josh Elliott, Dean Mitchell, T. Allen Lawson, Sally Maxwell, Kyle Ma, Matt Smith, Daniel Sprick, Dustin Payne and Vic Payne.

Artists returning to the celebrated exhibition and sale include Martin Grelle, John Coleman, Greg Beecham, Eric Bowman, G. Russell Case, Bonnie Marris, Teresa Elliott, William Haskell, Jeremy Lipking, Ed Natiya, Don Oelze, Howard Post, Grant Redden, Gladys Roldán-de-Moras, Billy Schenck, Jim Vogel, Morgan Weistling and Jeremy Winborg.

"I've been to many of the very top shows and galleries in my career and this year's *Night of Artists* is what every artist wishes a show or a gallery would be like," said participating artist Bonnie Marris. "Our paintings are like our children. We put our hearts, soul and passion into them. We want each one to be studied, understood and most of all enjoyed. *Night of the Artists* is aptly named for it honored all of our wishes.

Two floors of warm, wonderful people standing back and up close to examine and appreciate brushwork, color and subtleties as though it was the only painting in the two-floored show. All hopes were beyond satisfied.”

Shop the Exhibition through May 11

For those who missed the opening weekend, select works from *Night of Artists* remain available for purchase through May 11. This is a rare opportunity to acquire remarkable pieces from some of today’s most talented Western artists, all while supporting the Briscoe’s mission to preserve and celebrate the art and culture of the American West. All remaining works are featured in the [fixed price sale](#) and are available for purchase in-person or online. The exhibition is open to the public with museum admission.

The largest annual fundraiser for the museum, proceeds from *Night of Artists* benefits the Briscoe’s full array of exhibitions, engagement and educational programs throughout the year.

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.*