



# Newsletter

Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas, Kansas, Mexico

June 2017

## Last Call for Region 6 Volunteers and Host Cities!



The Region 6 Board is actively looking to fill two positions; the Region 6 Vice-Director position, which will now be available as of July as well as a vacant Region 6 Secretary position. If you have a desire to serve in either position, or wish to nominate someone else you believe shines, please express interest or send your idea to the Nominating committee at [bcmayerok@me.com](mailto:bcmayerok@me.com) (Bob Mayer). Deadline for submissions is June 15<sup>th</sup> please.

The Region 6 Board is seeking out a Region 6 city to host the bi-annual Region 6 conference, which takes place late winter/early spring of 2018. This is a three-day conference designed to educate and inspire you to elevate your game, help you to reconnect or make new industry friends and best of all, to fund scholarships for those coming up behind us. If your city has interest in hosting or you would like more information please contact Kerry Painter at [Kpainter@smgtulsa.com](mailto:Kpainter@smgtulsa.com).

If you have an interest in serving on the conference planning committee please express your interest to Kerry Painter at [Kpainter@smgtulsa.com](mailto:Kpainter@smgtulsa.com). While a Board position requires you to maintain a membership with IAVM, a region committee appointment does not so please share this opportunity with your enthusiastic venue teams.

Questions or concerns about any information in this communication can be directed to Kerry Painter: [Kpainter@smgtulsa.com](mailto:Kpainter@smgtulsa.com)

## Pinnacle Venue Services Adds Las Colonias Amphitheater to Grand Junction Roster

### *Three Diverse Venue Options Now Under Pinnacle Venue Services*

Pinnacle Venue Services, venue managers of the Avalon Theatre and Two Rivers Convention Center, announced today their agreement with the City of Grand Junction has been extended to book live, ticketed entertainment for the new built Las Colonias Amphitheater, scheduled to open in July. The Las Colonias Amphitheater sits on a beautiful backdrop of picturesque southern Colorado with a 40' x 60' stage, large side wings and a capacity of 5,000.

The City contracted with Pinnacle Venue Services in January to take over management of the City's two entertainment/conference assets in an effort to increase operational efficiencies and streamline costs. Pinnacle is providing full management and operational services of Two Rivers Convention Center and the historic Avalon Theatre.

The component of booking live, ticketed events at the Las Colonias Amphitheater has been added to the current three-year management agreement with Pinnacle Venue Services. The responsibility of filling the event calendar will be shared with the Grand Junction Parks and Recreation Department as they will focus on local community-based events.

"It's an honor the City of Grand Junction has extended our partnership to include the Las Colonias Amphitheater," said Pinnacle Venue Services, Maria Rainsdon, General Manager of Two Rivers Convention Center and the Avalon Theatre. "Being able to present three diverse venue possibilities to tours and promoters will open the door to many more entertainment options."

Grand Junction City Manager Greg Caton adds, "We have such an opportunity before us here to benefit from the deep experience and industry connection that Pinnacle brings to this relationship. They are doing an outstanding job managing Two Rivers and the Avalon, so it was a natural decision for us to extend the agreement to the Amphitheater as well. We look forward to seeing even more great things happen down at Las Colonias."

The partnership extension brings a wider scope of potential events to the community. It allows Pinnacle to focus their efforts on national touring events and the Parks and Recreation Department to focus on first-rate community entertainment.

## Walton Arts Center Seeking Events Manager

Walton Arts Center seeks Events Manager for start date as soon as possible. The Events Manager serves three main functions for the organization; coordinates and executes outside sales efforts, acts as primary contact for rental clients from inquiry to invoice and acts as lead event designer/coordinator for Walton Arts Center special events.

Ideal candidates will possess excellent customer service skills, maintain calm under pressure and be highly organized multi-taskers with experience taking a leadership role in creating and designing unique live events. They will be outgoing with a positive attitude and maintain strong relationships both personally and professionally in order to maximize potential rental clients to the venue. They will possess a keen eye for high-quality aesthetic event design and demonstrate past experience working in collaborative team settings with a proven track record of timely and thorough communication to colleagues, clients and stakeholders. Candidate should be familiar with maintaining a sales inquiry pipeline, database management, and event setup/diagramming. Working knowledge of event industry standards and safety requirements are preferable.

Qualified candidates will be willing to work flexible hours including frequent nights and weekends. A bachelor's degree in a related field is required plus at least 3 years of live event sales and coordination with a focus on customer service. Experience in a performing arts center environment and past staff supervisory skills are highly desirable.

Please see full job description on Walton Arts Center's website at <http://waltonartscenter.org/events-manager/> Walton Arts Center intends to make a decision quickly with onsite interviews for finalist candidates as soon as possible. Interested candidates may contact Karen Percival, Director of Human Resources, at [humanresources@waltonartscenter.org](mailto:humanresources@waltonartscenter.org). Please email your cover letter and resume using the subject line "Events Manager".

## Walton Arts Center Seeking Manager of Volunteer Programs

Walton Arts Center seeks Manager of Volunteer Programs for a July 2017 start date. The Manager of Volunteer Programs will oversee the recruitment, training and retention of a large pool of community volunteers with a focus on fulfilling the customer service mission of the organization. The Manager provides accountable, knowledgeable, trained volunteers to the organization and creates an appreciative and enjoyable experience for those who generously offer their time in service to Walton Arts Center. Manager will act as the voice of the volunteers, representing their best interests in organizational decision-making.

Ideal candidates will possess excellent organizational and communication skills (verbal, written and active listening skills are all critical), strong attention to detail, strong teacher/mentor skill set and positive attitude. Candidates should be comfortable with public speaking, comfortable working alone or in a team setting, personable, self-motivated, proactive and calm under pressure (deadlines, upset constituents, etc.). Candidates must be computer literate and able to learn new software and database programs. Previous knowledge of performing arts and special event coordination is required.

Qualified candidates will be willing to work flexible hours including frequent nights and weekends. A bachelor's degree in Communication, Social Work, Human Resources or Non-Profit Management or a related field is preferred. Three years or more professional experience leading a volunteer program will be considered in lieu of a degree. Previous experience working in a non-profit/arts organization is highly desirable, as is previous experience supervising volunteers and directing a volunteer program.

Full job description available on Walton Arts Center website at <http://waltonartscenter.org/manager-of-volunteer-programs/>. Interested candidates may contact Karen Percival, Director of Human Resources, at [humanresources@waltonartscenter.org](mailto:humanresources@waltonartscenter.org). Please email your cover letter and resume using the subject line "Manager of Volunteer Programs".

## LONGTIME TULSA PAC DIRECTOR JOHN E. SCOTT TO RETIRE

(Tulsa, OK)- After 28 years of running the Tulsa Performing Arts Center, Director John E. Scott has announced he will retire at the end of June.



The longest-serving director in the city-owned facility's history, Scott has been associated with the building in some fashion from the very start. As principal oboist with the Tulsa Philharmonic, he performed onstage at the PAC's grand opening concert in 1977. Scott continued to work for the orchestra until 1987, when he joined the PAC staff as assistant director before being promoted to director two years later. (Continued, page 3...)

From 2003 to 2007, Scott also served as director of the Tulsa Convention Center (now Cox Business Center). When management of that facility was transferred to a private company, Scott negotiated employment guarantees and benefit protections for the Center's City of Tulsa employees.

"I can't say enough about what John Scott means to the City and to the Performing Arts Center," says Mayor G.T. Bynum, whose grandfather Robert J. LaFortune was mayor when the PAC was built. "From its early days until its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a Tulsa institution, the Performing Arts Center has benefited from John's wise and steady leadership. In the process, he has enhanced the quality of life in our city and — through the PAC — he has impacted the lives of thousands for the better."

As PAC director, Scott has worked under six different mayors, supervised up to 33 employees, and overseen rental agreements with the many groups that present performances at the PAC, including Celebrity Attractions, Tulsa Ballet, Tulsa Symphony, Tulsa Opera, Chamber Music Tulsa, Choregus Productions and Tulsa Town Hall, as well as various touring shows and local theatre companies such as Theatre North, Theatre Tulsa and American Theatre Company.

One of Scott's most delicate tasks was persuading Tulsa Ballet, Tulsa Opera and Tulsa Philharmonic to reschedule their previously contracted dates to make room in Chapman Music Hall for a five-week, 40-performance (sold-out) run of *The Phantom of the Opera* in 1996, a milestone event in the building's history.

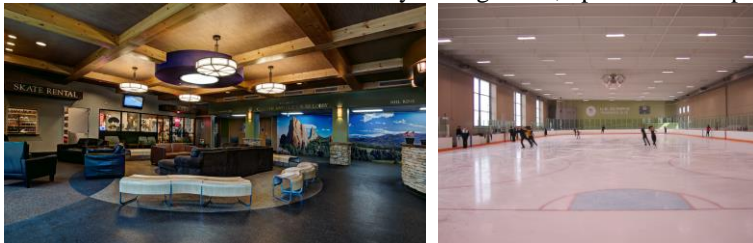
Scott shepherded two major improvement projects while director: a \$250,000 Americans With Disabilities Act enhancement in 1992 and an expansion of the PAC in 2000, which added the Kathleen P. Westby Pavilion, the Robert J. LaFortune Studio, and additional restrooms to the west side of the building.

Other major innovations occurring under Scott's direction were the formation of the PAC's regional ticketing service, MyTicketOffice.com, in 2006 and the addition of digital marquees and lighting to the exterior of the building.

For the past 10 years, even as the BOK Center and performance venues at local casinos have been established, the Tulsa Performing Arts Center has consistently booked more than 500 performances per year, generating annual economic impact dollars in the tens of millions for Tulsa. The City of Tulsa is conducting a national search for Scott's successor.

### **World Arena Ice Hall Receives 2017 Fritz Dietl Award.**

The World Arena Ice Hall, a U.S. Olympic Training Site for figure skating at the Broadmoor World Arena in Colorado Springs, CO., was awarded the 2017 Fritz Dietl Award by the Professional Skaters Association. The award, given out at the PSA Conference in May, recognizes innovation and excellence in facility management, operations and programming.



The World Arena Ice Hall, one of the most prestigious training facilities in the world, is known for its world-class coaches and figure skaters, including 15 Team USA members. The World Arena Ice Hall is the home of the Broadmoor Skating Club and offers comprehensive on-ice and off-ice training programs that have attracted athletes both nationally and internationally.

### **Bicentennial Center is now the TONY'S® Pizza Events Center!**

Spectra by Comcast Spectacor, the providers of venue management and marketing to the Bicentennial Center, and the City of Salina announce the rebranding of the Bicentennial Center as the **TONY'S® Pizza Events Center**. The renaming is part of a new 15-year agreement with a subsidiary of long-time Salina employer, The Schwan Food Company ("Schwan").



(Continued, page 4..)

The [TONY'S Pizza brand](#), named after a Salina pizza parlor from the 1960s, is available in retail and food-service locations nationwide and its pizzas are still made at the Schwan subsidiary, SFC Global Supply facility in the city. As part of the agreement with Schwan's Shared Services, LLC, a subsidiary of The Schwan Food Company, the name change took place in late February 2017.

"We're really excited to be aligned with TONY'S Pizza, a brand that is engrained in Salina's culture and history. We also appreciate the long-term commitment that The Schwan Food Company is making to our community," said Spectra's Ron Rideout, general manager of the TONY'S Pizza Events Center. "We're creating a great fan experience in Salina, and we're fortunate to work with the people from Schwan to further enhance it."

"On behalf of our company and employees, especially our people in Salina, we are proud to announce our new relationship with such a world-class facility," said Dimitrios Smyrnios, CEO of The Schwan Food Company. "The selection of TONY'S Pizza as the title sponsor for the center was an easy one to make given the pride our employees take in the brand's heritage and hometown presence. We look forward to working with Spectra and the city of Salina in impressing fans and visitors in exciting new ways."

As part of the multi-year deal with a Schwan subsidiary, the TONY'S Pizza Events Center will rebrand the concession areas, bring refreshing changes to menus with help from Schwans, and recently launched the new mobile-friendly website [tonypizzaeventscenter.com](http://tonypizzaeventscenter.com).

## WICHITA SELECTED TO HOST 2021 NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP FIRST/SECOND ROUDS

*The Road to the Final Four Set to Begin in Wichita*



Area basketball fans won't have to wait long for another taste of March Madness. Wichita has been selected as a First and Second Round site for the 2021 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championships, the NCAA announced today.

Wichita State University will serve as host at INTRUST Bank Arena, in partnership with Greater Wichita Area Sports Commission, Visit Wichita, Sedgwick County and the City of Wichita.

In November of 2014 members of that group completed a successful bid for 2018 First and Second Round games, returning the NCAA Men's Basketball Championships to Wichita for the first time in 24 years. Tuesday's announcement continues the momentum.

"Landing the 2018 tournament was significant, but our goal all along has been to make Wichita a regular host. Securing a second bid for 2021 is another step in that direction," said WSU Associate Athletic Director and tournament manager, **Brad Pittman**. "We're grateful for the many groups that pulled together to make this happen and look forward to another opportunity to showcase our university and community."

The four First Round contests on Friday, March 19, 2021 and two Second Round matchups on Sunday, March 21 will all take place at INTRUST Bank Arena in downtown Wichita.

It will be the men's tournament's 11<sup>th</sup> stop in Wichita and second at INTRUST Bank Arena (including 2018). Wichita State's Levitt Arena played host to 22 games spanning eight different tournaments between 1956 and 1981. In 1994, the Kansas Coliseum hosted six NCAA Midwest Sub-Regional contests.

"Being selected by the NCAA to host the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship again in 2021 is an honor and we're thrilled about the opportunity to host this prestigious event for a second time," added **A.J. Boleski**, SMG General Manager for INTRUST Bank Arena. "The success of Wichita State University's men's basketball program has helped put Wichita on the map as a host site for NCAA events and we look forward Wichita's world-class facilities being showcased on a national stage in both 2018 and 2021."

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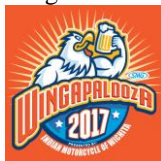
Wichita was selected from a highly competitive group of qualified cities. Several hundred bids are submitted from venues across the country to host the NCAA Men's Basketball Championships, but only 14 sites are selected as hosts each year. Collaboration between the partners who submitted the bid and Wichita State's men's basketball momentum helped position Wichita well.

"Today's announcement is another example of the excitement this community has for basketball and its Shockers," said **Susie Santo**, president and CEO of Visit Wichita. "We know that teams, coaches, families and fans will have an amazing time in Wichita this next year. Now, we will welcome them back to Wichita again for 2021."

"Hosting this tournament has long been a dream of ours – one we'll have the opportunity to experience in March 2018 and now again in 2021," said **Bob Hanson**, president and CEO for the Greater Wichita Area Sports Commission. "As we build toward 2018, when we'll host this tournament but also the Midwestern and Pacific Coast Synchronized Skating Sectional Championships, the Sports Commission will continue to advocate for hosting the very finest sporting events in our city."

### **THIRD ANNUAL WINGALOOZA SET FOR AUGUST 12**

SMG Wichita and INTRUST Bank Arena are pleased to announce the Third Annual Wingalooza, presented by Indian Motorcycle of Wichita, scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 12 at INTRUST Bank Arena. The one-of-a-kind event will again feature Wichita-area restaurants and chefs showcasing their best wings.



Wingalooza will take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the main arena floor and will include all-you-can-eat wings, a beer garden featuring a variety of options and entertainment and music from a live DJ. Fans will have the opportunity to sample unique chicken wing recipes from the more than 20 restaurants and local chefs who will be showcasing their culinary flare and craft and competing for the best chicken wings in Wichita. Participating restaurants and chefs will vie for two awards at the event: a People's Choice Award, or "Lord of the Wings," and a Judge's Choice Award. 2016 Wingalooza winners included Valerie's Wings and Things, The Hungry Heart and Blarney Stone Pub in the Lord of the Wings category, and JayRod's, Gianni Bacci's and SAVOR in the Judge's Choice category.

"Wingalooza is a great community event that provides a great atmosphere for local restaurants and chefs to interact with our guests and showcase what makes them each so unique," said A.J. Boleski, SMG General Manager of INTRUST Bank Arena. "On top of that, our staff has an absolute blast planning and preparing for this event. It's exciting to have witnessed the growth of Wingalooza over its first two years and to be hosting it for the third straight year."

Tickets for the all-you-can-eat event are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Tickets to Wingalooza are limited; guests are encouraged to purchase tickets in advance. Tickets go on sale today, Friday, May 19 at 7 a.m. and can be purchased online at [www.selectaseat.com](http://www.selectaseat.com), in person at the Select-A-Seat Box Office at INTRUST Bank Arena or by calling 855-755-SEAT (7328). For more information on Wingalooza, fans can visit [www.intrustbankarena.com/wingalooza](http://www.intrustbankarena.com/wingalooza).

Participating restaurants already on board to compete at Wingalooza include Wingstop, Twin Peaks (East), Gianni Bacci's, Pizza Hut, River City Brewing Co., The Anchor and SAVOR... Wichita. Space is available for local restaurants and chefs who are interested in competing at Wingalooza. For more information on competing, please contact Ryan Decker at [ryan.decker@intrustbankarena.com](mailto:ryan.decker@intrustbankarena.com) or 316-440-9021. INTRUST Bank Arena is proud to have Indian Motorcycle of Wichita as the presenting sponsor for Wingalooza. Additional event sponsors include Alt 107.3 as the radio sponsor, Visit Wichita, Boston Beer and ABC Discount Liquor. Additional sponsorship and vendor opportunities are available. For more information, please contact Kandace Day at [kandace.day@intrustbankarena.com](mailto:kandace.day@intrustbankarena.com) or 316-440-9012.

### **Verizon Arena Welcomes Amanda Canant**



Verizon Arena in North Little Rock, AR would like to announce Amanda Canant as the new Marketing Assistant. Amanda has worked in the central Arkansas area in local radio for the past 7 years in promotions and national sales. Welcome to the team, Amanda!

# COMCAST SPECTACOR

## Executive Chef

### Pueblo Convention Center

#### Qualifications Needed

- Minimum of 5 years in similar position in an upscale banquet, hotel or convention center setting with prior supervisory experience.
- Must have training from a professional technical school, two or four year college, special culinary school, or equivalent experience.
- Experience in culinary training-including menu planning, food preparation, and selection and storage of food.
- Apprenticeship through culinary institute, trade unions or professional association, equivalent experience.
- State issued Health Certificate and immunizations are required.
- Must be Serve Safe certified.
- Knowledge of and skill in using computer software, including MS Word/ Excel/ Outlook.
- Knowledge of US Foods Menu Profit Pro a plus.

Please NO PHONE CALLS!

If Interested apply online at [www.ComcastSpectacor.com](http://www.ComcastSpectacor.com)



[www.ComcastSpectacor.com](http://www.ComcastSpectacor.com)

### Cox Business Center Seeking Communications Manager

We are looking for a new team member to coordinate multiple projects in public relations, social media, and marketing for the sales department and Cox Business Center (Tulsa's convention center). Strong organizational skills and ability to meet deadlines a must. Bachelor's degree in Communications or a related field required; 3-5 years' experience preferred. Call Kathy Tinker at [918-894-4260](tel:918-894-4260) for more information.

### Plano Event Center's Renovation is Complete



Plano Event Center, formerly Plano Centre, is proud to announce the completion of a nearly year-long \$2.5 million renovation. Updates included new paint throughout the entire interior and exterior of the building, new carpet and furniture, as well as renovated restrooms with new marble tiles, flooring, sinks, mirrors, and partitions. Dramatic new chandeliers were added to the main, east, and west hallways and in the Windhaven ballroom. The sound system in the second largest room, Windhaven, which overlooks the courtyard, was upgraded and new motorized shades were installed so the room can be completely darkened for corporate presentations. Windhaven also received new laminate wood flooring. All of the remaining meeting rooms received new window shades and white boards that double as screens for audio-visual presentations. [planoeventcenter.org](http://planoeventcenter.org)

### 100+ Women of IAVM | Donate 100+

Starting today...right now... we are getting back together to continue what we started – 100+ Women of IAVM | Donate 100+.

Launched two years ago by your IAVM Foundation, the 100 + Women of IAVM campaign 2017 is committed to generating funds for five (5) women, one from each sector, to attend VenueConnect conference and one (1) woman to attend either AVSS (both years) or VMS school (both years). The idea is simple – 100+ Women each giving \$100, which means \$10,000+ each year! Together we will bring \$10,000+ annually to this amazing initiative, and change six women's lives. So commit right now and be the catalyst to change the future of women in our industry!

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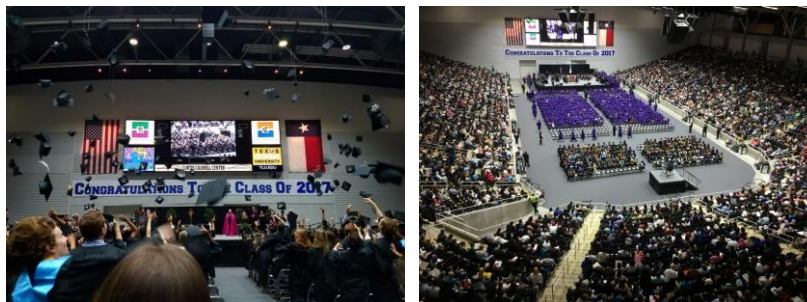
There is a new generation of female students, young professionals, and future female leaders, and this is OUR chance to help these women in our industry further develop their career and skill set. Support your IAVM Foundation by making a donation today. The process is fast, easy, and secure... and you can be sure that it will benefit a great cause.

Click here:

<https://www.classy.org/campaign/100-women-of-iavm-or-donate-100/c124695>

"Thank you to the 64 members who have already donated. Only 34 to go to reach our 100 member/\$10,000 goal. We are almost there...Please consider joining the 100 Women of IAVM. This is IAVM's commitment to inspire and connect at its best!"  
- Kerry Painter.

## All about Graduations and Cheer/Dance at the Curtis Culwell Center



The end of the school year brings crowds to the Curtis Culwell Center. This May and June, the CCC hosts 33 High School and College graduation ceremonies. Over 250,000 friends, families and graduates will visit the facility this season.

The summer is graduation season at the CCC, but the fall is all about cheer! The CCC is proud to have twelve (12) cheerleading and dance competitions booked October 2017 through April 2018.

## Curtis Culwell Center Announces New Operations Manager



After interviewing several qualified candidates, the CCC is proud to announce Micheal Robinson II as the new Operations Manager. Micheal has been serving in his role of Event Coordinator since 2014. During that time, Micheal showed his passion and ambition for the industry by being selected as one of IAVM's 30 Under 30 honorees. The CCC is thrilled to have Michael expand his role at the facility and continue to grow.

## TOTAL PACKAGE TOUR SELLS OUT AT FRANK ERWIN CENTER

From the first note of the night to the last bow, the Total Package Tour had the sold-out crowd of nearly 11,000 fans on their feet at the Frank Erwin Center on May 21.



Photo by Rick Kern

The tour opened with Boyz II Men, who covered most of their hits and a few covers and displayed their vocal prowess with some acapella and pop sweetheart Paula Abdul, who danced around the stage without missing a step. New Kids on the Block (NKOTB) closed the show and did not disappoint the crowd while showing off their signature dance moves, singing their hits, donning UT football jerseys and walking into the crowd to greet fans.

The Total Package Tour was the fourth sellout of 2017 for the Frank Erwin Center.

## Busy Times for Smart Financial Centre at Sugarland

This past June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, thousands of Fort Bend ISD high school graduates walked across the same stage that has hosted Jerry Seinfeld, Sting, The Lumineers and many others. Smart Financial Centre, the new \$84 million, 200,000-square-foot entertainment arena in Sugar Land, Texas hosted 11 high school graduations in a 2 day period. This was the first time Smart Financial Centre hosted graduation ceremonies since opening this past January. Over 46,000 friends and family members attended the ceremonies for 5,500 graduates from 11 high schools with attendance at each ceremony ranging from 3,200 to 5,500. The Smart Financial Centre has an indoor seating capacity of about 6,250, as well as 2,500 parking spots.



With five graduations on Friday (9:00AM – 7:00PM) and six on Saturday (8:00AM-8:15PM), the logistical challenges included transporting thousands of students and families in and out of the venue with potential for traffic back-ups and scheduling delays. The transportation plan put together by the venue, local police and school district proved to be flawless and allowed a smooth transition between ceremonies. One of the schools even had a bus accident involving three of the buses, but quick action by the district and police had the student at the venue on time and on the stage to receive their diplomas! The internal plans for moving students, bands, ROTC and faculty from buses into the venue and out again ran like clockwork and took significant organization and planning. The Smart Financial Centre staff all pitched in for late nights and early mornings to make sure the students and families had an experience they will remember for a lifetime. In the short history of Smart Financial Centre, the venue has proven to be not only flexible in its seating capacities, but also in the types and scale of the events it's able to host.

## Artosphere Festival Continues to Grow

### [Artosphere Dropbox](#)

Walton Arts Center staff just wrapped up the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Artosphere Festival May 4-20 which included more than 17 individual events and 38 performances in more than 20 locations around the Northwest Arkansas region.

“We couldn’t put on this event without a really dedicated staff who spend hours planning, coordinating, troubleshooting and volunteering,” said Jennifer Ross, director of programming for Walton Arts Center. “Each year, we take pride in presenting authentic artistic experiences through dozens of events and activities for kids, families and the entire community of Northwest Arkansas to enjoy.”

Artosphere features many free and low-cost performances and art experiences for children, families and the entire community to enjoy. Showcasing artists who are influenced by nature, Artosphere provides a creative framework by which the community can explore important issues of sustainability.

**Cornerstones of the festival include:** Trail Mix Weekend, May 13-14, allows the community to enjoy music, art, hiking and biking along local trails and the Razorback Regional Greenway. Creating a one-of-a-kind experience, audiences can visit trailside stages throughout the region and enjoy performances by regional artists and musicians from across the country.

Artosphere Festival Orchestra, now in its seventh year and comprised of more than **90 musicians** from around the world, performs three ticketed concerts under the direction of Musical Director Corrado Rovaris during the festival.

Members of AFO also participate in Off the Grid held in pubs and gathering places along Fayetteville’s Dickson Street one night during the festival. This popular event, with both the area’s residents and the visiting musicians, has ensembles performing casual pop-up concerts for patrons. They end the evening together at a central pub for the finale performance led by Maestro Rovaris.

Chapel Music Series gives audiences an opportunity to experience chamber as well as modern music in architecturally unique structures including a chapel, local church and in a vineyard’s chapel ruins.

### **New features added to this year’s festival include:**

Relaxed performances of two shows included special modifications for adults and children with sensory-input disorders, autism or other developmental or cognitive disabilities.

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Third Coast Percussion lead a performance of John Luther Adams' *Inuksuit* alongside nearly 80 percussionists, including faculty, students, Walton Arts Center staff, Fayetteville community members and professional musicians from 11 different states performing in Fayetteville's Botanical Garden of the Ozarks.

Walton Arts Center created an Artosphere App because of the sheer number of events spread across the region. Patrons can easily find performance locations, purchase tickets and listen to music clips of performers. The app also allowed Walton Arts Center to reduce the number of printed programs this year and increase our sustainability.

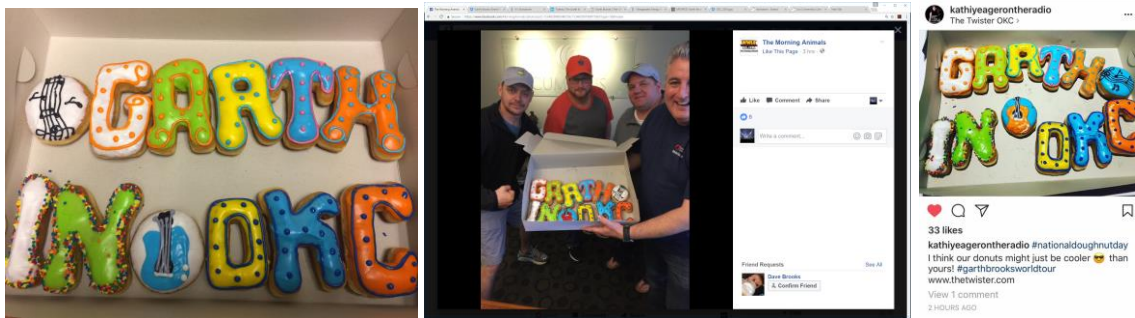
### **Artosphere: By the Numbers**

17 days, 17 events, 20 locations, 38 performances, 105 volunteers, 6,472 patrons attended

## **SMG Oklahoma City Looks Forward to an Action-Packed July**

Buildings who have experienced the excitement surrounding an upcoming Garth Brooks on sale know just how wild things can get behind closed doors. Ticket offices and marketing teams pull out every resource in order to create the most successful outcome, and to hopefully add more shows in the meantime.

The marketing team at SMG Oklahoma City wanted to make the on sale all the more magical with a special treat for local media. In light of "National Donut Day", the team ordered special donuts that spelled out "Garth In OKC" accompanied by guitar donuts and music note donuts. They pulled together a couple of volunteers from the office who delivered the donuts and the response was incredible!



Many radio hosts and publications shared images on social media of the sweet treats and the news got back to Garth Brooks himself! Tuesday, June 6 on his weekly Facebook Live segment, Garth expressed his gratitude to the SMG Oklahoma City team and his team pulled up a photo of the special donuts on the screen for the world to see.

SMG Oklahoma City is thrilled for an action-packed July celebrating its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary with four Garth Brooks shows on July 14 and 15, as well as the legendary Sir Paul McCartney taking the stage on July 17.

## **BENNETT EVENT CENTER OPENS AT STATE FAIR PARK**

The Bennett Event Center formally opened at State Fair Park in Oklahoma City on January 5, 2017. This state of the art, 279,000 square foot expo building, will be the state's leading venue for hosting large scale national and local events.

The Bennett Event Center expands over six acres and offers 201,000 square feet of exhibit space. This facility also contains an ultramodern full-service commercial catering kitchen, and has the latest cutting-edge technology, including the latest 802.11ac Wi-Fi and Gigabit wired connectivity. LED lights, that illuminate the outside of the building, can be tailored to over 16 million color combinations, and recently \$1,000,000 worth of six-foot tall circular LED boards were installed inside, allowing clients the opportunity to market their event messages.



Continued, page 10...)

Since its christening, this facility has welcomed a wide spectrum of events. From classic cars and implement shows, to animatronic dinosaur exhibits and galas, the Bennett Event Center has become one of Oklahoma's most sought after venues among show promoters and meeting planners for events of all types.

President & CEO, Tim O'Toole says, "We are very excited about what the future might bring." The fiscal impact of the facility is expected to be \$40 million per year.

For more information on hosting events at the Bennett Event Center, please contact Kristen Wasemiller, Senior Manager of State Fair Park Sales at 405.948.6796 or by email at [kwasemiller@okstatefair.com](mailto:kwasemiller@okstatefair.com).



Kerry Painter – CFE, CEM, CMP  
Region 6 Assistant Director  
Assistant General Manager  
Cox Business Center  
[KPainter@smgtulsa.com](mailto:KPainter@smgtulsa.com)

Brian Stovall, CVP – Recent Past Region 6 Director  
[briancstovall@gmail.com](mailto:briancstovall@gmail.com)

Sherman Bass, CFE – Past Region 6 Director  
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