

# **Newsletter**



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

**November 2014** 

## **AT&T Center Presents Eagles Personalized Spurs**



Above: The AT&T Center presenting the Eagles personalized spurs for their sold out show on October 15, 2014
Left to right; Joe Walsh, Eric Bresler (AEG Facilities), Matthew Leishman (AT&T Center Marketing Manager), Don Henley, Glenn Frey, Timothy B.
Schmit, Jeff Chabon (AT&T Center Director of Booking), Brett Stefansson (AT&T Center General Manager), and Steve Lawler (Live Nation)

# Kim Roberts Joins Plano Centre as Food & Beverage Manager

PLANO, Texas (Oct. 20, 2014) — Plano Centre is one of the largest meeting and convention facilities in north Texas. To accommodate the catering needs of a busy annual calendar of events, Plano Centre recently named Kim Roberts as its new Food & Beverage Manager.

Kim Roberts

Roberts brings an impressive background in catering and event management to the Plano Centre team. Previously, she served as Director of Nutrition Services and Environmental Services for seven years at The Heart Hospital Baylor Plano. For 19 years, Roberts served at Aramark as Executive Events Coordinator and Food Service Director providing food service solutions for Aramark clients.

"Kim is a tremendous addition to our staff with her wealth of knowledge and experience," said Mark Jarrell, Plano Centre General Manager. "Kim will help the in-house catering department continue to deliver the exemplary food and service to our clients that Plano Centre has been known for in the past."

Roberts will help plan and deliver food and beverage services to a wide range of clients who schedule events and meetings at Plano Centre. The multi-purpose facility features more than 122,500 square feet of flexible function space that comfortably accommodates up to 5,000 people. The exhibition hall offers 21,600 square feet of column-free, completely carpeted exhibition space and a professional master stage. In addition, 17 different break-out rooms are available. For more information about Plano Centre, please visit <a href="https://www.planocentre.com">www.planocentre.com</a>.

# Victoria Gilbert Joins Plano Centre as Sales Representative

PLANO, Texas (Oct. 30, 2014) — Plano Centre is one of the largest meeting and convention facilities in north Texas. To accommodate the needs of a busy annual calendar of events, Plano Centre recently named Victoria Gilbert as Sales Representative.

Prior to joining the Plano Centre, Gilbert served as Assistant Director of Tourism for the Tuscaloosa (AL) Tourism and Sports Commission, where she began as the Commission's intern. Gilbert is a 2013 graduate of the University of Alabama (graduated Cum Laude). She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Hotel, Restaurant and Meetings Management with a minor in Event Management.

(Continued, Page 2...)



Victoria Gilbert

"We are excited to add Victoria to our sales team," said Mark Jarrell, Plano Centre General Manager. "Her experience in the event and tourism industry is a beneficial asset in our efforts to attract additional meeting and events clients to Plano Centre."

Gilbert joins a sales team that caters to a growing list of clients who schedule events and meetings at Plano Centre. The multi-purpose facility features more than 122,500 square feet of flexible function space that comfortably accommodates up to 5,000 people. The exhibition hall offers 21,600 square feet of column-free, completely carpeted exhibition space and a professional master stage. In addition, 17 different break-out rooms are available.

Plano is the ultimate concierge, providing exemplary hotel accommodations and services to leisure and business travelers. As for accommodations, there will be almost 5,000 rooms available in the city by the beginning of 2015 with the addition of five new hotel properties, including Cambria Suites, Hampton Inn Plano East, Hilton Granite Park, SpringHill Suites by Marriott, and Staybridge Suites Plano North.

For more information about Plano Centre, please visit <a href="www.planocentre.com">www.planocentre.com</a> and for additional information about Plano, please go to <a href="www.visitplano.com">www.visitplano.com</a>. For additional media inquiries and photography, contact Brian Briscoe, Tucker & Associates, 214.252.0900, <a href="mailto:brian@tuckerpr.com">brian@tuckerpr.com</a>.

# Frank Erwin Center's Thomas Ramirez Promoted to Assistant Director for Operations

Austin, Texas – The Frank Erwin Center is pleased to announce that Thomas Ramirez, the Erwin Center Box Office Manager for the past 24 years, has been promoted to Assistant Director for Operations.

Ramirez first began working for the Frank Erwin Center as an Assistant Events Manager in 1987 and transitioned into the Box Office Manager role in 1990, where he oversaw the entire ticket sales operation from ensuring proper ticket inventory for all events to hiring, supervising, training and managing 55 full and part time staff members.



**Thomas Ramirez** 

"Thom has a wide range of facility related experience and great people skills. He is a real asset to our operation," said Jimmy Earl, Senior Associate Director of the Frank Erwin Center. "He will do a great job for us."

As the Assistant Director for Operations, Ramirez will oversee the events, stage production, audio and video and facilities departments.

Since 1977, the Frank Erwin Center has served Central Texans with some of the best in live entertainment. The multipurpose facility, located on The University of Texas at Austin campus, hosts a variety of events including concerts, theatrical performances, family shows and sporting events. It also serves as the home court for the Texas men's and women's basketball teams.

# **Curtis Culwell Center To Host State Tournament Again**

The Curtis Culwell Center will play host to the UIL State Volleyball Tournament from November 20<sup>th</sup> through November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Saturday will culminate with the crowning of 5 champions from across the state from 2A to 6A classifications. The CCC looks to top last year's record attendance of more than 20,000 patrons.



## Grand Stuff Happening Near Austin Convention Center: Ground broken for 1,000-room Fairmont Austin hotel

Article By Shonda Novak- American-Statesman Staff

Officials broke ground Monday on a \$370 million Fairmont convention hotel in downtown Austin that adding 1,066 rooms to the Central Texas market when it opens in June 2017.

The Fairmont Austin hotel will rise 37 stories at East Cesar Chavez and Red River street, and proponents say the hotel will be a gamechanger for Austin, helping it attract larger, and more lucrative, conventions and trade shows. Manchester Texas Financial Group is developing the hotel, which is being designed by the Gensler architecture firm.

Fairmont said its Austin hotel will be the largest Fairmont in the world, with 1.4 million square feet of space, though the Fairmont Royal York in Toronto has more rooms. "We've been blown away by the incredible response we've received from all over the country after making our announcement about this ground breaking, and we look forward to delivering a spectacular hotel that will be a fresh catalyst for the Convention Center and hospitality industry," said Douglas W. Manchester, president of Manchester Texas Financial Group.

Once open, the hotel is expected to generate 1,000 permanent jobs, more than \$15 million in hotel occupancy taxes and \$6 million in property tax annually. Several local and state elected officials attended the groundbreaking, including Gov. Rick Perry.

Hunt Construction Group, which was awarded the \$242 million construction contract for the project, will begin work immediately, said Eric Schreiner, a vice president with Hunt Construction. The Fairmont will be the second for that brand in Texas, along with one in Dallas. The Austin hotel will have 106,500 square feet of meeting space; 43,300 square feet of prefunction space; and an outdoor deck with space for 1,200 guests. The project will add more than 700 construction jobs while it is built during the next 30 months, and 1,000 permanent jobs once it opens.

The Manchester firm obtained financing from Los Angeles-based Colony Capital LLC. For more than a decade, Colony Capital has worked with Fairmont as well as Manchester's father, Douglas F. Manchester, founder and chairman of Manchester Financial Group LP, the San Diego company that developed the Manchester Grand Hyatt and the San Diego Marriott Marquis and Marina. Before Manchester landed financing, its Fairmont project faced skepticism from some who thought it would never happen as several timetables for ground-breaking came and went.

Perry Lorenz, a local developer and landowner, said he was never among the skeptics. Lorenz and Robert Knight, who own the land where the hotel will be built, said Manchester has been making payments since mid 2011 under a 99-year lease on the 1.7-acre tract. "I was never in doubt," Lorenz said. "I knew they had a lot of financial strength, and they lived up to their commitments from day one."

Developers are building new hotels both downtown and in other parts of the city due to the strength of its hospitality market. Downtown, the average occupancy rate has been running in the 80-percent range and room rates on average topped \$200-a-night for the first time last year, experts say. The additional rooms being added downtown are prompting city officials to consider acquiring additional land to expand the Austin Convention Center.

"After the announcement by Manchester that the Fairmont is moving forward, Austin definitely needs to expand the convention center in order to fill the three convention center hotels," Randy McCaslin, a hotel industry consultant with PKF Consulting, said last week. The other convention hotel under construction is the nearby JW Marriott that will have 1,012 rooms when it opens in February at Congress Avenue and East Second Street.

Link to a related article in Time Warner Cable news:

http://austin.twcnews.com/content/news/305905/crews-break-ground-on-new-addition-to-city-skyline/

## Austin weighs convention center expansion

By Gary Dinges and Shonda Novak- American-Statesman Staff

A belief that Austin has been missing out on large, lucrative conventions and trade shows has spurred developers to add thousands of hotel rooms – most of them downtown – in recent years. Now, the city is making its move, taking initial steps toward what could be a major expansion of the Austin Convention Center that could swallow up an additional three or four city blocks.

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For starters, the city wants to acquire a block bounded by San Jacinto Boulevard and East Cesar Chavez, East Second and Trinity streets to expand the convention center, which sits immediately east of that block. The block includes the Casa Chapala restaurant, a scooter shop and a Christian Science Reading Room. The northern half includes Gus's Fried Chicken, Robert Knight Real Estate and Micheladas Cafe y Cantina. The eight parcels that make up the block are valued at about \$9.7 million by the Travis Central Appraisal District.

Several of the property owners were notified Thursday by the city that their land is being sought for a public use — the first step in the acquisition process. The city said the next step would be to have an independent appraisal done. Occupancy and average nightly rates at downtown Austin hotels have risen steadily in recent years.

The city expects to negotiate a sale with the owners, but if negotiations fail, it will seek to seize the properties through condemnation proceedings, Lauraine Rizer, the city's officer of real estate services, wrote in a memo this week to Mayor Lee Leffingwell and the Austin City Council. With its location along East Cesar Chavez and next to the convention center, and with no height restrictions, "it is foreseeable that the block is ripe for more intensified development in the near future," Rizer wrote.

Rizer's memo said that, with "adequate funding in place," the Austin Convention Center Department "would like to move immediately" to acquire the block's southernmost properties and has asked Rizer's office to proceed. Rizer's memo said the notice to the property owners doesn't commit the city to completing the purchase of their properties. Rizer told the American-Statesman that "98 percent of the time" the city and property owners in such acquisitions are able to successfully negotiate a price over several months. The proposed transaction would require council approval, she said.

If the two sides can't come to terms on a price, Rizer's office would need City Council approval to begin the process of taking the property through condemnation proceedings. Rizer's memo said that a long-range master plan in the works for the convention center by a consulting team "is expected to include a recommendation that the Convention Center be expanded to include substantial additional exhibit, ballroom and meeting space." "Expansion will be needed to continue Austin's growth as a premiere convention destination, growth which is possible due to the tremendous development in Austin's downtown hotel inventory," Rizer wrote.

An upscale JW Marriott convention center hotel under construction at East Second Street and Congress Avenue will add 1,012 rooms downtown when it opens Feb. 13. And a Fairmont hotel is set to break ground Monday at East Cesar Chavez and Red River streets, a project that will bring an additional 1,066 rooms in 2017. Since the recession, hotels have been popping up across Central Texas – especially in downtown Austin. Those hotels, officials say, have helped pave the way for the convention center to grow.

"All of this new inventory will definitely allow us to better handle the major events that continue to stretch Austin in the area of accommodations," said Bob Lander, president and CEO of the Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau. "Currently, our average year-round occupancy rate in Austin is nearly 80 percent downtown and around 70 percent citywide, both of which are among the highest in the country." Lander said Austin continues to "turn away a lot of business because we don't have enough exhibit space." "We're undersized for this size city," Lander said. The city's convention center has 246,000 square feet of exhibit space, he said, compared with about 575,000 for San Antonio, a city Austin often competes against for convention business.

Randy McCaslin of PKF Consulting, a hotel industry consulting firm, said the proposed expansion is good news for Austin. "With the expansion of the convention center and the addition of two convention center hotels to join the (existing 800-room) Hilton, Austin will be able to compete at a much higher level for much larger conventions," McCaslin said. The Austin area has about 31,000 hotel rooms, including 6,500 downtown, according to the Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau. By 2015, the region should have about 2,000 more rooms, figures show, with even more hotel projects set to come online through late 2017.

Austin's high occupancy rates have helped make the city a profitable place to do business, according to figures from STR, a travel research firm. The average nightly rate in 2014 for downtown Austin hotels is \$197.25, an increase of \$51 per night since 2010. "We're forecasting to come out of the gates extremely strong," said Jay Spurr, the JW Marriott's director of sales and marketing. "Demand for Austin, specifically for downtown, is going to continue to outpace supply for the next few years. My counterparts are having a record year, and they're expecting the same next year."

Even with all the added competition, the Fairmont's developer is still bullish on Austin. "We've always believed the market would support two additional convention center hotels," said Doug Manchester, president of Manchester Texas Financial Group. "We need these hotels to come on board to satisfy the demand. People can't wait to have more options and more rooms. The Austin hotel industry has every reason to be optimistic about what the future holds, as do hotel patrons."

#### UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON – TDECU GRAND OPENING

Houston, TX - More than 40,000 fans packed TDECU Stadium on Aug. 29 to watch the University of Houston battle the UT-San Antonio Roadrunners on the gridiron. Although the Cougars lost the game, the UH community was the big winner as it ushered in a new era with the opening of the brand new facility.



With a beautiful, unobstructed view of Houston's downtown skyline, TDECU Stadium boasts many new and interesting elements in its design. Fans can walk around most of the concourse without losing sight of the field. The suites and club seating are closer to the playing field than most other stadiums.

As this new chapter in UH's history is now officially underway, the impressive facility will strive to become the site of a multitude of other community events, from concerts to high school football games, and everything in between. For information regarding TDECU Stadium and other UH events visit www.entertainhouston.com

# Chesapeake Energy Arena Hosts "Dino Bee" Competition

To celebrate Walking With Dinosaurs the Arena Spectacular, the SMG-managed Chesapeake Energy Arena held a preview event for local children on Oct. 10.



Kids from Andrew Johnson Elementary in Oklahoma City came to the arena for a "Dino Bee" competition and a special appearance by the show's baby Tyrannosaurus. The five finalists in the Dino Bee received tickets to the show and the winner received a backstage tour on Opening Night.

The event was catered by SAVOR, SMG's in-house food and beverage service and featured breakfast items and dinosaur food sculptures. The centerpiece was a watermelon carved to look like a Tyrannosaurus head, complete with a dry ice steam effect.

#### Circuit of The Americas Packs Them In For The Formula 1 U.S. Grand Prix

Check out this article about it!:

http://circuitoftheamericas.com/blog/2014/11/2/circuit-of-the-americas-welcomes-237-406-for-the-2014-formula-one-u-s-grand-prix

## **INTRUST Bank Arena Seeking Director of Event Services**

SMG, the leader in privately managed public assembly facilities has an opening for a **Director of Event Services** at INTRUST Bank Arena. The Director of Event Services, directs and coordinates personnel, subcontractors and daily activities involved in the successful execution of the events, security and safety of the facility by performing the following duties individually and through staff.

#### **Supervisory Responsibilities**

Directly supervises Event staff, carries out supervisory responsibilities in accordance with SMG's policies and applicable laws. Responsibilities include interviewing, hiring, and training employees; planning, assigning, and directing work; appraising performance; rewarding; disciplining employees in conjunction with Human Resources; addressing complaints and resolving problems.

(Continued, Page 6...)

#### Education and/or Experience

- Bachelor's degree from accredited four-year college or university
- Eight to ten years related experience and/or training in the public assembly industry or combination of education and experience.
- Supervisory or management experience.
- Experience working with and supervising 24 hour in-house security, preferred

#### **Skills and Abilities:**

- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills and organizational ability.
- Ability to anticipate problems and implement immediate corrective action.
- Considerable knowledge of safety regulations and other federal, state or local laws and regulations.
- Strong orientation towards hospitality/customer service for entertainment industry.
- Effective supervisory skills. Ability to deal effectively with personnel problems; to deal constructively with conflict; to motivate, provides counsel and executes applicable solutions.
- Experience with AutoCAD preferred
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office products including Excel, Word, PowerPoint, and Outlook.

SMG is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer, and encourages Women, Minorities, Individuals with Disabilities, and protected Veterans to apply. VEVRAA Federal Contractor.

Apply to: SMG/INTRUST Bank Arena 500 E. Waterman Wichita, KS 67202

Recruiter: Kim Hillard Fax: 316-440-9199

Email: careers@intrustbankarena.com

## **INTRUST Bank Arena Seeking Operations Manager**

SMG, the leader in privately managed public assembly facilities has an immediate opening for an **Operations Manager** at the INTRUST Bank Arena. The Operations Manager is responsible for the daily activities required to run, maintain, and service the facility's events and conversions by performing the essential duties personally and through supervisors and subordinates.

#### **MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Assists the director in directing, supervising and scheduling all aspects of operations, including; event
  conversions; building and grounds; technical services; event services, including ADA compliance; public
  safety; security; custodial services and parking departments.
- Coordinates the operations activities with other building departments and show-related contractors.
- Implement facility rules, regulation policies and procedures.
- Anticipate problems and appropriate solutions. Investigates, analyzes and resolves operational problems and complaints.
- Provide clear, concise, and timely communication of directives to other departments.
- Ensures that operations department receives pertinent information for most effective use of the facility and staffing.
- Assures facility readiness and smooth operation of events.
- Manages subordinate supervisors in any of the following departments: Changeover, Housekeeping, Operations, and Production.
- Responsible for the overall direction, coordination, and evaluation of these units. Carries out supervisory responsibilities in accordance with SMG's policies and applicable laws.
- Responsibilities include interviewing, hiring, and training employees; planning, assigning, and directing
  work; appraising performance; rewarding; disciplining employees in conjunction with Human Resources;
  addressing complaints and resolving problems.
- Other duties and responsibilities as assigned

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#### KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

- High school diploma/GED, Bachelor's Degree or Technical College Degree or a combination of school and work experience, some college preferred.
- Minimum of 2 years experience in Supervising or Managing within a venue.
- Excellent organization skills
- Ability to prioritize and to handle multiple projects simultaneously
- Good written, verbal and interpersonal skills required; ability to interact with all levels of staff including upper management
- Ability to effectively supervise staff
- Strong customer service skills
- Professional presentation, appearance and work ethic
- Basic computer skills, email, Word, Excel, how to use fax machine, and scan documents.
- Zamboni and ice-knowledge a plus.

#### **Supervisory Responsibilities**

Directly supervises Operations staff, carries out supervisory responsibilities in accordance with SMG's policies and applicable laws. Responsibilities include interviewing, hiring, and training employees; planning, assigning, and directing work; appraising performance; rewarding; disciplining employees in conjunction with Human Resources; addressing complaints and resolving problems.

SMG is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer, and encourages Women, Minorities, Individuals with Disabilities, and protected Veterans to apply. VEVRAA Federal Contractor.

Apply to: Recruiter: Kim Hillard SMG/INTRUST Bank Arena Fax: 316-440-9199

Wichita, KS 67202 Email: careers@intrustbankarena.com

# **INTRUST Bank Arena Launches 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert Series**



INTRUST Bank Arena will celebrate its 5-Year Anniversary in January of 2015 and plans to make it an unforgettable year are underway. The arena will host a 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert Series to celebrate the milestone with the goal of having five to eight large scale concerts deemed as part of the anniversary series. To date, two concerts have been announced as 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert Series shows: Bob Seger on February 17 and Fleetwood Mac on March 31.

# **Civic Center Music Hall Announces New Employee**

Helmut Perzi joined the Civic Center Music Hall in September of 2014 as the Sales and Booking Manager. Helmut brings more than fifteen years of experience in entertainment booking, sales, marketing and venue management to the facility.

The Pennsylvania native's primary duties will include oversight of the day to day operations of the events department which includes booking, concessions, box office, marketing and new business development while continuing to build on the core values of the CCMH.

Prior to landing at the Civic Center Music Hall, Helmut Perzi was the Entertainment Manager for Route 66 Casino Hotel in Albuquerque, NM. He managed three venues; one of which was Legends Theater, the 2,800 capacity room that was voted best venue in Albuquerque the last two years running. Throughout his career, Helmut has worked with such acts like Steely Dan, Sarah McLachlan, Tony Bennett, Martina McBride & Kevin Hart.

Helmut Perzi has also been a part of charitable events including Blues and Brews Albuquerque and Hop Fest; both of which raise awareness and monetary funds for *Make A Wish Foundation*. He also is the co-founder of Project Acoustic, a yearly benefit concert held in Albuquerque and Denver to raise money for local non-profit music programs.

The Civic Center Music Hall is excited to welcome him to the City of Oklahoma City.

## Will Rogers Memorial Center To Undergo Renovation

To provide improved north/south access within Will Rogers Memorial Center, a new Tower Drive/Cattle Barn 2 Renovation project is scheduled to begin in mid-February of 2015. The \$13 million project was jointly planned by the City of Fort Worth, the Fort Worth Stock Show and Event Facilities Fort Worth, Inc., and will include a covered promenade that provides access from the parking on the southern part of the complex to the central part of the complex to improve visitor and participant circulation and accessibility within the WRMC. The project will also provide a much needed renovation of the 1940's-era Cattle Barn 2 including updating and relocating the Milking Parlor. Once completed in late 2015 or early 2016, the barn will have improved ventilation and insulation and a more versatile cattle tie system which will better accommodate horse stalls when needed.



Established in Fort Worth in 1936 to house events near downtown and in the Cultural District, the Will Rogers Memorial Center attracts more than two million visitors a year. It is host to an extensive variety of cultural, educational, recreational and sporting events and has become a premier destination for national and international equestrian and livestock events. www.willrogersmemorialcenter.com.

#### 50 Years of Sun Bowl

By Lisa Y. Garibay

51 years ago, one the region's most storied local landmarks was built. It has been contributing decades of fun, excitement and memories to the community ever since.

The Sun Bowl has become a treasured venue where generations of El Pasoans have experienced jubilant football moments as well as unforgettable live concerts.

It was erected in 1963 with an initial capacity of approximately 30,000, which has now grown to 52,000.

Technical Supervisor Fernie Mabini – who began working for UTEP's special events department in 1974 – has earned the unofficial title of the venue's historian since his tenure spans close to four decades. The first concert he worked at the Sun Bowl was for "Down in the West Texas town of El Paso" singer-songwriter Marty Robbins in 1976.

"It was in the summertime just before the football season and during the city's monsoon season," Mabini recalls. "The sky threatened to rain, but held off."

One of the first football highlights the Sun Bowl saw was on its very first game day. On Sept. 21, 1963, Larry Durham ran 54 yards for a touchdown on the game's first play from scrimmage, helping the Miners defeat North Texas State 34-7. Three years later, the Miners' total of 68 points in a win over Texas-Arlington marked the most-ever scored in the Sun Bowl.



The next November, the Miners hosted and faced the nationally ranked #6 team of Wyoming. The game featured the first sellout in school history with 35,023 fans packing a stadium that seated just 30,000.

In 1997, the Miners upset 25<sup>th</sup> ranked BYU, marking the first time in 138 games that BYU was held without a touchdown. Ecstatic Miner fans made ESPN highlights by tearing down the south goal posts, carrying them up through the stands, and depositing them into the base of the mountain. (Continued, Page 9...)

UTEP's battle against UT in 2008 sold out weeks in advance in anticipation of the first match-up between the schools since 1933. A record crowd of 53,415 packed the Sun Bowl to watch.

Fans have come out in droves for non-UTEP football events too, especially when the Dallas Cowboys are involved. The legendary Texas team played three scrimmages at the Sun Bowl during the summers of 1996 (drawing a sellout crowd of 51,118), 1997 and 1998.

In 1998, the Sun Bowl's sell-out match between Oscar de la Hoya and Patrick Charpentier made history as one of the largest outdoor boxing matches ever held in the United States. "We had to build a sub-floor to make the ring level then put a stage on top," Mabini recalled. "So many people showed up for that thing, but we had projection TVs and everybody got to see the fight even though it only lasted three rounds."

The Sun Bowl's first-ever monster truck show drew a four-hour line of close to 25,000 people that extended through the parking lots and down Mesa Street.

And then there are the concerts. Big names who have visited the Sun Bowl have attracted broader crowds not only from El Paso but the surrounding region as well, with fans traveling hundreds of miles to see their musical icons. The Rolling Stones have played the Sun Bowl twice; other performers throughout its history include Elton John, Pink Floyd, \*NSYNC, Dave Matthews Band, Ricky Martin and U2.

On Sept. 19, the stadium hosted one of its biggest concerts yet when pop act One Direction – the top touring act in the world according to music industry publication Pollstar – delighted about 50,000 screaming fans.

"One Direction was named the number one touring act in the world and having the most sought after stadium tour in the Sun Bowl Stadium in El Paso is an achievement you would expect for the university's biggest celebration as we turn 100 years old," said Executive Director of Special Events Jorge Vasquez.

UTEP commencement ceremonies were held in the Sun Bowl before the Haskins Center was built, but ceremonies returned to the stadium in 1998 for the 100<sup>th</sup> Commencement. George W. Bush, then governor of Texas, spoke to graduates, their families and friends. In May of this year, Commencement was once again held at the Sun Bowl in honor of UTEP's Centennial Celebration.

Over its five decades, the Sun Bowl has not changed much. While UTEP was still Texas Western College, the end zone was made up of grass with the school's name spelled out in hedges; this was covered over with concrete with the wording painted. For all games prior to 2001, a hired truck with a giant video board would be parked in the north end of the Sun Bowl.

Earlier this summer, the university partnered with Daktronics to provide new, state-of-the-art light-emitting diode (LED) displays for Sun Bowl Stadium along with a custom audio set-up. The new, larger video boards are designed to need minimal maintenance and to consume less power. The end zone display is now the largest of any Conference USA football stadium. This impressive new system was fully in action for the first football game of the season between UTEP and Texas Tech.

There are some changes that the long-time keepers of the stadium recall wistfully. "I kind of miss when they had the grass field and our mascot Paydirt Pete would walk around the field during the games with a live burro," said Mabini. Overall, both staff and the city have stood behind the steady evolution of the stadium, and are looking forward to what may come over the next five decades.

"It's an icon for the city," Vazquez said. "It takes a lot to upkeep a facility like this. We have a huge responsibility on our hands and we do not take that very lightly. We know what we have in our hands is a jewel and we are the proud keepers of it."

# Fort Worth Community Arts Center Seeking Production Assistant.

The Production Assistant will oversee production needs for all events in the Scott and Sanders theaters and function spaces within the Fort Worth Community Arts Center (FWCAC) and serve as site manager during events. The Fort Worth Community Arts Center, is a 77,000 square foot facility located in the Fort Worth Cultural District and dedicated to providing accessible and affordable exhibit, performing arts and administrative spaces to the regional arts community. For complete job description and requirements via email only at <a href="mary@artscouncilfw.org">mary@artscouncilfw.org</a>.

A bachelor's degree in technical theatre or stage management, or equivalent combination of related education and experience is required. Demonstrates (typically 2-5 years) experience in technical production including a practical knowledge of theatrical systems to include: lighting, performance sound, rigging and personnel management.

#### SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Cover letter highlighting relevant education, work experience and skill base
- Resume
- Three professional references (Continued, Page 10...)

Via Email: mary@artscouncilfw.org (please include Production Assistant in subject line)

Via Mail: Director of Operations

Fort Worth Community Arts Center

1300 Gendy Street Fort Worth, TX 76107

Via FAX: (817) 298.3072 For more information visit fwcac.org

Deadline to Apply: Open until filled, first review of applications December 1, 2014

## Fort Worth Community Arts Center Seeking Stage Hand.

The Stagehand is under direct supervision of the Production Manager, this position performs manual, semi-skilled and skilled labor related to productions within the Fort Worth Community Arts Center, primarily in the W.E. Scott Theater and the Sanders Theater. Schedule will include evenings, weekends and holidays, based upon performance schedules. Must be 18 years of age or older. This position is also subject to a background check and drug screening. For complete job description and requirements via email only at <a href="mary@artscouncilfw.org">mary@artscouncilfw.org</a>.

Ideal Candidate: The ideal candidate will have 1-5 years of theater stage hand experience in all aspects of technical and backstage production. High School and College experience may be considered during the interview. Live theater experience highly desirable. Experience with stage lighting/sound systems and operation is preferred. Excellent customer service, multitasking and organizational abilities are desired. Must be 18 years of age or older.

#### SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Cover letter highlighting relevant education, work experience and skill base
- Resume
- Three professional references

Via Email: mary@artscouncilfw.org (please include Production Assistant in subject line)

Via Mail: Director of Operations

Fort Worth Community Arts Center

1300 Gendy Street Fort Worth, TX 76107

Via FAX: (817) 298.3072 For more information visit fwcac.org

Deadline to Apply: Open until filled, first review of applications December 1, 2014



#### Thank you to our newsletter contributors this month!

Kelly Hadsall – Civic Center Music Hall
Ryan Harder – Circuit of The Americas/Austin360 Amphitheater
Liz Land – University of Texas at Austin/Frank Erwin Center
Matthew Leishman – AT&T Center
Ryan McGhee – Chesapeake Energy Arena
Mary Montalvo – Fort Worth Community Arts Center
Millerann Moya – Plano Centre and Plano CVB
Christine Pileckas – INTRUST Bank Arena
David Reeves – Will Rogers Memorial Center
Lauren Stacks – University of Houston Sports & Entertainment
David Thomas – Austin Convention Center Department
Julian Valdez – University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP)
Kevin Welch – Curtis Culwell Center

Past Region 6 Newsletters: <a href="https://www.iavm.org/regions/region-6-newsletters">https://www.iavm.org/regions/region-6-newsletters</a>