

# Newsletter



Colorado New Mexico Oklahoma Arkansas Texas Kansas Mexico

## VenuWorks/Topeka Performing Arts Center Creates Block Party for Topeka Native Who Took 3<sup>rd</sup> Place on THE VOICE.

Kyla Jade is a Topeka Native and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 2018 Competition of NBC's THE VOICE.



Topeka Performing Arts Center created and hosted a Block Party for Kyla on Sunday, May 27, 2018 on the Front Steps of TPAC. 1,000 people came out to celebrate her success.

Kyla was transported to the Block Party in a Fire Truck courtesy of the Topeka Fire Department.

There was family entertainment provided by local entertainers including Cheerleaders and Drum Line from Shawnee Heights H.S. (Kyla's Alma Mater). A Flash Mob was organized that danced to "THIS IS ME" (one of Kyla's vocal performances on THE VOICE). Topeka Mayor Michele De La Isla proclaimed May 27, 2018 as "Kyla Jade Day" in Topeka and Kansas Governor Jeff Colyer's office sent a delegate to offer her a Certificate. There were also Food Trucks to enhance the experience.

The party was sponsored by CoreFirst Bank & Trust of Topeka.

The event was featured on Topeka Performing Arts Center's Facebook page, and Kyla was interviewed by TALK ABOUT TOPEKA. See that here: <u>https://youtu.be/aCb8RJNQtDg</u>

## **BRO<sup>A</sup>DMOOR** World Arena in Colorado Springs Seeking to Fill Key Positions:

Director of Events Event Services/Video Production Manager Housekeeping Manager

To learn more about these opportunities and apply, click here: <u>http://www.broadmoorworldarena.com/arena-info/jobs</u>

# **Tulsa Performing Arts Center Re-Branding Itself**

The Tulsa Performing Arts Center is excited to announce a re-branding of the facility with new logos, imagery and broadening of programming. All of this runs simultaneously with an ongoing renovation of the facility's interior and select performance spaces.



The new logo incorporates the previous Tulsa PAC Trust logo and emphasizes the "For Arts" to the community, which ties in a new program for the PAC called the Orbit Initiative. This new program reaches out to all corners of the Tulsa region, mixing cultures and giving opportunities to all ages who have never been involved with the performing arts—until now.

Programming aside, the Tulsa PAC is in the midst of a construction project that has seen new interiors walls, lighting, fire alarm system and glass treatments go up across the building. The Liddy Doenges Theatre, one of six spaces in the PAC, received a complete reconstruction with new permanent seating and flooring. A new website will be launched sometime in September.

# COX BUSINESS CENTER MAKES TULSA A-LIST



The Cox Business Center is the 2018 *Tulsa People* Reader's Choice A-List winner for the Venue-Event category. This marks the second year in a row the downtown Tulsa venue has been selected by locals as their favorite venue to attend events from social galas to concerts, to conventions and meetings.

## HIRING SENIOR AND MANAGEMENT POSITONS AT COX BUSINESS CENTER

SMG managed Cox Business Center is seeking an IT Support Manager, Senior Event Services Manager, and Assistant Catering Manager. The over 300,000 square-foot, national award-winning venue in downtown Tulsa is also seeking a part-time Ambassador and Prep Cook. For more information and to apply, please visit <u>http://coxcentertulsa.com/jobs/</u>.

# LUNCH FOR 15,000? NO PROBLEM FOR SMG TULSA



SMG Tulsa proved team work makes the dream work and managed to create over 15,000 boxed lunches for SeneGence Seminar 2018. The event at Cox Business Center welcomed over 7,000 international makeup and anti-aging beauty product distributors daily, and the SMG Tulsa team boxed over 6,000 lunches a day in less than three hours each day for event attendees. The SeneGence planners were so please with Cox Center Tulsa they'll be returning with another event this fall.

## Jarrell and Hadsall represent Region 6 at Cornell University in the 2018 SES Graduating Class

Region 6 congratulates the entire Senior Executive Symposium (SES) graduating Class of 2018 and Region 6 graduating members Mark Jarrell and Kelly Haikin Hadsall. Also attending from Region 6 were Brent Buchanan-Berry Center, Bo Fowlkes-Amarillo Civic Center Complex, and Russ Dyer-Moody Performance Hall.

IAVM's SES is a 4-day leadership immersion for senior-level venue managers and other individuals on a leadership track inside their organization. SES curriculum rotates each year through three areas of focus: Visionary Management, Strategic Planning and Leadership Culture.

Co-developed by IAVM and Cornell University, the course inspires executives to lead their staff with creativity, collaboration and a well-rounded management philosophy.

About the graduates:

#### Mark Jarrell, Director, Plano Event Center

Mark is a public facilities manager who works with a wide variety of clients including professional meeting planners, corporate and political leaders, tradeshows, conventions, concerts, religious, fraternal and social events to ensure a prosperous and compelling meeting experience. Prior experience includes work with Dallas Farmers Market, the Dallas Convention Center as a Financial Services Manager, and at Fair Park as the General Manager. Mark believes that the secret to success in the meetings industry is treating customers like a guest in your home, being completely transparent in your dealings, and working together with your client to create the best value for everyone. He is a Texas Certified Mediator, a graduate of IAVM's Venue Management School as well as the City of Plano's MP3 program. He will become a Texas Certified Public Manager at the end of 2018. Mark holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from Baylor University and an MBA in Marketing from the University of North Texas. Mark has been a member of IAVM since 2009.

#### Kelly Haikin Hadsall, Systems Analyst, City of Oklahoma City

Since 2002, Kelly managed various aspects of the Civic Center Music Hall in Oklahoma City from Technical Production, Box Office, and Finance to General Manager. Among her responsibilities, Hadsall was most passionate about the education programs for the Civic Center, and designed an internship model experience that brought masterclass format style lectures to life for Arts majors through observation and project management training each year. As General Manager she released a bold and fresh look on the Civic Center website, okcciviccenter.com, a new logo, signed an eighth resident company in her *Slate of Eight* campaign, and garnered recognition on the Oklahoma Preservation Register of Historic Places for the 1937 WPA facility. Kelly enjoys finding ways to connect people, places, and ideas through technology and personal collaboration. In 2017, she moved from the venue to the City's IT Department where she uses her project and financial analysis skills as a consultant to align business process with the technology environment for various departments within the City. She holds an Associate of Arts from Northern Oklahoma College, Bachelor of Arts from University of Central Oklahoma, and Master of Fine Arts from the University of Cincinnati-College Conservatory of Music. Kelly is a graduate of VMS and GI at Oglebay, and the inaugural recipient of the Engagement Award at SES in 2017. Kelly has been a member of IAVM since 2005.

## **INTRUST Bank Arena Seeking Operations Supervisor**

SMG, the leader in privately managed public assembly facilities, has an excellent and immediate opening for an Operations Supervisor at the INTRUST Bank Arena in Wichita, KS. This position will assist in preparation for events at the facility. Duties include semi-skilled & skilled labor, which often require heavy lifting and a high degree of physical exertion, along with overseeing full-time, part-time and temporary staff. SMG is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer, and encourages Women, Minorities, Individuals with Disabilities, and protected Veterans to apply. VEVRAA Federal Contractor.

See full job description and apply online at http://www.intrustbankarena.com/arena\_info/employment

# AMERICAN AIRLINES CENTER, DALLAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AND INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF VENUE MANAGERS COME TOGETHER TO HOST FIRST OF ITS KIND ACTIVE SHOOTER PREVENTION AND SITUATIONAL AWARENESS TRAINING



American Airlines Center, The International Association of Venue Managers (IAVM) and the Dallas Independent School District partnered to host a community outreach program, SEE, SAY, DO SOMETHING, which was presented to over 6,000 middle and high school students, as well as 1,000 elementary school personnel, on Monday, May 21, 2018.

SEE, SAY, DO SOMETHING is the first program of its kind, which provided the Dallas ISD school community with the tools, training and resources to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from an active shooter crisis and other similar incidents. The program featured speakers from the FBI, Department of Homeland Security, DISD Police, IAVM, UNLV and Cheryl Lee Shannon, Dallas County District Judge. Attendees learned to look beyond physical security and received the tools necessary to increase a heightened level of awareness of their surroundings.

"As a community, we have the responsibility as a whole to take the lead in providing our school children with a safe and secure learning environment," stated Mark Herrera, IAVM Director of Education and DHS Council Representative. "Our goal is to utilize member venues through IAVM and the voice of the student communities to provide an informative presentation and training to the entire school district and school staff. Our focus is to train our students to look beyond physical security measures and receive the tools necessary on how to increase their level of awareness. We will collectively share and research best practices to protect one of our most valued assets...our students!"

SEE, SAY, DO SOMETHING was created specifically with students in mind, with the Dallas ISD Teen School Board providing feedback and topics of discussion important to them and their peers as it relates to active shooter situations and situational awareness. A panel discussion with Teen School Board members and speakers took place during the program and was moderated by WFAA investigative reporter Demond Fernandez. During the discussion, panelists were able to ask and answer questions brought up by one another.

The three participating organizations – American Airlines Center, Dallas ISD and IAVM – are volunteering their time and resources to the program with hopes of it not only making an impact on the younger generation of the city of Dallas but with hopes of it growing to other cities around the country.

"With recent tragedies, we feel there is a need to act and offer our support and resources to educate young people on how they can act to prevent similar situations and what to do if these situations occur," said Dave Brown, American Airlines Center COO & General Manager. "We are proud to be supporting our community in hosting an important event like SEE, SAY, DO SOMETHING and we're hoping to see other venues and cities take part in the future."

Sponsors for SEE, SAY, DO SOMETHING included Levy, Dallas Mavericks, Dallas Stars, All Commercial Floors, American Airlines, Freeman, Frito-Lay, Kelly-Eisenberg, Mary Kay, Pizza Hut and U.S. Concrete.

#### **Renovations and Upgrades Happening in Fair Park** Historic Cotton Bowl Stadium Receives New Turf Grass



This summer Historic Cotton Bowl Stadium in Fair Park, TX! is getting a long awaited upgrade – new turf grass!

Owned by the City of Dallas, Fair Park, TX! partnered with Ryan Sanders Sport Services and Thomas Turfgrass to replace the existing, aged 419 Tifway grass with new TifTuf<sup>TM</sup> Bermuda turf grass. TifTuf<sup>TM</sup> was selected for its draught tolerance, faster recovery time and shorter winter dormancy.

The new field will make its official debut on June 30 when the stadium hosts Tour Aguila featuring Club America vs. Santos for an international soccer showdown.

#### Fair Park, TX! Completes Esplanade Fountain Renovation



Fair Park, TX! recently completed a renovation of the Esplanade Fountain. The 15-month renovation included a complete replacement of fountain's waterproofing, pumps and majority of lights, and it is expected to result in significant utility savings.

Set in the heart of Fair Park's historic buildings, the Esplanade Fountain holds approximately 500,000 gallons of water and has more than 200 "jets" that create 12 uniquely choreographed fountain shows that can be seen by visitors throughout the year. The fountain is framed by beautiful statuary (also recently conserved), murals and bas reliefs from the 1936 Texas Centennial Celebration, and the largest collection of Art Deco architecture in the United States.



Improvements in Process for the Music Hall at Fair Park



The Music Hall at Fair Park is getting ready for an exciting season in 2019 that will feature Hamilton, Phantom of the Opera, Aladdin and much more! In preparation, Fair Park, TX! is making significant improvements in the facility's ADA access and exterior lighting. In addition to outdoor paving improvements, The City of Dallas allocated \$4.3 million in bond funds for interior improvements, electrical repairs and a new elevator.

The first round of improvements will be completed just in time for the opening night of Disney's The Lion King on June 13, 2018.

## **Smart Financial Centre Business Levels Continue Surging**



Smart Financial Centre opened on January 14<sup>th</sup> 2017 and smashed all attendance and sales projections in the first year, hosting 131 events (34 – theatrical, 16 – comedy, 45 – concerts, 17- family/ community, 19 – cultural), which led to numerous recognitions (including Landmark Award (Houston Business Journal, Project of Year – Structures \$75M+ (APWA – TX Chapter, Bronze Award – Public / Private Partnership (IEDC), #1 Hottest Music Venue in Houston (Houston Press), First Place – Marquee (Texas Sign Association). In additional Smart Financial Centre was ranked Top Five Venue Worldwide – 5K to 10K Size (VenuesToday) and #12 in the world by Pollstar Top 200 Theaters for 2017. In addition to its number of performances, Smart Financial Centre's paid attendance for the year also surpassed projections by more than 35 percent. This led to a new direct sales tax revenue of more than \$580,000 received by the City of Sugar Land in 2017, exceeding expectations by nearly 50 percent.

"Our goal with Smart Financial Centre was to create an entertainment destination for Fort Bend County and Houston-area residents to enjoy a variety of performances in the comfort of an indoor, state-of-the-art facility," said Gary Becker, President of ACE SL, LLC. "Our size and seating flexibility have made us an attractive venue to a wide range of artists that include legends like Tony Bennett, Willie Nelson and Rod Stewart, as well as today's hottest acts like The Killers and A Perfect Circle. Our ticket sales have been so robust that if you compare our numbers to those of much larger facilities, we would rank among the top third of arenas in the world and top 15 percent of the world's amphitheaters. We have had a phenomenal first year and 2018 is already tracking ahead of where we were this time last year. "

Now six months into 2018, Smart Financial Centre is pacing 10% ahead of 2017 in ticket sales with 67 events through June.

## Taylor Speegle Named to Arkansas Business 40 Under 40



Taylor Harrison Speegle, director of corporate relations for <u>Walton Arts Center</u>, has been named a member of the 2018 *Arkansas Business* 40 Under 40 class. Each year, *Arkansas Business* honors 40 intriguing business and political leaders who are under 40 years old.

Speegle graduated from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville with a degree in theater then completed graduate school at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh with focus on production design and management.

Speegle worked for Walton Arts Center from 2008-2010 before leaving for graduate school. But he returned to the area and rejoined Walton Arts Center's team as director of development for the Walmart AMP. (Continued, page 7...)

"I'm the business guy behind what's going on in live entertainment," Speegle said. "It fits me really, really well. I love talking about production with the team at Walton Arts Center. I also really love the idea of crunching numbers, making sure we're staying on budget."

In his current role, Speegle is responsible for all corporate fundraising for both venues including Masquerade Ball and Art of Wine at Walton Arts Center and AMP Fest, the region's beer, food and tech festival, at the Walmart AMP.

"I have always been a mission-driven kind of guy," he said. "As a nonprofit, we're raising money to expose children in northwest Arkansas to the performing arts and art in general. That was afforded to me as a child, and I want to make sure that happens for everybody."

## COLLEGE PARK CENTER HAS AN IMPRESSIVE SPRING SEASON





This spring, College Park Center at the University of Texas at Arlington, hosted a wide range of events from family-friendly wrestling entertainment to women's professional basketball to academic ceremonies.

During this six-week period, May 6-June 10, thousands of college, high school and community fans celebrated and were entertained by an action-packed night of WWE LIVE, the tip-off of the third season of WNBA Dallas Wings games, six University of Texas at Arlington commencements and 19 high school graduations from cities throughout the DFW Metroplex—a total of 29 events bringing more than 139,505 guests to the arena at College Park Center.

"We're pleased with the number of events hosted by College Park Center this year—2018. It has been a great opportunity for our customers and a valued year at our venue," says Jeff Davis, CVE, CMP, director and general manager of College Park Center.

"We have a variety of events booked for the upcoming season including intercollegiate basketball games along with a busy holiday season that will include University of Texas at Arlington's fall commencements."



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

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