

## Region 6 Seeking Rep Candidates Until Oct 31

Have you ever wanted to volunteer for the region? Here's your opportunity! The Region 6 Board of Directors is currently seeking interest from members who would be willing to serve as **Region 6 State & Country Representatives**.

**Those who fill these roles would perform the following duties:**

- Engage with local/state membership on issues
- Help promote, organize, or engage with local chapter meetings
- Serve as additional source of communication with state/country
- Participate in Region 6 meetings several times per year

Those who are interested in serving should email Region 6 Director Jeff Davis, CVE at [jeff.davis@uta.edu](mailto:jeff.davis@uta.edu) to be added to the list of candidates by the **October 31<sup>st</sup>** deadline. The Region 6 Board will review interest and appoint for a two year term one representative for each of the following: Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Mexico.



Region 6 Board seeking candidates interested in being state & country representatives

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## Alamodome Reopens with UTSA College Football Season

The [Alamodome](#) reopened its doors on September 19<sup>th</sup> to begin the UTSA College Football Season with fans at the game on against Stephen F. Austin, on September 25<sup>th</sup> vs Memphis, and further live events with social distance protocol to announce in the future.

Pre-COVID-19, the Alamodome was on the cusp of one of the best performing years ever. No one could have ever imagined the Convention and Sports Facilities Department would have to furlough over 260 full time positions, with 52 of them being from the Alamodome. A skeleton crew had to be identified and responded remarkably to the obstacles of the pandemic.

After many months of tedious planning and intelligence gathering through industry peers and local, state and federal health organizations, the Alamodome created a comprehensive and well thought out Reopening Plan. Part of the process included working closely with tenants including UTSA and the Valero Alamo Bowl in reviewing plans and participating in the creation of a socially distanced master ticketing manifest that would address all the needs of football as well as all other events.

The final Reopening Plan includes many new protocols, such as touchless operations in ticket taking, parking POS system, mobile food ordering, heavy sanitation, mandatory masks, and temperature checks. The facility was fortunate to receive CARES Act funding, but staying within budget and accomplish everything needed to create a safe COVID-19 ready facility was still a challenge. Getting creative, a 3D printer was purchased, enabling the in-house fabrication of hundreds of supplies including forearm door openers and wall mounted hand wipe dispensers for a fraction of the cost and resulting in thousands of dollars of savings.

Patrons received new protocols positively and the Alamodome has hosted two UTSA Football games with no incidents. Another UTSA vs. Army football game on will take place on October 17<sup>th</sup>, a Davis vs. Santa Cruz boxing match on October 31<sup>st</sup>, and four days of Disney On Ice performances in November followed by other large events scheduled in the first quarter 2021.

Please visit our website at <http://alamodome.com/> to view our reopening video and more information on the Alamodome's COVID-19 Safety Plan.

## Jontavious Willis Returns to Walton Arts Center

Following the success of the September Bonnie Bishop performance at [Walton Arts Center](#), the next small concert will feature Jontavious Willis, multi-instrumentalist and bluesman.

When Willis was at Walton Arts Center in 2017, he was opening for Keb' Mo' and Taj Mahal. Willis is returning to Walton Arts Center on Thursday, Oct. 22 at 7:30 pm, this time as the headliner.

While large-scale performances are suspended through at least January 2021, intermission programming with less than 200 patrons is made possible in part by the [Ghost Light Recovery Fund](#).

The performance will be in Baum Walker Hall to allow for a minimum of four empty seats between parties and every other row will remain empty. These empty rows, with select seats removed, will also serve as walkways to seats located in the center of the theater while reducing contact with other patrons seated in that row.

For a complete list of health and safety precautions that will be in place for this and future performances at Walton Arts Center visit <http://WaltonArtsCenter.org>.



## Six Traits of Forward-Looking Organizations

Since the start of the pandemic, we at Tessitura have listened.

We've listened to arts and culture leaders, managers and line staff. To theaters and museums, zoos and symphonies, arts centers, and dance companies. To fundraisers, marketers, technologists, educators. At board meetings, round tables, panels and town halls, in help tickets, online forums and chat rooms. In early morning work sessions and late-night chats.

We've listened to the pain of layoffs, the anguish of budget cuts and the anxiety over an uncertain future.

And we've also heard, against all odds, what is working right now.

We've heard threads around operations, communications, experiences. Themes at organizations faring better than others. Stories around organizations finding hope in all the pain. Traits around forward-looking organizations that — if not thriving — are surviving with more vigor than others.

Ultimately, we found that these organizations had one or more of six traits in common that point to success amidst these difficult times. Visit the [Tessitura website](#) to learn more.

## Coppell Arts Center Officially Opens Its Doors After Cancelled May Grand Opening

After 24 months of construction and the cancelled grand opening initially scheduled for May, [Coppell Arts Center](#) is ready to open its doors. The Center is offering guided tours of the newly completed building including viewing the inaugural exhibition "Locally Sourced" in the Mr. Cooper Group Lobby Gallery. The Locally Sourced exhibit curated by Coppell Creatives showcases the talent of local Coppell artists.



Despite the canceled programming due to COVID, the Arts Center's team has been busy over the summer offering safe, socially distanced events for the community. The [Drive-In Movie Series](#) held in the Center's parking lot resulted in a completely sold-out event series and is extended until the end of the year due to popular demand. The Arts Center added to their programming by hosting classes outdoors on the Grove Plaza as part of its [Try Something New series](#), allowing patrons to gather safely to enjoy various classes, such as Yoga, Bollywood, and Art Workshops. Later this fall, the Arts Center will begin to offer socially distanced indoor events. A movie screening of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" inside a socially distanced Main Hall will be on Halloween, and Digi Land, a touch-free digital game room, will begin on November 4th.

All this programming would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of the Center staff. The entire team overcame the challenges that COVID-19 created and worked together to design unique events for the community to enjoy.

To learn more about the Coppell Arts Center, see our events or our COVID-19 safety procedures, visit [CoppellArtsCenter.org](#).



## KC Global Design Names McCann First Executive Director



[KC Global Design](#), an initiative positioned to elevate Kansas City as the world's premier design community through collective efforts and expertise, announces [Mary McCann](#) the organization's first executive director. An AEC (architecture, engineering, and construction) industry talent acquisition veteran, McCann will focus on supporting and growing the KC Global Design effort by providing strategic leadership for priority areas, executing workgroup plans, and providing ongoing communication to member firms. She will serve as a consultant to the Civic Council of Greater Kansas City.

"I'm thrilled to accept this unique opportunity and role which aligns perfectly with my passion for education and talent acquisition within the AEC industry," McCann said.

"I'm honored to lead such a dynamic organization that is raising awareness of Kansas City as the epicenter of architecture, engineering, and construction professionals. What excites me most about this initiative is the collaboration element and opportunity to further elevate our collective industry that I'm so passionate about in a city that I love."

"We are elated to welcome Mary as our first executive director of KC Global Design," said [Rich Smith](#), PE, president and CEO of [Henderson Engineers](#) and co-chair of KC Global Design. "This is a crucial position as we further our commitment to firmly establish Kansas City as the true global destination for innovation and talent in the AEC industry. Mary features excellent industry experience, and I can't wait to work together with her and our other member firms to take this initiative to the highest stage possible. Her energy and passion for our cause will help us for years to come."

"Designers in Kansas City are working on many of the most challenging – and rewarding – projects in the world. With Mary's leadership and vision, KC Global Design will continue to expand its reach as we come together as an industry to promote the innovation and technical excellence of our community," said [Tom O'Grady](#), PE, [HNTB](#) president and co-chair of KC Global Design.

McCann's new role as the first dedicated employee of the KC Global Design effort will include engagement with member and prospective firms, implementing the strategic priorities developed by the KC Global Design Leadership Group, focusing on talent, awareness, and innovation. She will work alongside architecture, engineering, and construction firms in the area to build an ecosystem which ensures continued growth of the AEC industry regionally. McCann will stay well-informed of new developments, programs, and initiatives being put in place by local and state economic development organizations and related companies and organizations. Marketing, event planning, and meeting execution also fall under her responsibilities.

Originally from nearby Leavenworth, Kansas, she resides in Overland Park with her husband, Jim, daughter, Lainey, and the family is expecting a second child. She loves to travel, spend time with friends and family, and volunteer throughout the Kansas City area.



### Alamodome Hosts First Major Boxing Event with Fans Since COVID-19

Three-time world champion Gervonta "Tank" Davis and four-division world champion Leo "El Terremoto" Santa Cruz will square off for the [WBA Super Featherweight and WBA Lightweight Championships](#) live on SHOWTIME PPV Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup> in an event presented by Premier Boxing Champions from the [Alamodome](#) in San Antonio, Texas. This will be the first major boxing event with fans in attendance as well as the largest boxing event with 12,500+ capacity since COVID-19 forced a halt to U.S. sports in March.

LIMITED TIME OFFER

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## OVERLAND PARK K A N S A S

**BEST SMALL CONVENTION CENTER  
IN NORTH AMERICA**

### Overland Park Named Among Best North American Convention Centers for Consecutive Year

EXHIBITOR announced the [Overland Park Convention Center](#) as one of North America's best convention centers for trade shows and events. Small, medium, and large convention centers throughout North America were considered and evaluated using an objective algorithm and rigorous grading scale.

Last year, EXHIBITOR announced an initiative to identify and recognize North America's best convention centers for trade shows and events. The recognition considers criteria categorized into five primary areas: Facility & Functionality, Location & Accommodations, Service & Execution, Expansions & Upgrades, and Awards & Industry Participation.

"Simply by virtue of being included in this list, these facilities have proven their ability to host trade shows and events of all shapes and sizes while providing world-class service and state-of-the-art accommodations," said Travis Stanton, editor of EXHIBITOR Magazine, noting that everything from the number of nearby hotel rooms to the cost and quality of Wi-Fi access can have a significant impact on exhibiting companies' experience at events.

The evaluation process also included a survey of event planners, show organizers and exhibit managers who have recently hosted (or exhibited at) events within each facility, as well as a review of entrants' event spaces, accreditations and innovations, conducted by a panel of corporate exhibition managers. The highest-scoring venues were named among EXHIBITOR Magazine's 2021 Centers of Excellence.

"In a year that has been devastating to our entire industry, this award serves as a true reflection of the dedication and hard work our staff continues to put in no matter what obstacles come their way," said Brett C. Mitchell, general manager of Overland Park Convention Center. Since reopening in July, we've worked continuously to ensure the health and safety of the public, starting with the attainment of our [Global Biorisk Advisory Council STAR Facility accreditation](#). While it was a large undertaking for our staff, their determination is what makes us who we are. And now, we can proudly say we have the industry's only outbreak prevention, response and recovery accreditation for facilities."

The convention center is also in consideration as a finalist for two special award categories: 'Best Small Convention Center' and 'Best Customer Service & On-Site Support.' Winners will be announced in December 2020.

For more information about the Overland Park Convention Center, please visit [OPConventionCenter.com](http://OPConventionCenter.com) or call (913) 339-3000.

### Happy Hours, Movies Extended at Walton Arts Center Venues

Because of the public's response, [Happy Hour](#) at [Walmart AMP](#) on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights was extended through the end of October with additional local and regional bands performing and a stand-up comedy night. The socially distanced, outdoor happy hour has been very popular in the community and has given people a safe way to get out and enjoy live music and the fall weather in the venue's new Choctaw Plaza.

Happy Hour at the AMP is 4:30 - 10 pm with a full bar and food menu. Entrance is free but capacity is limited and a small number of tables can be reserved in advance at a fee. All table reservations will be donated to support the [Ghost Light Recovery Fund](#) and are tax deductible.

After three weeks of successful [Saturday Cinemas](#) at the Walmart AMP with an average of 150 people at each showing, movies are transitioning back to [Walton Arts Center](#) because of fall weather. Two films will be screened each weekend, and they are programmed around a specific theme.

On Halloween there will be a special screening of two iconic movies for the holiday: Hocus Pocus at 2 pm and Rocky Horror Picture Show at 8 pm. Patrons can dress in costume and bring their own props or purchase a prop bag on site.

Walton Arts Center is also partnering with the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month for free screenings of Coco, on Sunday, Nov. 1. The film will be screened at 1 pm in English and again at 6 pm in Spanish.

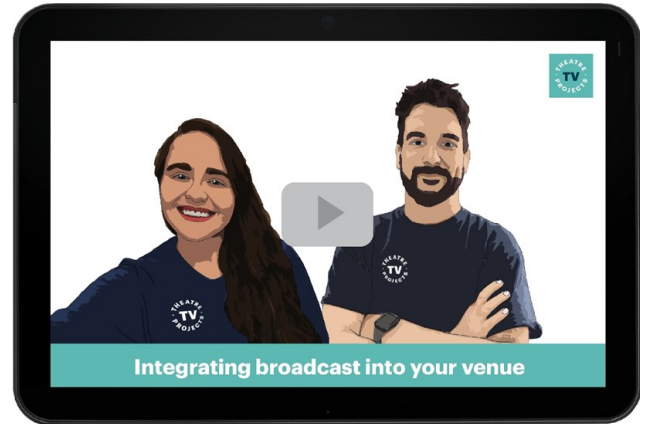


## Hello from Denver!

[Theatre Projects](#) opened our Colorado studio two years ago, and we're loving it here. Being in Denver puts us right in the middle of everything, allowing us to be better connected and available to the Midwest and Western venue community. And our team here is growing too, so we recently moved into a larger office space as we welcomed Gena Buhler & Mark Wethington on board.

Just a few months into joining us, Gena is already preparing to lead a full-day workshop for a client next month that will focus on programming process and best practices for new bookers. As many venues face staffing challenges and hiring freezes, our strategic planning team is also working to support our clients through staff structure assessments, re-opening plans, customer service and operational trainings alongside our traditional study work.

Full of energy and lots of fresh ideas, our AV and integrated technology experts Chris Moore and Maddie Daily are working on several video broadcasting and live streaming projects that bring high quality and interactive experiences to audiences and communities. In addition, their on-going research and development work with our industry partners is focused on what the future of creating immersive and experiential live events might be. If you haven't watched their online broadcasting tutorial, check it out here.



Millie Dixon is helping to support our IAVM colleagues through her continued mentorship work alongside Mark Heiser, Denver Arts & Venues, with mentee Amy Gorbey, Cheyenne Civic Center (Guess who Amy is on the phone with in the photo to the left?). She's also participating as a mentor for Colorado State University's team during this year's ASTC – USITT Venue Renovation Challenge.

We're all keeping busy and regularly checking in with arts community leaders. We know this year is unique in its challenges, and we send you all best wishes of good health and safety during these trying times. Happy fall to you and your team, from all of us at Theatre Projects!



*Food Truck*  
**FRIDAYS**

**11:00 AM**  
**1:30 PM**

**SIMMONS BANK ARENA VIP LOT**



## Food Truck Fridays at Simmons Bank Arena

In October, [Simmons Bank Arena](#) is hosting a series of [FOOD TRUCK FRIDAYS](#) presented by Arkansas Select Buick GMC and in partnership with Cumulus radio for live liners, a radio spot, and social posts.

The first Friday was planned for 200 people, and ended up with over 300 attendees. Upcoming weeks will feature more food trucks and the addition of some Arena Classics as well.

## New Director of Operations Joins FNB Arena

Jarod Matheney recently joined the [First National Bank Arena](#) team at [Arkansas State University](#) as the Director of Operations. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Exercise Science from the University of Central Arkansas and Master of Science degree in Higher Education from Arkansas Tech University. Jarod brings experience in Facility Management from his time working at the University of Central Arkansas & at the University of Tennessee Knoxville as a Facilities Director and Building Manager. Jarod is a great addition to the team and FNB Arena looks forward to having him as Director of Operations.



## Walmart AMP Team Moves Quickly to Rescue Hawk

The [Walmart AMP](#) team noticed a hawk trapped inside the Top Golf net behind their property while preparing for a Saturday Happy Hour. The team has a special appreciation for raptors, because they are used to control nuisance birds at the venue, so they flew into action and called a local game warden to the rescue. After several tense minutes, the bird was captured and safely released to applause of staff and patrons from Top Golf.



## El Paso Live Celebrates 90 Years of The Plaza Theatre

On September 12, 2020, [El Paso Live](#) celebrated 90 years of [The Plaza Theatre](#), El Paso's historic theatre and well-known landmark in Downtown El Paso. The Plaza Theatre was built in 1930 and restored to its original atmospheric splendor in 2006.

Originally built as a modern movie house in the style of Spanish Colonial Revival, the Plaza Theatre was advertised to be the largest theatre of its kind between Dallas and L.A., and was the location for several large premieres in its time. By the 1950s, drive-ins and television catalyzed the decline of theatre and, by the 1970s, the Theatre had fallen into disrepair. In 1989, the owners sought to demolish the Theatre for downtown parking.

After many years of fundraising, community support, and a partnership between El Paso Live, the [El Paso Community Foundation](#) and [the City of El Paso](#), the Plaza Theatre was restored and reopened in 2006. A unique feature of the Plaza Theatre is the Mighty Wurlitzer Organ, designed to elevate from the orchestra pit to accompany shows and entertain patrons before films. The organ is used today during special programming, including the Plaza Classic Film Festival.

Today, the Plaza Theatre regularly programs full Broadway in El Paso seasons, live performances by top musicians and artists, hosts comedians, dance and even the occasional movie performances, beckoning back to its origins.



## Tulsa's Cox Business Convention Center Honored as Top Convention Center in North America

[Cox Business Convention Center \(CBCC\)](#) has been honored as one of North America's best convention centers for trade shows and corporate events for the second year in a row. Out of more than 100 venues, CBCC placed among the highest qualified facilities in [EXHIBITOR Magazine's](#) Second Annual Centers of Excellence list. The downtown Tulsa venue was ranked in five categories including: Facility & Functionality, Location & Accommodations, Service & Execution, Awards & Industry Participation, and Upgrades & Expansion.

EXHIBITOR Magazine is the most widely read magazine among corporate trade show and event professionals with a focus on promoting best practices in trade shows and corporate events. CBCC's recently completed \$55 million Vision Tulsa renovation project helps better meet the needs of event planners and guests with a design reconfiguration providing a seamless attendees flow and flexible spaces.

"CBCC and [the City of Tulsa](#) have both strived to attract trade shows and corporate events to the downtown area," said CBCC Assistant General Manager Angie Teel, CMP. "Being honored as a 2021 Center of Excellence shows our efforts are being recognized, and we hope to further our reputation with the newly renovated spaces and show more clients and guests how Tulsa does it better."

Tulsa is known for both its hospitality and cultural offerings, and CBCC offers guest walking distance to over 2,000 hotel rooms and the city's seven unique micro-districts. CBCC offers Oklahoma's largest banquet space (Grand Hall at over 41,000 square-foot), over 25,000 square-foot of pre-function space, the 106,000 square-foot column-free Pepsi Exhibit Hall, over 28 meeting rooms, LEGACY Hall, Conference Hall, and Tulsa Ballroom. The venue has over 275,000 square-foot of event space, provides a Zen Garden, Little Free Library, and Comfort Room for guests, as well as staff-led initiatives to introduce out-of-town guest to the city.

CBCC will be featured in the November issue of EXHIBITOR along with other venues on the 2021 Centers of Excellence list. The award program evaluation also included a survey of exhibit managers, event planners, and show organizers. The 20 highest-scoring entries earned the 2021 Centers of Excellence distinction. CBCC is included along with San Diego Convention Center, McCormick Place, Los Angeles Convention Center, Caesars Forum, and more. For more information and the entire list, please visit the [EXHIBITOR website](#).



## El Paso Live Presents Drive-Up Movie Experience



[El Paso Live](#), a division of [Destination El Paso](#), and the El Paso International Airport proudly presented [Movies on the Fly](#) at Hangar 7 Studios during the month of August.

Movies on the Fly is a drive-up movie experience like no other for El Pasoans to enjoy movies in a safe environment while practicing social distancing.

A variety of family-friendly movies were shown on a 55' screen with a spectacular view of the airfield and runway lights at night near the El Paso International Airport. Patrons were allowed to bring in their own food and beverages to enjoy during the movie. Movies on the Fly ran Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 14-30 with movies starting after dusk. El Paso Live welcomed 1,252 vehicles during the event and featured 9 movies in total, including Disney's Moana, the original The Karate Kid, and Ferris Bueller's Day Off.





## AMP Fest Gives Patrons Beer, Music and Tech to Go for 2020

Beer, music and tech enthusiasts can still enjoy [AMP Fest](#) October 23-25 with a “To Go” version of the annual [Walmart AMP](#) fundraiser for 2020. General admission tickets are available for \$40 and include a six-pack holder and beer, sample cups, sponsor swag, and instructions.

Participants will pick up their packets on Friday, October 23 from 4:00pm - 6:30pm in the backstage lot at Walton Arts Center or on Saturday, October 24 from 11:00am - 1:30pm in the north parking lot at the Walmart AMP. This will be a drive-through pick up of AMP Fest merchandise and instructions on how to access the AMP Fest app and unlock the brewery scavenger hunt clues.

The brewery scavenger hunt starts on Saturday, October 24 at noon. Participants will use the AMP Fest app to get riddles and clues that will lead them to each brewery where they can pick up their beverages for the virtual event.

On Sunday, October 25 from 4:00pm - 5:00pm, AMP Fest will take place as a virtual event via Zoom, broadcast live from the 80’ bar in Walmart AMP’s Choctaw Plaza. Local brew masters will discuss the beers provided for sampling, how they are made, what they pair with and what makes them unique. There will also be a tech talk by tech sponsors and a live performance by The Juice.

AMP Fest is one of the annual fundraising events organized by [Walton Arts Center](#)’s Corporate Leadership Council, comprised of local and corporate business leaders who actively support the nonprofit organization’s mission-critical programming including education, outreach and accessible programming for northwest Arkansas.

## Director of Frank Erwin Center Announces Retirement

After over 40 years working in the facility management industry, Senior Associate Athletics Director of the [Frank Erwin Center](#), Jimmy Earl, announced last month that he will retire. Earl is only the third director of the Erwin Center since the building’s opening in 1977.

Earl was the first Events Manager of the Erwin Center and has also had experience in large convention complexes, such as the Fort Worth/Tarrant County Convention Center where he was the Manager from 1987 to 1990. Earl is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., a 1993 graduate of the [Public Assembly Facility Management School at Oglebay](#), and attended the [Senior Executive Symposium at Cornell](#) in 1997. He has also been an active member of the [International Association of Venue Managers \(IAVM\)](#) throughout.

He has served on several IAVM committees including Convention Centers/Exhibit Halls, Professional Development, Diversity, Arenas, Universities, and Publications. Additionally, Earl has served on the [IAVM Board](#) as Director-at-Large for Universities, Board of Governors of Senior Executive Symposium, and the IAVM Foundation as a trustee. In 1995, he attained the [Certified Facilities Executive \(CFE\)](#) designation. He is also a past president of IAVM and, in 2016, he was awarded IAVM’s [Charles M. McElravy Award](#).



## Eisemann Center Launches Eisemann Educates Online

During the time of safer at home, the [Eisemann Center](#) is working to provide educationally enriching content, and fulfilling experiences, you can enjoy without leaving the house. Assistant Marketing & Development Manager, Roni Carrasco, is hosting weekly episodes of [Eisemann Educates Online](#), sometimes joined by her cat, Shteve. Each episode explores various types of art, based on previous Eisemann Center Presents Family Theater Series performances. Musical Monday, Storytime Tuesday, Boogie Woogie Wednesday, Theater Thursday and Ar't You Glad It's Friday are live at 2:00pm, on the Eisemann Center's Facebook Page, alternating days Monday, Wednesday, Friday for one week, and Tuesday, Thursday, the next. Follow the Eisemann Center on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) by searching @EisemannCenter.



## UV Disinfection: An Engineering Perspective

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, [Henderson Engineers](#) Director of Engineering Dustin Schafer and many of our technical leaders, including Electrical Technical Director Sean Turner, have been fielding questions relating to infection control technologies like UV disinfection. What is UV light? Ultraviolet (UV) "light" is electromagnetic radiation with a wavelength shorter than visible light, ranging from 100nm to 400nm. Visit the [Henderson Engineers website](#) to learn more.

## IAVM Region 6 Board

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## Thank you to this month's newsletter contributors!

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- **Ginene Delcioppo**, Marketing & Ticketing Supervisor, Coppell Arts Center
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