



Newsletter

Colorado New Mexico Oklahoma Arkansas Texas Kansas Mexico

March 2020



Blaze YOUR TRAIL IAVM Region 6 Biennial Conference

Conference Update: Postponed

Dear IAVM Region 6 Members,

In light of ongoing public health concerns, we regret to inform you the IAVM Region 6 Biennial Conference has been postponed. Our Region leadership is currently working with IAVM World Headquarters and the local host venues to identify new dates.

For your convenience, registrations will be honored at the rescheduled date. Once the dates are announced, if you are no longer able to attend, full refunds will be available for a period of time following the new date announcement. Also, as a courtesy all of the current hotel reservations at Graduate Fayetteville in the room block are being canceled. You do not need to call the hotel to cancel your room reservations.

Our team realizes that our colleagues' calendars fill up quickly and we will update the Region 6 membership regarding new conference dates as soon as possible.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Nick Zazal and Meredith Imes, Conference Co-Chairs



2020 Venue Management School and Graduate Institute Scholarship Recipients

Our region actively works to engage our membership in educational opportunities. To meet this goal, Region 6 offered two scholarships for the 2020 sessions at Venue Management School and Graduate Institute.



Christine Latch

Caleb Miller

Our Venue Management School Roy Saunders/Rodney Smith Memorial Scholarship recipient is Christine Latch. Latch's scholarship fully funds tuition, housing and taxes for both years of the program. Latch is a young professional from Longview, TX, who attended Texas Tech University and attained my Bachelors and Masters degrees in Communication Studies. I began my career in Venue Management in Denver, CO as a Customer Service Representative for Mile High Stadium and Pepsi Center. After about nine months, she moved back to Lubbock, TX for a full-time position as Assistant Box Office Manager for Select-A-Seat. She is currently the Box Office Manager for Spectra Venue Management in Wichita Falls, TX. She is also personally involved active member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

The Region 6 fully-funded Graduate Institute scholarship recipient is Caleb Miller. Caleb Miller serves as Director of Production Services and AGM for Event Operations for the University of Texas at Arlington's department of Special Event Facilities. Prior to joining the team at UTA, Caleb worked at Hot Springs Convention Center and Bank OZK Arena, holding a variety of positions, most recently Manager of Technical Services. Caleb is a native of Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas. Latch and Miller will be joining last year's recipient Sarah Kate Rogers of SMG Tulsa-BOK Center who will attend her second year of Venue Management School.

Chesapeake Energy Arena Hosts Jason Aldean's We Back Tour, Gives Aldean Family a Really Cool Birthday Gift



L to R: Director of Events Nathaniel Porter, General Manager Chris Semrau, Assistant General Manager Michael Owens

Jason Aldean brought his We Back Tour to Oklahoma City's Chesapeake Energy Arena on Friday, February 28. The venue threw quite the birthday party for the country megastar. As a gift to the Star Wars fan, the venue commissioned an illustration of Aldean's family as Star Wars characters.

EXPO MANUFACTURA 2020 THE BIGGEST EVENT IN 25 YEARS



From February 11 to 13, the 25th edition of Expo Manufactura (Manufacturing Expo) took place at CINTERMEX International Convention and Exhibition Center in Monterrey, Mexico, being their largest edition in m² to be held with 19,985 m² (215,116.75 sq. ft.). It also had a record attendance of exhibitors by having the presence of 352.

Congratulations to Tarsus Mexico for this successful edition of the most important event of manufacturing in Mexico. We look forward to hosting all of you again in 2021.

Riggs Takes On General Manager Duties for Walmart AMP



Wendy Riggs, vice president of operations at [Walton Arts Center](#), has added general manager of the Walmart AMP to her job title.

In this expanded role Riggs will oversee front of house, food and beverage, production, facilities and security for both Walton Arts Center and the Walmart AMP. Brian Crowne, vice president of the Walmart AMP, will focus on managing and growing the organization's relationships with promoters, vendors and sponsors.

Riggs has more than 40 years of arts and venue management, consulting and teaching experience including jobs at the Fabulous Fox Theatre, Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre and Walt Disney World where she project managed the construction and operations of three amphitheatres in the park. She also oversaw the construction and operation of the 8,000-seat Tuscaloosa Amphitheater.

“Wendy’s experience in both the construction management and operations sides of venue management is a huge benefit for our organization,” said Walton Arts Center CEO and president Peter B. Lane. “She’s been overseeing the Walmart AMP expansion since the project was announced in November 2018. As we celebrate our tenth season as a Walton Arts Center venue, Wendy is the right person to step into this new role and take our operations to the next level.”

Riggs is one of only 312 industry professionals who have earned the Certified Venue Executive designation from the International Association of Venue Managers.

Walton Arts Center New Hires and Promotions

New Hires:

[Becky Brink](#), Director of Major Gifts and Legacy Giving. Previously: Director of Development, University of Arkansas Wesley College Ministry.

[Anna Cooper](#), Events Coordinator. Previously: Development and Event Coordinator, One Collective.

Promotion:

[Honnah Sartin](#), Lead Technician – Audio. Previously: Local Crew member.

Pictures of all these fine folks: [New Hire & Awards Dropbox](#)

Spring Festivals Bring the Best to Northwest Arkansas [Dropbox for Photos](#)

Walton Arts Center is hosting two festivals this spring. One is a perennial favorite – focusing on tight harmonies, vocal acrobatics and fun performances. The second is a new festival that explores one of the many cultural tiles that come together to make Northwest Arkansas unique and diverse.

Aca-Awesome

It's almost time for the fan-favorite – the VoiceJam A Cappella Festival April 2-4. Pushing the limits of vocal range, singers will astound audiences with tight harmonies, sick beats and flawlessly choreographed sound during the kickoff concert featuring Vocal Asia 2019 champs Acapellago. Then The Real Group takes the stage the following night for the headliner concert.

It all culminates on Saturday when six powerhouse vocal groups from across the country take the stage in a head-to-head competition, bringing their best with the goal of taking home the title during the VoiceJam competition.

Cultural Festival

Walton Arts Center's inaugural Mosaix Festival (April 20-25) will highlight performers and performing arts from the rich culture of India, giving everyone the chance to learn more about our neighbors in the Northwest Arkansas Desi community.

The week features an evening of films by independent Indian filmmakers; classical Indian dance by Punyah Dance Company, making their U.S. premiere; Bollywood - in all of its color and energy - brought to life on stage as a musical; a comedy act by Raj Suresh and a unique jazz performance that fuses modern post-bop sound with Indian classical music.

The festival ends with Mosaix Open House, a day-long showcase of local arts, artists and food from India.

DESTINATION EL PASO HOSTS SENATOR BERNIE SANDERS AT THE ABRAHAM CHAVEZ THEATRE



Presidential candidate, Senator Bernie Sanders, kicked-off a Texas-wide election campaign at the Abraham Chavez Theatre on February 20, 2020 in El Paso, TX.

Destination El Paso, and its venue and event management division, El Paso Live, welcomed the Senator, his crew, national and local press outlets, and close to 2,500 patrons into the Abraham Chavez Theatre, one of the premiere Downtown performance venues in El Paso, Texas.

COMEDIAN JO KOY ENJOYS SOLD OUT ENGAGEMENT AT THE ABRAHAM CHAVEZ THEATRE

As one of today's premiere stand-up comics, Jo Koy has come a long way from his modest beginnings. El Paso Live is excited to announce that his "Just Kidding World Tour" date at the Abraham Chavez Theatre on February 14, 2020 sold out!

On top of an incredible night of comedy, Koy took to social media to express gratitude to his fans that attended the show and for El Paso.

EL PASO SHOWCASES BROADWAY IN EL PASO PERFORMANCES AT THE PLAZA THEATRE

The El Paso Electric Broadway in El Paso 2019/20 season continued in the month of February with family-friendly musical spectacular *Roald Dahl's Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, January 29 – February 2. There was a total of 7 performances, including Saturday and Sunday matinees, and the Plaza Theatre welcomed 5,285 patrons into a world of pure imagination over 5 days.

Broadway in El Paso also featured *An American in Paris*, the classic musical production, at the Plaza Theatre for a limited engagement, February 25 and 26. A total of 2,449 patrons enjoyed the show.

Coming up next in the Broadway in El Paso series will be *Les Misérables*, April 7-12 at the Plaza Theatre!

FULL-TIME POSITIONS OPEN FOR DESTINATION EL PASO

Applicants May Apply at www.destinationelpaso.com/careers
or contact Emilio Velez, Human Resources Manager at: evelez@destinationelpaso.com

DIRECTOR OF CONVENTION DEVELOPMENT

The Director of Convention Development manages and leads the convention development sales department. Responsible for identifying market opportunities; developing long and short-term marketing and sales strategies and development of training programs for staff with the objective of attracting conventions, meetings, and events that secure hotel room.

EVENT COORDINATOR

Under the supervision of the department Director, provides professional client services support in organization and management of events within the facility and monitor the logistics of these events.

EVENT MARKETING MANAGER

Under general supervision, the Event Marketing Manager plans, coordinates and manages all advertising, public relations activity to support all events taking place at all venues associated with El Paso Live.

FACILITY SALES MANAGER

Under general supervision the Facility Sales Manager is responsible for enhancing economic and social growth in El Paso by marketing, promoting and developing new business for Destination El Paso.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE CATERING MANAGER

Under general supervision the Food and Beverage Catering Sales Manager, who will be responsible for overseeing full time, part-time and contract employees performing food and beverage services for the facility and events.

LABOR SERVICES MANAGER

Under general supervision the Labor Services Manager is responsible for overseeing full time, part-time and contract employees performing custodial, janitorial, event set ups and turnovers in addition to other activities required to run, maintain, and service the facility and events.

SOUS CHEF

Under general supervision this position reports to the Executive Chef with responsibilities to include purchasing, inventory control, scheduling and managing culinary staff, food safety program, costs of goods accountability, labor management, food production and quality control.

ASM Global - LAS CRUCES CONVENTION CENTER SEEKS TO FILL VARIOUS POSITIONS

The Las Cruces Convention Center, operated by ASM Global, is committed to providing an exemplary destination for meetings, conventions, consumer shows, banquets, trade shows and entertainment. We strive to offer the highest level of customer services for our customers and their attendees.

General Manager

Position Summary: The General Manager coordinates the day-to-day activities of the various departments within the facility. Helps to facilitate optimum efficiency, maximize profits and provide exceptional customer service by performing the following duties individually or through subordinate supervisors. This individual will have responsibility for the overall management, promotion and operation of the facilities, including purchasing, booking, marketing, finance, human resources, food and beverage, box office, advertising, security, production, maintenance, parking and related operations.
<https://searchwideglobal.com/job/general-manager/>

Event Coordinator

Position Summary: The Event Coordinator is responsible for providing professional client services support in the planning, organization and management of events within the facility, and monitor the logistics of these events, and all event coordination tasks after events are booked at the Las Cruces Convention Center.
https://recruiting.adp.com/srccar/public/RTI.home?c=1152751&d=ExternalCareerSite&r=5000580235406&_fromPublish=true#/

Sales Manager

Position Summary: The Sales Manager is responsible for selling the Las Cruces Convention Center and works with the departments to ensure growth and expansion of services to ensure that company sales goals and objectives are met.
https://recruiting.adp.com/srccar/public/RTI.home?c=1152751&d=ExternalCareerSite&r=5000546930506&_fromPublish=true#/

Food and Beverage Coordinator

Position Summary: The Food and Beverage Coordinator is responsible for overseeing all Banquet Functions to include, coffee breaks, buffet, plated and reception events. This position also oversees concessions in the absence of the Concessions Manager.
https://recruiting.adp.com/srccar/public/RTI.home?c=1152751&d=ExternalCareerSite&r=5000580403206&_fromPublish=true#/

For the complete job description or to apply, click on the link below each summary or contact Emilio Velez, Human Resources Manager at: EVelez@destinationelpaso.com

TONY AWARD-WINNING ACTRESS KRISTIN CHENOWETH TO HEADLINE COPPELL ARTS CENTER GRAND OPENING



Above: Alex Hargis announces Grand Opening schedule in the Coppel Arts Center Reception Hall
Photo credit: Emilee Prado



Courtesy: Coppel Arts Center

Coppel Arts Center, a multi-purpose performing and visual arts facility 30 years in the making in Coppell, TX, opens May 14-17, 2020. Consistent with its mission to bring locally and nationally recognized music, dance, theater, and visual arts performances and programs to Coppell, the Center will feature a headlining performance by Tony Award-winner Kristin Chenoweth on May 15 of its grand opening weekend.

The grand opening weekend will also feature the Architects of Air immersive “luminarium” exhibition and Locally Sourced gallery exhibit opening May 14, a concert by chart-topping Academy of Country Music-nominated singer and songwriter Rodney Atkins on May 16, and a free-to-the-public celebration of community on May 16 and 17 that will include Spotlight Showcase performances in the Main Hall by local art groups and the five resident companies. Food trucks, live entertainment, and an artisan market will be staged outdoors on and near the Center.

“We are fulfilling our strategic vision and our commitment to our community to bring first-class entertainment to Coppell and our neighbors by kicking off the opening of Coppel Arts Center with exciting programming,” said **Coppel Mayor Karen Hunt**. “Having an award-winning Broadway performer and actress, an Academy of Country Music award winner, and an internationally recognized exhibition as well as free community events underscores the depth and breadth of what the Center will bring for years to come.”

Coppel Arts Center’s future programming will include performances by its five resident companies: The Ballet Ensemble of Texas, Coppell Community Chorale, Coppell Creatives, Coppell Community Orchestra, and Theatre Coppell. The Center is also partnering with more than 10 local community organizations to bring unique and diversified art offerings to the venue. The full 2020-2021-season programming will be announced in April.

The Center broke ground in 2018 and will be the anchor venue of Old Town Coppell, the newly developed retail and entertainment district. It is being created by arts center design experts Corgan, Schuler Shook, and Jaffe Holden and will bring together and express the city’s diverse cultures through music, dance, theater, visual arts, and special events.

An Un-Common Photo Op at College Park Center



The staff at College Park Center was lucky enough to grab a photo with actor, recording artist and activist, Common, during his visit to The University of Texas at Arlington. Common’s appearance at College Park Center was part of the university’s 2019-2020 edition of the Maverick Speakers Series program. The program has brought a wide variety of speakers to the UTA Campus and the Arlington community since 2008.

College Park Center/Texas Hall Welcome Patton as Director of Facility Operations and Safety



Nick Patton joins the UT Arlington Special Event Facilities team this month as the new Director of Facility Operations and Safety. Nick brings with him a wide range of experience in the safety and security field, working with municipal recreation departments and professional sports, most recently the Texas Rangers organization. He is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps and a graduate of Dallas Baptist University. “Nick’s background in security and safety programs is a great addition to our team,” comments Jeff Davis, executive director. “With his expertise, we have a stronger focus on creating a safe and secure experience for our guests, tenants and staff.”

You’re Invited: College Park Center to Host Emergency Preparedness and Risk Mitigation Conference



College Park Center in Arlington is hosting an Emergency Preparedness and Risk Mitigation Conference on April 29 along with a Trained Crowd Manager certification class on April 30. The conference will highlight topics relevant to anyone working in a public assembly space. Industry experts Mark Herrera and Paul Villotti will bring insight to areas such as situational awareness, risk mitigation through service interjection and active shooter protocol.

The fee for day one is only \$10 (which includes parking) and is open to the public. We think this will be a valuable opportunity to learn more about how to keep our venues and communities safe, and hope you all will be able to join us. There will be an optional day two trained crowd manager certification class on April 30. The fee for this class is \$15.

If you would like to attend one or both days of this conference please register here: utatix.com/2020conference.

Introducing, The Momentary!



Photo by Dero Sanford,
courtesy of the Momentary, Bentonville, Arkansas

The Momentary is open! This multi-disciplinary space for contemporary visual and performing arts, culinary experiences, festivals, and artists-in-residence is a new arts anchor for Bentonville, Ark., and a satellite to Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art. The Momentary provides an exciting blend of intentional design to support performance within a ‘found-space’ environment. This offers artists flexibility, functionality and context.

Capability of the space for the artists and the audiences was our guiding consideration as the theatre consultants on the project team led by Wheeler Kearns. We helped transform the site through thoughtful design of seating, sightline, stage and technical design, and lighting control. It is now able to accommodate variable needs, transforming a decommissioned cheese factory into a highly adaptable multi-disciplinary contemporary art space. We wanted artists to be inspired by what they find here, and we can’t wait to see artists pushing the envelope as they make the spaces within the Momentary their own.

Hello, We Are The Renegades!



Photos courtesy of John Hamilton

The Dallas Renegades hosted their first home game on Sunday, February 9, 2020 at Globe Life Park in Arlington, Texas. The XFL, which was formed For The Love Of Football, allowed the Renegades to welcome 17,206 fans to their home opener in February.

After a two-week road trip, Dallas returned home to a record-setting football crowd at Globe Life Park of 18,332. Coach Bob Stoops, who boasts nearly 200 career wins, leads the team. Daryl Johnston, a former Dallas Cowboys standout, is the Director of Player Personnel. The front office team is led by Team President Grady Raskin.

The XFL and the Dallas Renegades have entered into an agreement for the Renegades to be primary tenant at Globe Life Park. The USL League One team North Texas SC will play home games at the stadium beginning in May 2020. Globe Life Park was transformed from a baseball venue to a football stadium over the course of three months. Additional seating was added to what was once left field, while the visiting team dugout and both bullpens were removed to create more space for a football field and soccer pitch.

Celebrities including Troy Aikman, Toby Keith, Kyler Murray, Seneca Wallace, and XFL Commissioner Oliver Luck are some of many high-profile fans to come out and watch the Dallas Renegades at their home games. The Renegades are a primary tenant in the building, as the Texas Rangers recently moved their staff into the new Globe Life Field, which opens on March 14, 2020 with a concert performance by Chris Stapleton.

The remaining Dallas Renegades schedule includes two more home games, on Sunday, March 29 (5 pm CT on FS1) and Thursday, April 9 (7 pm CT on FOX). Tickets are available at xflrenegades.com and start as low as \$24 per seat.

B.B.F.N! Bye-bye for now!



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Thank you newsletter contributors this month!

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