

Business Council for the Arts Names New Chief Executive Officer

Dallas Arts Leader and Healthcare Executive Stacie Wheelock Adams to lead the Business Council for the Arts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Friday, June 2, 2023) – Dallas, TX –The Board of Directors for Business Council for the Arts (BCA), the premier organization for forging business-arts partnerships in North Texas, named Stacie Wheelock Adams its new CEO effective June 1, 2023. The appointment was announced to staff and community partners by the Founder’s Chair Nancy A. Nasher, Chairman Joel Austin, and Chair of the Search Committee Larry Glasgow. Adams succeeds Katherine Wagner who retires after more than 14 years of dedicated service.

‘We are thrilled to announce Stacie Adams’ selection as the BCA’s new CEO,’ said Nasher. “Stacie is a leader who has an excellent reputation in the arts community, deep relationships in the business sector, and an enthusiasm and commitment to helping the BCA continue its important mission.” Austin added, “Stacie’s talent, experience, and passion for forging new paths for arts and business in our region make her the ideal successor.”

Adams joins the BCA following a notable career in arts leadership in Dallas, serving as deputy director of the Crow Museum of Asian Art as part of an esteemed six years with the museum. Prior to joining the museum, Adams served more than five years as the Dallas Symphony Orchestra’s director of public relations and communications. Adams is a graduate of Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in marketing and management.

Adams comes to the BCA from her most recent position serving as senior vice president of external affairs at Axxess, the leading technology innovator for care at home in the United States. In this role, Adams designed and implemented the company’s overarching strategy for philanthropy and community engagement. Working closely with Axxess Founder and CEO John Olajide, Adams oversaw the development of corporate citizenship and university partnerships and programs while serving as liaison with key stakeholders, including community and nonprofit organizations throughout North Texas.

“When I met Stacie more than eight year ago, I knew her deep connections in the Dallas community were exactly what Axxess needed at the time as we worked to build our philanthropic and community engagement footprint in Dallas,” says Olajide. “I couldn’t imagine a better leader for a role representing the convergence of the arts and business communities than Stacie. I know she will bring the same level of commitment and rigor to the BCA that she has done for Axxess over the last five and half years.”

During Stacie’s tenure at Axxess, she worked closely with business leadership organizations including the Dallas Regional Chamber and the Dallas Citizens Council as well as educational partners including the University of Texas at Dallas, the Dallas Independent School District, the Momentous Institute, the T.D. Jakes Foundation STEAM initiatives and Cristo Rey Dallas College Prep. In addition, Stacie served on the board of the North Dallas Chamber of Commerce, Japan-America Society, The Senior Source, and was a community partner to the BCA.

“I am honored to have been chosen to lead the BCA,” said Adams. “I intend to work alongside our board and our staff to continue to build upon the BCA’s business-facing strategy, providing programs that positively impact engagement and retention, health and wellness, equity, inclusion and diversity, while continuing to grow community connections through arts and culture.”

About Business Council for the Arts

For more than 35 years, Business Council for the Arts has stimulated municipalities, businesses, and individuals to support the arts in the workplace, in education, and in the community throughout North Texas. The organization is governed by a diverse Board of Directors, led by Founder’s Chair Nancy A. Nasher and Board Chair Joel Austin, who represent leading businesses in North Texas. For more information about Business Council for the Arts, visit ntbca.org.

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