FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS ANNOUNCES

2023 OBELISK AWARDS HONOREES

DALLAS, TX – Ten North Texas arts and business individuals and organizations will be honored at the 35th annual Obelisk Awards to be presented by Business Council for the Arts (BCA) on Thursday, November 9, 11:00 -1:30 PM at the new JW Marriott Dallas Arts District. Co-Chairs of the 2023 Obelisk Awards are Evan Singer, BCA Board Member and Partner at Jones Day, and Rachael Singer, VP of Compensation at Albertsons Companies. The Honorary Chairs are Nancy A. Nasher and David J. Haemisegger.

The Obelisk Award honors businesses, nonprofits, and individuals for their extraordinary support of arts and culture in North Texas.

Honorees and their nominators are the following:

Robyn Flatt, Legacy Award

Nominated by Lynn Fisher of The Rosewood Foundation

Mary Brinegar, Lifetime Achievement Award

Nominated by Patricia B. Meadows

Gayle Halperin, Visionary Nonprofit Arts Leader

Nominated by Missy Shofner of the Chamberlain Ballet

Genesis Inspiration Foundation, Arts Education

Nominated by Zenetta Drew of Dallas Black Dance Theatre

Goldmark Cultural Center, Arts Partnerships

Nominated by Armando Sebastian, Artist

Cece Smith, Business Champion for the Arts

Nominated by Kim Noltemy of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra

Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum, Distinguished Cultural Organization

Nominated by Ike Brown of NFI Industries



Cabaniss Management & Kessler Presents, New Initiatives (Small)

Nominated by Ron Gard of Lake Emma Enterprises

Virgin Hotels Dallas, New Initiatives (Large)

Nominated by Beth Wilbins of the Dallas Film Society

Raymond Rowell, Outstanding Leadership Arts Alumnus

Nominated by Matt Hardman of the University of North Texas College of Music

Presenting Sponsors of the 2023 Obelisk Awards are Nancy A. Nasher and David J. Haemisegger.

The Connoisseur Sponsor is Oncor Electric Delivery. The Collector Sponsor is The Neiman Marcus Group.

The Hospitality Sponsor is the JW Marriott Dallas Arts District.

Aficionado Sponsors are Aetna, American Airlines, Baker Botts LLP, Banowetz & Company, Bourland Octave Management LLC, CONNECTIVE Agency, Corgan, Fisher & Phillips LLP, Frost Bank, Grant Thornton, Harwood International and the Ann & Gabriel Barbier-Mueller Museum: The Samurai Collection, Haynes Boone, Holland & Knight LLP Foundation, Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, Jackson Walker LLP, Jones Day, Local Profile, Parkland Health, PepsiCo, PZP BizConnect, RealPage Inc., Simmons Bank, Southern Methodist University, The Beck Group, The HALL Group, The University of Texas at Dallas, Tolleson Wealth Management, The University of North Texas, UT Southwestern Medical Center, the McGrath Family Charitable Fund, and Vinson & Elkins LLP.

Additional support underwritten by Capital One.

Each honoree of the 2023 Obelisk Award receives an original and one-of-a-kind artwork in glass created by noted Dallas artist Polly Gessell, underwritten by the Craig and Kathryn Hall Foundation.

Graphics for the 2023 Obelisk Awards are based on the original artwork, *Bethel* #2, by noted Dallas-based artist, Chong Keun Chu.

Sponsorships, tickets, and donations in recognition of the honorees and BCA programs can be purchased at <u>www.ntbca.org/the-obelisk-awards</u>.

About Business Council for the Arts

Business Council for the Arts (BCA), under the leadership of a diverse Board of Directors, led by Founder's Chair Nancy A. Nasher and Board Chair Joel Austin, is a non-profit organization representing more than 150 leading businesses and organizations in North Texas supporting the arts in the workplace, in education, and in the community.



As the premier organization for forging business-arts partnerships in North Texas, BCA supports important member programs that **enhance creative workforce development**, such as On My Own Time[™], an annual arts competition offering businesses and their employees the opportunity to showcase their literary and visual arts talents; **enrich existing company programs**, such as Art at Work, where BCA pairs local artists with corporate offices to exhibit works of art in conjunction with diversity, equity, and inclusion and/or wellness programming; and **elevate understanding of the role of art in business** through Arts & Health, and Arts & Real Estate, committee-led programs that bring together thought leaders and experts on the role of art in support of industry business objectives, among others.

In addition to providing arts-related services for member organizations, **BCA serves the North Texas arts community**. For more than three decades, BCA has provided a pipeline of arts advocates and perspective board members to the arts community through its annual cohort of Leadership Arts Institute graduates. In addition, BCA works closely with arts institutions as well as local artists to continually innovate and serve, such as BCA's most-recent program, Art Boost: Dallas, a half-day conference featuring experts in the art world providing business advice and guidance to practicing artists.

And finally, as the North Texas hub for economic impact data collection, **BCA supports the economy of the region.** In partnership with Americans for the Arts (AFTA), the BCA supports the region as a rich cultural center for business growth and cultural tourism initiatives. The most recent study, Arts & Economic Prosperity Study 6, is expected to be completed later this year, and marks the eleventh impact study by BCA over the past 25 years.

BCA was founded by Raymond D. Nasher in 1988 as an outgrowth of a 1987 Dallas Citizens Council initiative. Nasher, a Dallas real estate developer, leading philanthropist, and global art collector, along with other key business leaders and Citizens Council members, determined that Dallas and the adjacent region would have the best opportunity for becoming a prominent business city by ensuring parallel growth in the North Texas region's cultural community. For more information about Business Council for the Arts, or to join as a BCA member organization, visit <u>www.ntbca.org</u>.

Attachments included in the email:

BCA Logo

Obelisk Pen Logo

Headshots of the Co-Chairs