



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Stacie Adams

Business Council for the Arts

Email: bca@ntbca.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dallas Arts Tower Unveils Innovative Gallery Program Showcasing North Texas Artists

Fortis Property Group, LLC partners with Business Council for the Arts to acquire permanent works of art by Carmen Menza and Du Chau, and to activate a new 2,000 square foot gallery with three to four curated exhibitions each year

DALLAS, February 24, 2026 — Business Council for the Arts (BCA), Fortis Property Group, LLC (Fortis), and Dallas Arts Tower today announce the completion of the reimagination of 2200 Ross Avenue, formerly known as Chase Tower, unveiling a bold new cultural destination on the building's newly renovated ground floor. Building on the tower's iconic architecture, this new Dallas Arts District destination brings works by North Texas artists into the everyday experience of tenants, visitors, and Downtown Dallas residents through a partnership created by BCA and Fortis, a BCA Patron Member company.

Fortis engaged BCA to manage the acquisition of significant permanent works by North Texas artists Du Chau, represented by Erin Cluley Gallery, and Carmen Menza, now installed in prominent lobby settings. Fortis also contracted BCA to curate and manage the 2,000 square foot Dallas Arts Tower Gallery, presenting three to four exhibitions each year exclusively featuring North Texas artists. The first exhibition in the new gallery features works by Dallas Glass Artist Simon Waranch and will be unveiled at a private event for Dallas Arts Tower tenants and Business Council for the Arts Ambassadors early next month and will feature a panel discussion led by Downtown Dallas Inc. CEO Jennifer Scripps, featuring artists Chau, Menza and Waranch. The gallery will officially be open to the public Monday-Friday from 10am – 6pm beginning on March 5, 2026.

“Through conversations with Fortis that began in fall 2023, BCA worked alongside their team to reimagine how our member benefits could evolve for a more public facing setting,” said Stacie Wheelock Adams, Chief Executive Officer, Business Council for the Arts. “Building on [Art at Work](#), a program we have offered for nearly 30 years, we saw an opportunity to bring workplace exhibitions by North Texas artists beyond office walls. Those early conversations helped shape new benefits for our

member companies and informed the launch of [ArtWorks](#), our newest member program bringing rotating exhibitions into public facing spaces.”

Over the past year, Dallas Arts Tower completed a comprehensive renovation, reimagining one of Dallas’ most storied commercial spaces into an arts-forward environment. In addition to the new Dallas Arts District Gallery and curated lobby art installations, enhancements include upgraded common areas, and a much-anticipated new restaurant Café Olivia.

“Art is not an accessory here. It is a defining feature,” said Terrence Storey, Chief Investment Officer, Fortis Property Group, LLC. “By partnering with BCA and investing in North Texas artists, we are creating a place where design, community, and culture come together in a way that is authentic to the Dallas Arts District.”

“Dallas Arts Tower has always been an architectural icon,” said Storey. “This next chapter deepens the building’s identity and creates a dynamic experience for our tenants and guests through permanent works and rotating exhibitions that keep the gallery vibrant throughout the year.”

The Dallas Arts Tower Gallery is designed to be an active cultural landmark for tenants, Dallas Arts District visitors, and downtown residents heading to nearby performances. As a free arts destination, it will be open to the public during regular hours, with extended evening hours to be announced, creating more reasons to visit the district beyond curtain time and supporting nearby restaurants, hotels, and small businesses year-round.

“When the Dallas Arts District grows in ways that invite discovery, everyone benefits. This partnership brings the Dallas Arts Tower Gallery to life with rotating exhibitions curated by Business Council for the Arts, spotlighting North Texas artists and giving residents, workers, and visitors a reason to return again and again. We are excited to see the momentum this new arts destination brings to the district,” said Jill Magnuson, Interim Executive Director of the Dallas Arts District.

The first late night opening will coincide with the Dallas Arts District Block Party on June 19, 2026, when the Dallas Arts Tower Gallery will join fellow Arts District destinations, including the Crow Museum of Asian Art, the Dallas Museum of Art, and the Nasher Sculpture Center, as a featured stop during one of the district’s signature events welcoming World Cup 26™.

Temporary Exhibition: Dallas Arts Tower Gallery

Simon Waranch

Dallas-based artist Simon Waranch is at the vanguard of fine art glass sculpture, blending classical technique with bold formal experimentation. His work carries unmistakable wit and energy, paired with deep reverence for the material.

Waranch’s passion for glass has led to five solo museum exhibitions and numerous group exhibitions across the United States and Italy. A graduate of Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts and the College for Creative Studies in Detroit, his work is held in the permanent collections of the Longview Museum of Fine Art, the Imagine Museum, and the Museum of the Southwest. He is represented by seven fine art galleries across the United States and Canada.

Exhibition: *At the Threshold*

In *At the Threshold*, Dallas based artist Simon Waranch invites you into a world of color, pattern, and light. Across glass sculpture, mixed media works, and installations, you will notice forms that feel connected, but never identical. Small organic variations keep the work lively and full of movement. Some works combine glass with paint and sculptural wood, creating unexpected material pairings. On the gallery's feature wall, *Skittles* use separate blown glass forms to build a bold field of color. Up close, each element feels quiet and personal. Together, they transform the space into an immersive experience shaped by repetition, rhythm, and presence. The full exhibition of Simon Waranch's *At the Threshold* remains on view through May 14, 2026, with the feature work *Skittles* remaining throughout 2026.

At its heart, the exhibition celebrates the joy of making and the feeling of being on the edge of something new.

Commissioned Works: Dallas Arts Tower

Du Chau

Dallas-based artist Du Chau melds fine art with personal history, utilizing his background in medical pathology to inform his intricate ceramic work. He immigrated from Vietnam in 1981, eventually earning a BFA and MFA at Alfred University. His practice explores the personal intersections of memory, migration, and the natural environment, often referencing his childhood in Vietnam through delicate porcelain forms. Learn more at erincluley.com/du-chau-1.

Last Rain V (2026)

Composed of over 2,000 hand-rolled porcelain coils, this installation recalls Vietnamese weeping willows. Suspended by wire, the ceramic foliage transforms themes of longing into a metaphorical tree reaching for its sustaining roots.

First Breath (2026)

Shaped like the geographic outline of America, this work takes inspiration from the mountains and wildflowers of Texas. Floating ceramic forms gather and rise, suggesting the deep first breath taken when arriving in a new place or memory.

Carmen Menza

Dallas-based interdisciplinary artist Carmen Menza fuses light, music, and technology to explore human connection. A *cum laude* graduate with a BFA in Jazz Guitar Performance from the University of North Texas, her background in broadcast film informs her immersive, multi-sensory collaborations. Known for projects with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra and Meow Wolf, Menza partners with technologists to create interactive environments. She is also a founding member of Texas Vignette. Learn more at carmenmenza.com.

Blue In Green Dreams (2026)

Inspired by Miles Davis, this "breathing" cloud features 1,500 hand-soldered glass circles. The iridescent sculpture captures the feeling of a lingering melody, using shifting light and texture to mimic a dream.

Unfolding the Sky I & II (2026)

These interactive light works change as you move around them. By using layered materials,

Menza creates shimmering patterns that dissolve and reappear, turning the act of viewing into a personal, playful experience.

About Business Council for the Arts

Business Council for the Arts (BCA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization comprised of leading North Texas companies committed to strengthening the region through the arts. BCA advances business support of the arts, develops business leaders for nonprofit boards, fosters workplace creativity, and champions North Texas artists through programs and partnerships that strengthen our region. Learn more at ntbca.org.

About Fortis Property Group, LLC

Fortis Property Group, LLC (Fortis) is a real estate investment and development firm committed to shaping high performing properties and experiences in major markets, including Dallas. Fortis is the managing partner of the owner of Dallas Arts Tower and has led the building's transformation into a reimagined destination in the Dallas Arts District.

About Dallas Arts Tower

Dallas Arts Tower, located at 2200 Ross Avenue, is an iconic commercial office tower in the Dallas Arts District. Following a major renovation, the building now features enhanced tenant amenities and a dedicated gallery program that brings North Texas art into the building's daily experience.

###