

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Business Council for the Arts Announces 2026 Obelisk Awards Leadership and Opens Nominations

NORTH TEXAS — April 29, 2026 — The Business Council for the Arts (BCA) Board of Directors is proud to announce that **Michael Janicek** and **Andrea Nayfa** will serve as Co-Chairs of the 2026 Obelisk Awards and Luncheon. The event will take place at the JW Marriott Dallas Arts District on **November 5, 2026**.

Each year, the Obelisk Awards bring together business and civic leaders who understand the role the arts play in shaping stronger organizations and communities across North Texas. The annual luncheon continues to stand at the intersection of business, culture, and community, recognizing leadership in action.

Leadership for 2026

Michael Janicek is a Senior Associate and Senior Lighting Designer at Corgan and a member of the Business Council of the Arts Board of Directors. He has been actively involved in advancing BCA's initiatives, including work through the Arts & Health Committee, where he has helped strengthen connections between design, environment, and community well-being. His professional work reflects a deep understanding of how the arts shape both experience and impact.

Andrea Nayfa is a respected leader whose impact spans real estate, philanthropy, and community engagement across North Texas. A "D Best" Luxury Real Estate Agent with Allie Beth Allman & Associates, she brings strong relationships, business perspective, and a deep commitment to community. For more than a decade, she has supported signature fundraising initiatives for Children's Health, including Breakfast with Santa Spectacular and Movies with a Mission, and has been actively involved with Cattle Baron's Ball, as this year's production co-chair. She currently serves on the board of Texas Ballet Theater, reinforcing her commitment to the role of the arts in shaping stronger organizations and communities.

"At its core, the Obelisk Awards celebrate leadership that understands the role the arts play in shaping stronger organizations and communities. The leaders guiding this year's event bring both vision and action to that work, and we look forward to what we will build together," said Stacie Adams, CEO of the Business Council for the Arts.

Sponsorship Momentum Underway

Sponsorship commitments for the 2026 Obelisk Awards are underway, with early participation from organizations across North Texas aligned in advancing business and community through the arts.

The Obelisk Awards serve as a platform where leadership is recognized and aligned. Sponsorship reflects a commitment to the role the arts play in strengthening organizations,

culture, and regional growth.

“Every sponsorship of the Obelisk Awards extends far beyond the event,” said Joel Austin, Chair of the BCA Board of Directors. “It fuels the partnerships, programs, and leadership development that strengthen the arts across North Texas.”

A range of sponsorship opportunities are available, offering meaningful visibility, curated experiences, and engagement with business and civic leaders.

To learn more about sponsorship opportunities, visit: <https://ntbca.org/obelisk-sponsorships/>

2026 Obelisk Nominations Now Open

The Obelisk Awards recognize business leaders and organizations whose contributions through the arts continue to shape North Texas.

The 2026 award categories include:

- Business Champion for the Arts
- Emerging Business Champion for the Arts
- Outstanding Leadership Arts Alumnus
- Arts Partnership
- New Arts Initiative
- Arts Education

Nominations are now open and may be submitted online at:

<https://ntbca.wufoo.com/forms/2026-obelisk-awards-nominations/>

Deadline: May 15, 2026

A Defining Standard for Leadership

“For decades, the Obelisk Awards have recognized those who lead with a clear understanding of the role the arts play in strengthening our communities and our economy. The individuals and organizations honored each year set an important example of what responsible and forward-thinking leadership looks like,” said Joel Austin.

Tables are now available for purchase. A limited number of individual tickets will be released at a later date.

About Business Council for the Arts

Since its founding in 1988 by Raymond Nasher as a Dallas Citizens Council initiative, the Business Council for the Arts (BCA) has championed the integration of arts and business across North Texas.

Today, under the leadership of Founder’s Chair Nancy Nasher, Board Chair Joel Austin, and CEO Stacie Adams, BCA serves a network of more than 150 organizations committed to strengthening workplaces, classrooms, and communities through the arts.

BCA's programming spans creative workforce development, community engagement, and leadership cultivation. Signature initiatives include *On My Own Time*[™], *Art at Work*, and the *Leadership Arts Institute*, alongside committee-driven efforts focused on Arts & Health, Arts & Real Estate, and Arts & Technology. To learn more, visit www.ntbca.org