



# Newsletter

Colorado New Mexico Oklahoma Arkansas Texas Kansas Mexico

July 2020

## Mark Your Calendar: IAVM Region 6 Business Meeting on July 28



Jeff Davis, CVE, Region 6 Director

Hello, Region 6!

2020 has proven to be a year unlike any other! Live events came to a screeching halt nearly four months ago, and now we are all navigating uncharted waters as we work toward reopening venues in a safe manner. In any other year, we would come together at the annual IAVM VenueConnect conference to network, share experiences and learn from each other. However, with the COVID-19 pandemic, our summer plans have changed.

This year, we're taking our annual IAVM Region 6 Business Meeting online. Yes, one more Zoom meeting to add to your calendar. However, this is one you will not want to miss!

We have a few business items and IAVM updates to address early on in the meeting. But after that, we'll spend time visiting with some of our colleagues who are in the early stages of reopening, hear what's working... and what's not, ask questions, and share ideas that can help us all as we work toward safely reopening our venues.

### Mark your calendars now:

**IAVM Region 6 Business Meeting**  
**Tuesday, July 28**  
**10:00 – 11:15 AM (Central)**

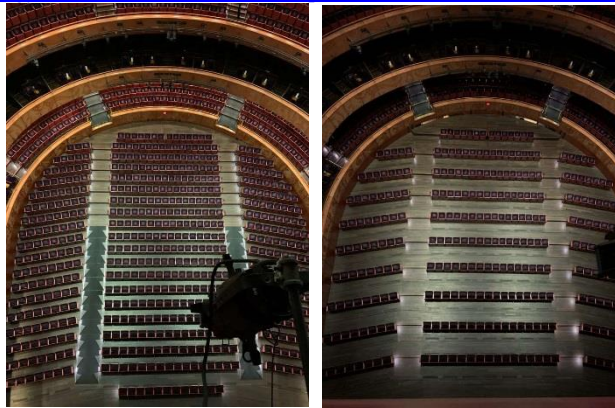
And register online here: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ldeuuqD8sGtXFlnfEDlsz\\_P1Jcz6YgtgA](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ldeuuqD8sGtXFlnfEDlsz_P1Jcz6YgtgA)

We'll see you online in a few weeks!

Jeff Davis, CVE  
Region 6 Director

# The Tobin Center Uses State of the Art Technology to Maintain 6 Feet of Row Separation

Article Courtesy of Broadway World: <https://www.broadwayworld.com/san-antonio/article/The-Tobin-Center-Uses-State-of-the-Art-Technology-to-Maintain-Six-Feet-of-Separation-Between-its-Rows-20200616>



San Antonio Express-News has [reported](#) that The Tobin Center is using one of a kind technology to maintain six feet of separation between its rows. The Tobin Center is one of only three venues worldwide that use this technology.

The Tobin Center released a time lapse video showing how the advanced technology picks up and moves the rows around inside the venue, allowing for them to adhere to social distancing rules.

Michael Freshner, CEO and President of the Tobin Center shared: “We have used it to create flat flooring and such for galas or parties, but we never thought we would have to use it for social distancing.”

He continued to say, “No one is really thinking about performing arts centers to open because there just aren’t enough of us in the state to really be on anyone’s radar. But no one can do this like us. I fear that people may be categorizing us with stadiums or things like that.”

## Dickies Arena Hosts Blood Drive and Food Drive to Support Tarrant County Area



Trail Drive Management Corp. (TDMC), the not-for-profit operators of Dickies Arena, is working with local organizations to help support the Fort Worth community while the venue remains closed to the public.

Dickies Arena hosted Justin Boots’ “Boots for Blood,” a blood drive to support Carter BloodCare, one of Texas’ largest blood centers. Carter BloodCare took advantage of the venue’s large parking lots to set up blood donation buses in a central, Fort Worth location. The successful event collected over 165 units of blood in two days this summer, which is typically a challenging time for blood supply and donations.

Later in June, the arena opened up parking lots again to become a distribution site for Tarrant Area Food Bank, which was available to all. The food bank provided about 40,000 pounds of food and supported thousands of area families in need assistance in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the Texas Air National Guard was on hand to help assist with distribution throughout.

After hosting two successful events with local organizations, TDMC continues to look for ways to help support the Fort Worth and North Texas community. The outdoor events allowed team members, staff from the organizations and members of the public to safely socially distance while assisting individuals in need.

# Walton Arts Center Postpones Large-Scale Programming Until January 2021

Launches Ghost Light Recovery Fund to Help Cover Expenses  
During Extended Intermission



[Walton Arts Center](#) has postponed Broadway shows and performances with audiences of more than 200 until January 2021 and launched the [Ghost Light Recovery Fund](#) to help cover the revenue shortfall created by the loss of programming due to health and safety restrictions to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

“It will be some time before we can resume business as usual at our venues,” said [Peter Lane, president and CEO of Walton Arts Center](#). “Because each show involves several hundred cast and crew members and draws thousands of audience members, it is almost impossible to socially distance and remain safe. The health and safety of our audience, performers and staff are our top priorities.”

The 2020-21 season lineup, scheduled to start in September, had been finalized but only shows in the P&G Broadway Series had been announced and on sale for subscribers.

Of those Broadway shows, *My Fair Lady* has rescheduled from this September to next summer - Wednesday, July 28 through Sunday, August 1, 2021. *An Officer and a Gentleman* is also shifting by a few weeks next spring to Tuesday, March 30- Sunday, April 4, 2021.

Staff is working now to finalize changes to *Mean Girls*, originally scheduled for November, and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, originally scheduled for December. The remainder in the series will proceed as scheduled: *Fiddler on the Roof* in April, *Come From Away* in May, and *Freestyle Love Supreme* in June.

Patrons with tickets to large shows or events previously rescheduled to this fall including Arlo Guthrie, Heather McMahan, Art of Wine and Hasan Minhaj will be contacted directly as soon as scheduling changes are finalized.

Honoring its commitment to bring arts experiences to Northwest Arkansas, Walton Arts Center will focus this fall on performances for smaller audiences with appropriate safety measures. Staff will also focus on arts integration training for teachers and creating online content for teachers and parents to use during the upcoming school year.

With today’s announcement, Walton Arts Center and the Walmart AMP face the loss of a year’s worth of programming and its largest source of revenue - ticket sales. Even though steps have been taken to reduce expenditures, there is still a deficit of more than \$1 million to keep the organization operational.

Community support is more important now than ever before, and the community has responded. Donations during the last few months including ticket donations and one-time gifts total more than \$534,000 and have become the inspiration for the Ghost Light Recovery Fund.

A ghost light is a long-held theatrical tradition. When theaters are unoccupied, a single light is left burning on to light the way for a safe return to the stage. A ghost light has been on our stage since the programming suspension in March.

The Ghost Light Recovery Fund will help enable Walton Arts Center to offset lost revenue from canceled performances, continue education and intermission programming, maintain facilities and support staff until full-scale performances can resume. Play a part in Walton Arts Center’s and the Walmart AMP’s second act by donating today at [www.waltonartscenter.org/ghostlight](http://www.waltonartscenter.org/ghostlight).

## CH-CH-CHANGES AT TULSA'S COX BUSINESS CONVENTION CENTER

Cox Business Convention Center (CBCC) was all about change in 2020 when the venue launched its new brand, name change, and web redesign in early February. CBCC will be adding to its new look with a grand re-opening of the venue's east side in early August. CBCC has created a true "front door" with a re-imagined South Plaza with valet and rideshare drop-off, and a three-story glass atrium leading into over 4,000 square foot of natural light filled pre-function space. Guests may reach the updated *LEGACY* Hall (formerly Assembly Hall) and two-levels of meeting rooms by stairs, elevator, or escalator. Grand Hall (formerly a 9,000 seat arena) is a divisible multi-use event space (Oklahoma's largest) and offers over 41,000 square foot with a waving wood detailed 36" ceiling and a three-story glass corner window looking out on downtown Tulsa.



Experience a fly-thru of the new spaces by visiting this link - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EP9ONwuXABg>

CBCC will host a Ribbon Cutting ceremony in early August to officially open the space with its city partners, and has already booked 2020 events for the new spaces. The renovation also includes a new kitchen, dressing rooms, meeting rooms, restrooms, staff offices, an additional box office, and a Sensory Room for guests. For more info, please visit [CoxCenterTulsa.com](http://CoxCenterTulsa.com).

## Cox Business Convention Center Implements ASM's Venue Shield During Crisis

Cox Business Convention Center (CBCC) has approached the crisis and changes of 2020 by focusing on staff safety and working with each client like the long-term partner they truly are. The Tulsa venue is riding the waves of 2020 and focused on using its over 275,000 square foot of rent-able space to help local and regional clients with a variety of events and social distancing needs. As an ASM Global managed convention center, CBCC is implementing ASM's Venue Shield - the culmination of extensive and ongoing work by ASM's Global Task Force to develop industry-leading protocols ensuring the highest level of health and safety for staff, planners, guests, entertainers, and athletes.

## JURASSIC QUEST RAWRS THROUGH FAIR PARK



After two sold-out weekends in San Antonio, the Jurassic Quest Drive-Thru Experience migrated to Fair Park in Dallas from June 26 – July 12. The nation's best touring dinosaur exhibit transformed into an interactive drive-thru experience, featuring over 70 moving, life-size dinosaurs, and an audio tour. The first two weekends of the experience sold out before the event opened, so Spectra, managers of Fair Park, worked with Jurassic Quest to add a third weekend to their run, which sold out as well. Over 21,000 vehicles rolled through Fair Park during the event's three weekends.

# DALLAS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORT FAIR PARK MASTER PLAN



On Thursday, June 18, Fair Park First and Spectra, managers of Fair Park in Dallas, presented the 2020 Fair Park Master Plan Update to the Dallas Park and Recreation Board. The presentation was well-received by the Park Board.

“I’m not sure we’ll ever get a master plan this beautiful again,” said Calvert Collins-Bratton, Dallas Park and Recreation Board President. “This is certainly our gold standard.”

The proposed master plan includes 52 acres of new park space including a Community Park, Museum Green, and four new Gateway Parks featuring daily amenities and programming; 1,270 proposed new trees with a 40% increase in the tree canopy on the campus; a dedicated 1.5-mile internal walking and biking loop with 65,000 square feet of new Texas Blackland Prairie habitat; and a 20% reduction in impervious surfaces with 24 acres of new storm water management.

Following the presentation, the Park Board unanimously supported Fair Park First’s ability to move forward. Fair Park First is currently working with the City of Dallas staff to establish a presentation to City Council in August. Take a look at the 2020 Fair Park Master Plan Update Presentation by visiting <https://fairparkfirst.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Fair-Park-Master-Plan-June-Park-Board-Meeting-6-18-2020.pdf>.

## First National Bank Arena Seeking Director of Operations

General description:

- \* Plans and coordinates a variety of facility set ups including concerts, sports events, and trade shows
- \* Interviews, hires, trains, assigns, supervises, evaluates, and disciplines personnel
- \* Attends events and supervises event staff by serving on rotation as manager on duty
- \* Conducts inspections of the building to ensure all components are in good working order
- \* Develops and administers the operations budget; monitors approved budget and authorizes expenditures
- \* Monitors and evaluates the performance of contracted custodial and cleaning services
- \* Maintains equipment and supply inventory
- \* Develops, communicates, and monitors policies, procedures, and standards
- \* Performs other related duties as assigned

Link to full description and to apply:

<https://cho.tbe.taleo.net/dispatcher/servlet/DispatcherServlet?org=ARKASTAT2&act=redirectCws&cws=39&redirectUrl=%2Fats%2Fcareers%2Frequisition.jsp%3Frid%3D25424%26org%3DARKASTAT2%26cws%3D39>

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



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**Thank you newsletter contributors this month!**

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- Julian Bowman – Fair Park - Spectra
- Jeff Davis – Region 6 Director, College Park Center/Texas Hall/UTATickets - The University of Texas at Arlington
- Kirsten Grimes – First National Bank Arena
- Alissa Sanderson – Dickies Arena
- Jennifer Wilson - Walton Arts Center/Walmart AMP
- Aaron Zimmerman – The Tobin Center

**Past Region 6 Newsletters:** <https://www.iavm.org/regions/region-6-newsletters>