

Q2 2023

TBHF NEWSLETTER

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS BUSINESS HALL OF FAME

A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear TBHF Legends, Directors and Alumni,

We have a lot of mid-year firsts to report as we continue to find and seek new ways to grow our reach and impact. It's working! Thank you for your role in sustaining and inspiring our progress.

In spring of this year, we hosted two Titan Talks—a virtual conversation with Houston Astros owner and TBHF Legend Jim Crane and an in-person Titan Talk in partnership with the Baker Institute for Public Policy with TBHF Legend Richard Fisher. The latter was the largest event we have ever hosted outside of our annual Induction Dinner. Thank you to our friends at SWBC for making this milestone possible.

On June 1, we announced our 38, 2023 Scholar and Veteran Awardees, and a new award added to our portfolio—a named Future Texas Business Legend Award at Texas State University (supported by Hall of Fame Inductee Alan Dreeben and his wife, Barbara). In terms of past award recipients, our Scholar and Veteran Awardee engagement is at an all-time high. From a new speaker series, to elevated city-outreach events, to newly formed leadership forums in Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio—our almost 200-member Alumni Association is reaching new heights. Thank you to THE TBHF Legends and Directors who are helping drive this engagement and enhance its purpose.

We look forward to our November 2nd Induction Dinner in San Antonio. The participation of our Hall of Fame members, Directors and Alumni is critical in protecting the prestige of the induction honor and communicating the impact of our mission.

Sincerely,
Meredith Walker

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NAVIGATING ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY: A CONVERSATION WITH RICHARD FISHER

On April 19, 2023, TBHF hosted Navigating Economic Uncertainty: A Conversation with Richard Fisher, sponsored by SWBC. This TBHF Titan Talk, in partnership with the Baker Institute for Public Policy, was the Hall of Fame's first major joint event with a major policy think tank and part of a growing effort to bridge and feature the importance of business in economic policy and decision-making. Richard Fisher, who was inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame in 2019, is the former President of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.



From left to right: TBHF Legends Gary Dudley, Richard Fisher, and Charlie Amato

Fisher shared insights into the current economic situations facing our state, country, and the entire world. Audience members also got to ask questions, leading to a fascinating conversation and dialogue around the current economic challenges and opportunities.

We want to thank Charlie Amato, Gary Dudley, and the entire team at SWBC for helping make this event possible. We would also like to thank Ambassador Satterfield, John Diamond, and the team at the Baker Institute for helping organize such a fantastic event.

For those who were unable to join us in person, click [here](#) to watch.

"In one generation, we went from homeless to Harvard [...] Do I believe in the U.S.A.? Despite all the turmoil and strife, you bet I do."

RICHARD FISHER



2019 Hall of Fame Legend, Richard Fisher

2023 INDUCTEE ANNOUNCEMENT EVENT



From L to R: 2023 Hall of Fame Inductees Kit Goldsberry, Beaver Aplin, Daniel Lubetzky, Alan Dreeben, Jack Martin, and Eddie Block

TBHF gathered in San Antonio this May to celebrate our 2023 Texas Business Hall of Fame Inductees. Thank you to this year's honorees: Arch "Beaver" Aplin, III (Buc-ee's), Eddie Block & Alan Dreeben (Republic National Distributing Company), Christopher "Kit" Goldsberry, Jr. (Silver Ventures), Janet Gurwitch (Laura Mercier Cosmetics), Daniel Lubetzky (Kind), and Jack Martin (JPM Companies).

The event offered a more intimate venue and gathering for our Inductees to celebrate with their friends and family, as well as meet members of our network. TBHF Legend Graham Weston delivered remarks, welcomed our new inductees, and shared the impact of the organization.



From L to R: TBHF Director Welcome Wilson Jr., TBHF Legends Charlie Amato, Gary Dudley, Graham Weston, and Carlos Alvarez

We'd also like to acknowledge the Legends, Directors, and Alumni who joined us for this special gathering, especially those who traveled to be with us. This event was made possible by the generous support of HOLT CAT, H-E-B, The RK Group, and Texas Capital.



From L to R: David Yoskowitz, Executive Director of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Jimmie Ruth Evans, and TBHF Legend Dick Evans



John Keeton,
2023 TBHF Chairman



Eddie Block and Beaver Aplin



The Class of 2022 Future Texas Business Legend Award Recipients

2023 AWARDS RECIPIENTS AT A GLANCE

38 Future Texas Business
Legend Award Recipients

\$575,000 in funding
awarded to entrepreneurs

22 participating
universities

90% of recipients have
founded their own
business(es)

21% of recipients are
United States Veterans

Half of recipients are
currently pursuing their
graduate degree

Nearly 1/3 (32%) of
recipients are first-
generation college
students

45% of recipients are from
a historically under-
represented group

THE 2023 FUTURE TEXAS BUSINESS LEGENDS: SCHOLAR & VETERAN AWARD RECIPIENTS

Each year, the Hall of Fame awards a select number of emerging business leaders with a proven track record of professional and entrepreneurial excellence. TBHF receives hundreds of applications each year. Candidates undergo a rigorous application and competitive interview process. Thank you to the Legends, Directors, and Alumni who volunteered to partake in our interview process.

This year, we are awarding a total of \$575,000 in funding to 38 recipients from across the state. These individuals include United States Veterans, undergraduate and MBA students, entrepreneurs advocating for those with disabilities, and students pursuing corporate executive leadership roles.

To watch our virtual announcement, click [here](#).

In addition to the financial award, recipients become a permanent part of the TBHF statewide network. Collectively, this network represents the exceptional entrepreneurial nature of our state and the commitment of our top business leaders to civic duty and professional excellence.

We look forward to celebrating the recipients at our Annual Scholar & Veteran Awards Luncheon on November 2nd in San Antonio. Thank you to our luncheon co-sponsors, Deloitte and Frost.

To learn more about our Scholar & Veteran Awards program, visit our [website](#).

2023 FUTURE TEXAS BUSINESS LEGEND AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Texas Business Hall of Fame congratulates all of our 2023 Award recipients for winning this prestigious honor. This is a happy and proud moment for not just the recipient, but also for the friends and family. Welcome to the Texas Business Hall of Fame organization. We look forward to your involvement and watching your passion take you to new heights.

James Clarke
T.T. & W.F. Chao Chairman's Award
The University of Texas at Austin

Ashlee Green
AT&T Future Legend First in Family
Award
The University of Texas at Dallas

Ryan Saavedra
Shaun D. Kennedy Award of
Excellence in Empathy & Innovation

Pegah Janpak
AT&T Future Executive Leader of
Distinction Award
Baylor University

Luke Simianer
The Brett Wiggs Innovative
Leadership Award

Shane Faucheux
The Douglas L. Foshee Future Texas
Legend Veteran Award

Michael Pleasant
Nau Future Texas Legend Marine
Corps Veteran Award

Craig Cumings
The Greg Armstrong Future Texas
Legend Veteran Award

Jeremy Lowell
Future Texas Legend Veteran Award

Zach Carrell
The Paul Foster Future Texas
Business Legend Award
Baylor University

Gavin Duke
The Mitchell Family Foundation
Award
Dallas Baptist University

Zak Kos
The Mitchell Family Foundation
Award
Dallas Baptist University

Ritesh Rana
The Mitchell Family Foundation
Award
Dallas Baptist University

Cody Tran
The Ben J. Rogers Award
Lamar University

Blake Bunger
T.T. & W.F. Chao Award
Rice University

Kaeman Perkins
The SWBC Foundation Award
Sam Houston State University

April Kooiman
The Lucy Billingsley Future Texas
Business Legend Award
Southern Methodist University

Idowu Itiola
The Robert H. Dedman Award
Southern Methodist University

Amanda Uribe
The William E. "Bill" Greeley Award
St. Mary's University

Mike Ashley
The McFerrin Center for
Entrepreneurship Future Texas
Business Legend Award
Texas A&M University

Katie Calderon
The William Zartler Future Texas
Business Legend Award
Texas A&M University

Brent Bousquet
Future Texas Business Legend
Award
Texas Christian University

Cruz Untz
The Alan & Barbara Dreeben Future
Texas Business Legend Award
Texas State University

Ryan Hartman
The McLane Company Reading
Program Award
Texas Tech University

Krishan Sachdev
The Pefanis Family Award
Texas Tech University

AJ Clark
The Doug & Martha Hawthorne
Family Fund Award
Trinity University

Gabe Ogden
The Carlos and Malú Alvarez Award
Trinity University

Drew Wooten
The Mitchell Family Foundation
Award
University of Dallas

Diego De Leon
T.T. & W.F. Chao Award
University of Houston

Asmara Hagos
Future Texas Business Legend
Award
University of North Texas

Omar Abdulla
The Kelly Warren Graduate
Fellowship for Engineering
The University of Texas at Arlington

Justin Childers
The Mitchell Family Foundation
Award
The University of Texas at Arlington

Kevin Long
The Mike A. Myers Award
The University of Texas at Austin

Tamara Marshall
The Mitchell Family Foundation
Award
The University of Texas at Dallas

Amir Muriby
The Mitchell Family Foundation
Award
The University of Texas at Dallas

Tim Reazor
The Mitchell Family Foundation
Award
The University of Texas at Dallas

Javi Becerril
James and Kathleen Collins &
Vantage Bank Texas Future Texas
Business Legend Award
The University of Texas Rio Grande
Valley

Anna Almaraz
The Harvey Najim Future Texas
Business Legend Award
University of Texas at San Antonio

DIRECTOR SPOTLIGHT

KIRK EDWARDS
PRESIDENT & CEO, LATIGO PETROLEUM LLC

Q: How has your leadership style evolved throughout your career? What traits do you think have benefitted you the most?

A: My leadership style has been one of heavy volunteerism throughout my career to now being in a role of finding and enabling the next generation of leaders in our state and community we so desperately need today. I have always had the traits of humor and punctuality when and where required. I want folks to have fun as I do if we are aligned in a project together or working towards a common goal. It makes everyone enjoy the process better.

Q: How did you come to be involved with the Texas Business Hall of Fame? What has been the most rewarding thing about being a Director?

A: I have very good friends that I respect immensely and are on the TBHF board. They have been and will continue to be "champions" to me, and their knowledge and education on the organization was what intrigued me the most to join. I have enjoyed getting to know the other members I can meet through our networking or gala events and celebrating the extraordinary leaders the organization honors each year.

Click [here](#) to read Kirk's full interview.

"You must give back to the community you are working in or were brought up in and do what you can to make it better for future generations. If not, then what was all the work for in the past?"

KIRK EDWARDS



Photo Credit: Odessa American

"To set the standard for excellence, I feel the need to help others who are under my leadership, ensuring that they do not make the same business mistakes I made and guiding them to eventually surpass me."

JASON HENDRICKS



Photo Credit: TIED

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

JASON HENDRICKS
FOUNDER, TIED & FOUNDER, DALLAS CELEBRATIONS

Q: You started TIED, a Dallas-based luxury car service, in 2021. What sparked this business idea and how does TIED differ from other car-service brands? Do you have plans to expand into new markets?

A: On my 28th birthday, I went out with some friends who were tired of hearing me talk about business. My friend Johnny told me to relax and have fun. To take my mind off business, we explored renting a party bus. The prices I found shocked me, and I thought I could do better. So instead, we stayed local and enjoyed each other's company.

At the time I was enrolled in a program through a partnership with UTD and Future Founders, so the next day, I was required to conduct surveys on a business problem and discovered that many people had plans to drink and drive after their outings. Despite people telling me not to take this route, I decided to explore large group transportation. I used my savings, sold my car, and bought an all-white cargo van. It was basic at first, but I started adding seats, walls, AC, and other amenities based on customer feedback. Two months later, I met KG, the owner of Cosign Magazine, through an entrepreneur program at The Dallas Entrepreneur Center. KG was working on building a marketing piece for his business and I needed help with building my brand. With his assistance, I started receiving calls from celebrities and doing jobs for artists and actresses.

During this time, I was taking all my school learnings and applying it to my business. I would ask KG if we could have monthly meetings to evaluate our progress. I realized that we stood out by turning ordinary transportation into a VIP experience. Focusing on small details like rolling out the red carpet, offering white-glove customer service, and providing snacks and water. Our clients loved these touches. The team started to grow bigger providing more job opportunities to individuals in underserved communities. The meetings I had with my mentor Dr. Gold helped me understand the health of the business so that we can expand into new markets, starting with Austin and Houston.

Click [here](#) to read Jason's full interview.



For the past 8 months, our Executive Leadership Groups (ELG) have been meeting in Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio. We'd like to thank Morton Meyerson, Gerald Smith, Graham Weston, David Huntley, Jason McCann, Christine Hollinden, Charles Philpott, John Keeton, and LaRhessa Moon for leading these groups. Pictured from left to right: Houston ELG, San Antonio ELG, and Dallas ELG.

HIGH SCHOOL AWARD

Did you know that each year TBHF awards a high school student? The TBHF Alumni Association Outstanding High School Entrepreneur Award in Honor of Coulter and Lily Rush Hoppess comes with a \$2,000 cash prize and an invitation to attend our Annual Induction Ceremony. The award recipient also becomes a permanent part of the TBHF network, with access to events, networking and programming.

We are currently seeking applications for 2023. If you know of a Greater San Antonio / Austin high school student who has demonstrated an early inclination to entrepreneurship and business leadership, please encourage them to apply.

To learn more or submit an application, please visit <https://texasbusiness.org/outstanding-high-school-entrepreneur>. Questions? Contact pbartlett@texasbusiness.org.

GET SOCIAL WITH US

The best way to stay up-to-date on the latest TBHF news is to follow us on our social media platforms. We share exclusive content, sneak peeks, and interviews on a weekly basis. We love to connect with our members and stay in touch, so follow us today.



UPCOMING EVENTS

SAN ANTONIO ALUMNI
NETWORKING EVENT

SEPTEMBER 14
FROST TOWER
DETAILS COMING SOON

ANNUAL SCHOLAR &
VETERAN AWARDS
LUNCHEON

NOVEMBER 2
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

2023 INDUCTION DINNER &
CEREMONY
SPONSORED BY TEXAS
CAPITAL

NOVEMBER 2, 2023
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS