

★ TEXAS BUSINESS HALL of FAME

Q2 2024 NEWSLETTER

Dear TBHF Network,

It's hard to believe we are already halfway through the year. It has been an exciting – and busy – year for our organization, with so much more to come.

First and foremost, I'd like to congratulate the 2024 Scholar and Veteran Awardees on their recognition as this year's Future Legends. On behalf of the Alumni Association, I want to welcome you to our organization. This recognition marks an incredible achievement in your journey.

This award is more than a cash prize – it is a community and network with Texas' most impressive business leaders and builders. We hope long after you receive your prize, you will stay engaged with us and support our mission. The TBHF Alumni Association connects awardees with TBHF directors and legends in some pretty unique ways--fostering a vibrant community that continues to inspire. Being a member comes with many benefits like exclusive programming and network events, leadership opportunities, and service opportunities in under-served entrepreneurial communities like the Prison Entrepreneurship Program. More importantly, it is a way for us to pay our success forward and help a new generation of aspiring business leaders.

The TBHF Awards Program has funded almost 900 recipients, totaling more than \$7,000,000 since its inception. We look forward to meeting our latest class of recipients this November.

As we enter the second half of the year, I hope that we continue to grow and forge relationships together. I don't know about you, but I sure am glad we live in the great state of Texas.

Sincerely,



Mitch Cantwell
2024 TBHF Alumni Association President

ENTREPRENEURIAL X FACTOR

For the last two installments of our X-Factor series, we traveled to Dallas and Houston for titan-to-titan exchanges between TBHF Legends John Goff (Crescent Real Estate, Goff Capital), Graham Weston (Rackspace, Weston Urban, Geekdom), and Beaver Aplin (Buc-ee's). These events were pursued in partnership with Messick Peacock and Associates, SMU, and Rice University.

These conversation format events dove into the nuances of each entrepreneur's personal story—from their respective thought processes when it came to building their businesses to how they evaluate risk to the drivers and philosophy behind their community engagement. In Dallas, John Goff shared anecdotes from the early days of Crescent Real Estate, his business partnership with Richard Rainwater and Roger Staubach, and being a contrarian investor and emerging real estate trends. In Houston, Beaver Aplin and Graham focused on the massive risk, complex logistics, and unwavering customer commitment tied to the evolution on what has become the most successful travel center chain in the United States. The two legends also discussed emerging real estate trends, leadership insights, and building a lasting business. We wrapped up the event with an audience Q&A.



John Goff and Graham Weston

Tracey Huntley, David Huntley, and Brad Cheeves

"We looked for theaters where everyone was exiting the theater and we could go in and invest versus join the herd."

JOHN GOFF
on building Crescent



John Goff, David Peacock, Chris Messick, and Graham Weston

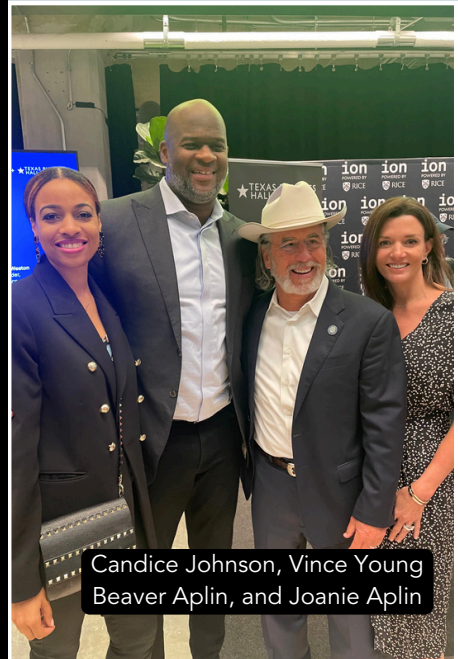


Beaver Aplin and
Graham Weston

"When happy meets happy, it's easy to be nice... People that have influence, it's not hard to be nice—it feeds off itself."

BEAVER APLIN

on the Buc-ee's employee and customer philosophy and the role of business leaders in the community



Candice Johnson, Vince Young
Beaver Aplin, and Joanie Aplin

Our Houston event was open to the public and we were overwhelmed and honored by the public interest in these Legend exchanges. Thank you to all the TBHF Legends, Directors, Alumni, and TBHF finalists who joined us for these events and for helping us bring our mission to those outside our organization for only the second time since partnering with the Baker Institute and SWBC for Richard Fisher's Economic Outlook in 2023. We are planning more for 2025.

If you missed these events, click [here](#) to watch live recordings.

Photography: Kyle Klose

Videography: Caden Arras, The PR Spot (Goff) and White Cloud Media (Aplin)





Tim Crowley, David Huntley, Joe Gebbia, Daniel Lubetzky, and Tom Foster

AUSTIN ANNOUNCEMENT EVENT FOR JOE GEBBIA

In early May we kicked off our 2024 Inductee celebrations with a special cocktail celebration honoring Joe Gebbia. Joe, the co-founder of Airbnb and co-founder of Samara, will be inducted into the Hall of Fame this November in Dallas.

The event kicked off with a networking happy hour, featuring a signature cocktail from Desert Door Distillery (founded by TBHF Alum Judson Kauffman), as well as spirits and beverages provided by Silver Eagle (TBHF Legend John Nau), 1693 Distillery (TBHF Legends Charlie Amato and Gary Dudley), and Longtab Brewery (2024 Veteran Awardee David Holland).

Tim Crowley, Regional President, Austin Region for Frost Bank, delivered welcome remarks, followed by a special appearance from TBHF Legend Daniel Lubetzky, who shared the impact of the honor.

We then moved into a fascinating and insightful Q&A with Joe, moderated by *Texas Monthly* and *Inc.* editor-at-large, Tom Foster. They delved into the roots of Airbnb and Joe's current venture Samara, an innovative startup that aims to provide high-design prefab accessory dwelling units (ADUs).

Thank you to Frost for their generous sponsorship.

Photography: Sarah E Cooper Design & Photography



TBHF Legend Daniel Lubetzky



Joe Gebbia and Tom Foster

DALLAS ANNOUNCEMENT EVENT

Later in May, TBHF was back in Dallas for a special reception, honoring three of our 2024 Inductees. We gathered at SMU to celebrate Michael M. Boone (Haynes and Boone), Kathleen S. Hildreth (M1 Support Services), and David B. Miller (EnCap).

The event featured special remarks from Rod Washington, Frost Dallas Regional President. TBHF Legend Richard Fisher also spoke, sharing his experience with the organization and the significance of his induction in 2019.

A huge thanks to SMU for providing the venue for this wonderful event. This celebration would not have been possible without the generous sponsorship of Frost.

Mike, Kathy, and David will be formally inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame alongside Joe Gebbia (Airbnb), David Robinson (Carver Academy), and Taylor Sheridan (Yellowstone) on November 13th in Dallas.

Photography: Kyle Klose



Carolyn and David Miller



Kathy and Brad Hildreth



TBHF Directors Kevin Ryan, Diane McNulty, and Brad Rejebian



TBHF Alums Jake Yarckin, Holt Dorris, Zach Carrell, and Wade McCrory



TBHF Legend Richard Fisher



David Huntley, Tracey Huntley, Patricia Burruss, and Martina Lemond Dixon



Marla and Mike Boone

Excellence invokes a vision that all ships must rise with the tide, not just a handful, as a result of a businessman or businesswoman's efforts. It can't be simply a celebration of the self, but rather a celebration of all things business and community.

JONATHAN GRAMMER



DIRECTOR SPOTLIGHT: JONATHAN GRAMMER

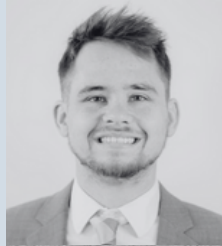
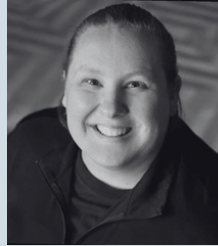
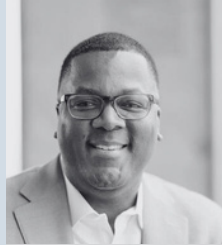
**Grammer Law Group, Founder;
Grammer Land & Exploration Corporation,
Founder**

Amarillo

Q: Your career has spanned both renewable energy and traditional oil and gas development. With over \$1 billion worth of development projects and acquisitions advised through your company, how do you identify and capitalize on lucrative opportunities in the energy sector?

A: I've been fortunate to observe how all the energy sources are interconnected. Each of them have needs that require our services and many of the different sectors are more closely related to each other than people realize. Because we dedicate so much effort towards researching first hand the needs of the industry, we're usually able to capitalize on them and also avoid those areas that are not timely or not justified by true market conditions.

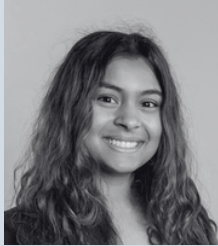
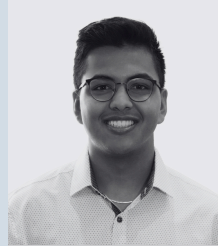
Click [here](#) to read Jonathan's full interview.



At the end of May, TBHF announced the Class of 2024 Future Texas Business Legend Award Recipients.

The Future Texas Business Legend Awards program was established in 1986. At the time, we were grateful to support a tiny number of promising MBA scholars with \$1,000 prizes at a few select universities. Today, we award up to 40 \$15,000+ prizes at 24 institutions of higher learning throughout the state of Texas and also fund in the Veteran entrepreneurial community and high school entrepreneurial space. In addition to the financial prize we award, our goal is to provide a bridge between the most transformational servant-leaders in our state and the most promising business leaders of tomorrow who we identify through our competitive selection process. Our hope is this bridge results in a lasting relationship with our organization and the values its people represent.

After a very competitive interview process, 34 individuals have been selected. To watch our announcement video, please click [here](#). And make sure you are following us on social media, where each week we spotlight our awardees so you can learn more about their impressive accomplishments.



CLASS OF 2024 AWARD RECIPIENTS

EMMA KONET

T.T. & W.F. Chao Chairman's Award

LARISSA MARTINEZ

Shaun D. Kennedy Award of Excellence in Empathy
& Innovation

KIM MCCORMACK

AT&T Future Executive Leader of Distinction Award

SIDDHARTH THAKUR

The Brett Wiggs Innovative Leadership Award

EDWARD CRAWFORD

Greg Armstrong Future Texas Legend Veteran Award

DENNIS CAIL

Douglas L. Foshee Future Texas Legend
Veteran Award

JOSH LAWTON

The Pefanis Future Texas Legend Veteran Award

FRANK COPPERSMITH

Miller Family Future Texas Legend Veteran Award

LUKE BARNES

Nau Future Texas Legend Marine Corps
Veteran Award

DAVID HOLLAND

Future Texas Legend Army Veteran Award
(in honor of James Galloway)

VICTORIA CLARK

The Paul Foster Future Texas Business Legend Award

CHRISTOPHER CASTLE

The Mitchell Family Foundation Award

JARET V. GRAYSON

The Mitchell Family Foundation Award

MICAH HARKLESS

The Mitchell Family Foundation Award

CALEB BUSE

The Ben J. Rogers Award

JONAH DODDRIDGE

T.T. & W.F. Chao Award

MICHELLE M.W. GUZMAN

The SWBC Foundation Award

JUDE LUGO

The Robert H. Dedman Award

BEN HODGE

The William E. "Bill" Greehey Award

HASSAN SBEITI

The William Zartler Future Texas Business
Legend Award

WYATT STINEBAUGH

The McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship
Future Texas Business Legend Award

KASSIDY ALLEN

Future Texas Business Legend Award

CALEB BIGGURS

The Mitchell Family Foundation Award

MASON ESPEDAL

The Alan & Barbara Dreeben Future Texas
Business Legend Award

MICHELLE NG

The Doug & Martha Hawthorne Family Fund Award

XAVIER M. PIPER

The Mitchell Family Foundation Award

PRANJAL SHETH

T.T. & W.F. Chao Award

ANTHONY KELLEY

The Kelcy Warren Graduate Fellowship
for Engineering

HAILEY BROWN

The Mike A. Myers Award

JOHN GRAHAM

The Mitchell Family Foundation Award

ANISHA HOLLA

The Mitchell Family Foundation Award

TOM VAZHEKATT

The Mitchell Family Foundation Award

JENNIFER OLIVOS

James And Kathleen Collins & Vantage Bank Texas
Future Texas Business Legend Award

JOHN NAVARRO

The Harvey Najim Future Texa Business
Legend Award

ATTEND THE 2024 INDUCTION DINNER

We hope you will join us on November 13th in Dallas for the 2024 Induction Dinner & Ceremony. Please [visit our website](#) for more information.

Space is filling up fast, so we strongly encourage you to reserve your seat today. As a reminder, TBHF Alumni Association Members are allotted 2 discounted tickets at \$350 each and \$1,500 each thereafter.

If you have questions about the dinner or need assistance with your ticket/table purchase, please contact Denise Cinadr at dcinadr@texasbusiness.org.

SUPPORT THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Are you a past TBHF scholar or veteran award recipient? If so, consider joining the TBHF Alumni Association today. You'll unlock exclusive benefits and special member-only perks. For questions about the Alumni Association or if you need assistance signing up, renewing, or upgrading your membership, please contact Patrice Bartlett at 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

September 12
San Antonio, TX
Witte Museum Memorial Auditorium
The 2024 Distinguished Service Award Reception Honoring Harriet Helmle

Fall 2024 -
Invitation Coming Soon
Alumni Association
Networking Events

November 13
Dallas, TX
SMU
2024 Future Texas Business Legend Awards Luncheon

November 13
Dallas, TX
Omni Dallas Hotel
2024 Induction Dinner & Ceremony