

Under the Lone Star

The Official Newsletter of the Texas Historical Foundation



The Cindy Walker House and Foundation

Are you familiar with the 1955 country music classic "You Don't Know Me"? How about "Take Me In Your Arms and Hold Me"? Both songs were written by Cindy Walker, a Texas native and Hall of Fame songwriter. Walker's home in Mexia, Texas, had fallen into disrepair over the years and was listed as endangered by [Preservation Texas](#) and the [National Trust for Historic Preservation](#). In 2022, the Cindy Walker Foundation purchased the property with the intent of transforming it into a museum and community music center dedicated to Walker's legacy. Work is moving forward, and earlier this month THF visited Mexia to present a grant to the Foundation that will be used for the renovation and to tour the property. We are excited for this home to be filled with music again one day soon! To learn more about the project and Cindy Walker, please visit the [Cindy Walker Foundation's website](#).



[More Photos](#)

THF News



SAVE *the* DATE

2025 AWARD *presented to*

PHOENIX 1 RESTORATION AND CONSTRUCTION, LTD.

Star of Texas

TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION EST. 1954

2025 STAR OF TEXAS AWARD TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025
Bullock State History Museum | Austin, TX

Join us for the 2025 Star of Texas event! Tickets and sponsorships are now available for this prestigious event that recognizes individuals and businesses for their exceptional contributions toward preserving Texas history and culture while inspiring its future. The Texas Historical Foundation has selected Dale Sellers and Phoenix 1 Restoration and Construction as the 2025 Star of Texas Award recipient for their incredible work on over 500 historic preservation projects across Texas, including the state capitol building.

Purchase Tickets

Sponsorship Information



THF Directors Visit College Station

THF Directors had an excellent visit to College Station this month. Our board meetings occur in a different Texas city every quarter, combined with activities that help us learn about the local history. We kicked off our visit with a tour of the history mural at College Station's City Hall. The following day featured an architectural tour of the Texas A&M campus, led by David Woodcock, Director Emeritus of the Texas A&M Center for Heritage Conservation and co-author of "Architecture That Speaks."

Later that afternoon, we were given an informative tour of the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum, where we attended a private screening of "The Stones Are Speaking," an impressive film by Olive Talley. This film highlights the significance of the Gault archaeological site in Central Texas and the efforts of archaeologist Michael Collins to preserve it, and was supported by a THF grant (follow [Gault Film](#) for future updates on this project).

During our stay, we also enjoyed several engaging speakers, including Cody Whitten from Gate 12 Bar & Grill, and attended dinner presentations from the Texas A&M College of Architecture Center for Heritage Conservation.



Thank you to the **Friends of Wheelock School House** for hosting our Winter 2025 board meeting! The school was built in 1908, and the group won the top prize at THF's [2024 Duda Awards](#) to put towards its renovation. The school building serves as an important landmark and community center for this small Central Texas town.

Winter 2025 Board Meeting Photos

Grants Update



Upcoming Screenings for THF-Supported Film Featuring Liz Carpenter

The film "Shaking It Up: The Life & Times of Liz Carpenter" chronicles the career of Liz Carpenter, a journalist, White House advisor, women's rights advocate, and native Texan. Supported in part by a THF grant in 2024, the documentary is directed by Christy Carpenter and Abby Ginzberg. It combines archival footage and interviews with friends and colleagues to trace Carpenter's impact on 20th-century history in Texas and beyond. Upcoming screenings are available below.

- February 11 - Austin @ Austin PBS
- February 15 - Galveston @ Rosenberg Library & Galveston College
- February 22 - Austin @ Lady Bird Johnson Center for Wildlife Research
- March 4 - Houston @ Center for Public History & University of Houston
- March 6 – Dallas @ The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza
- March 8 - Ft. Worth @ The Modern Museum of Art of Ft. Worth
- March 16 - Houston @ Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
- April 7 - Austin @ Ann Richards School for Young Leaders

Screenings



African American Heritage Project

THF President & CEO David Preziosi and Board Member Sylvia Middlebrook visited the Clay House in Nacogdoches this month to present its 2024 grant to the African American Heritage Project. The group was granted funds to support the installation of an ADA-compliant entryway and to restore the original mantelpiece. The house, built in 1900, was home to Charlie Clay, a local grocer and founding deacon of the adjacent Zion Hill Baptist Church, and it is widely considered to be among the finest examples of the District's distinctive vernacular architecture. You can find out more information about Clay House in our previous [blog post](#).

Events



VIEW OUR CALENDAR



CONTRIBUTING

Felicia Foster, Port Aransas
James Pruitt, Corpus Christi
Bill Smith, Duncanville

INSTITUTION

Baylor University Libraries - Texas Collections, Waco
Elgin Oral History Project
Midland Historical Society
National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation, Arlington
Night Heron Media, Fayetteville
North Texas Masonic Historic Museum & Library Foundation, Plano
Texas Heritage Trails LLC / Authentic Texas, Abilene
Tom Lea Institute, El Paso

Thank you for your donation

Joe French III, Georgetown



3003 Swiss Avenue | Dallas, TX 75204 US

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.