MORE TO DO AT THE BRISCOE
SHOP AT THE HENDLER FAMILY MUSEUM STORE
Browse western-inspired gifts, homeware, jewelry, art prints, and more at our Museum Store located next to the lobby or order online by scanning the QR code.

GUIDED TOURS
Want to share the West with a group? Schedule a guided tour with one of our knowledgeable docents through our Education team. Call 210-299-4499 or email us tours@briscoemuseum.org to book a tour.

YEARLY EVENTS AND PROGRAMMING
- Locals Days: Every first Sunday of the month, Bexar county residents receive free admission.
- Full STEAM Ahead: Every third Saturday, the Briscoe hosts a hands-on activity for kids and families.
- March (3rd weekend): Annual Night of Artists Exhibition and Sale (briscoemuseum.org/noa)
- April: Fiesta River Parade Party
- July (4th Saturday): National Day of the Cowboy Celebration
- November: Yanaguana Indian Arts Festival
- December: Cowboy Christmas
View the full calendar of events at briscoemuseum.org/calendar

BECOME A BRISCOE MEMBER
Join today to experience the legacy and tradition of Western Art, only at the Briscoe, in the heart of downtown San Antonio (6 blocks to Riverwalk). To join today or to learn more about the benefits of membership, call 210-507-4863.

ABOUT OUR HOME
The museum is named in honor of Texas Governor Dolph Briscoe, Jr., and his wife, Janey Slaughter Briscoe, who envisioned a museum that would share the story of Western heritage and the people behind that story. Established along the banks of the San Antonio River, the museum’s main building served as San Antonio’s original public library in the 1930s followed by the Hertzberg Circus Collection and Museum in the 1980s. After an extensive renovation, the Briscoe Western Art Museum opened in 2013. A branch of the San Antonio Public Library can be found on the first floor, honoring the building’s roots.

To read more, visit briscoemuseum.org/history

OUR MISSION
Through the preservation of the art, history, and culture of the American West, the Briscoe Western Art Museum inspires and educates the public with engaging exhibitions, educational programs, and public events reflective of the region’s rich traditions and shared heritage.

Each of the four pillars of the Western art genre are vividly illustrated by the Briscoe’s immersive collection of art and artifacts.

CONNECT WITH US
Love what you’ve seen and learned?
- Stay Up to Date: Receive a copy of our online newsletter, Beyond the Briscoe by providing the front desk staff with your email.
- Join Our Team: Ask our front desk team about our docent training program or volunteer opportunities.
- Interested in Hosting an Event?: Ask the visitor’s desk for more information about the Jack Guenther Pavilion and learn about how you can host your next corporate meeting or social occasion at the Briscoe.
- Follow us on social media: @briscoemuseum

ABOUT OUR HOME

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OU MISSION

SOURCE: BRISCOE WESTERN ART MUSEUM
WELCOME
Welcome to the Briscoe Western Art Museum. The West starts here, so step inside to experience the art and artifacts that tell the stories of the American West.

Western art is a unique American art form and we are proud to share it with you. The cowboy, vaquero, American Indian, and the vast beauty of the Western landscape make up the four pillars of Western art. These subjects are intertwined through the drawings, paintings, sculptures, and artifacts you’ll enjoy during your visit. As our cultures shift, so too does our interpretation of Western art. Let the stories, and their timeless resonance, remain the same.

We hope you enjoy reading and sharing our story with us. Share your experience on social media by tagging us: @briscoemuseum

PERMANENT GALLERIES

The stories of the American West live within us all, no matter if you were raised in the middle of a bustling city or in the vast countryside. Through our shared heritage, the values that the land and the stories that are told here both to where we are today. We recommend you begin your journey West with the Briscoe by viewing our introductory video on Level One before you visit Level Two, making your way back down.

WELCOME

New Works Gallery: Updated quarterly, the gallery is considered the artwork’s debut into the Briscoe collection. As our collection grows, you can see the latest acquisitions and loans to the permanent collection.

LEVEL ONE

AESTHETIC AWARENESS

Does the work show detail and accuracy to its subject?

What point of view is the artist communicating?

COMPOSITION

Is the work balanced in color, pattern, and use of space?

Is the artist skilled? Do their figures have structure?

TECHNIQUE

Does this work fit within a known theme or depict a popular landscape/figure?

ORIGINALITY

Does the work show originality and stand out from other works of its time?

PILLARS OF THE WEST

Each of the four pillars of the Western art genre are featured by our grand fireplace. This gallery offers nostalgic memorabilia and is a restful place to find a seat to engage with the museum's founder and former Texas Governor.

MCNULT SCULPTURE GARDEN

The 35 works of art that surround the museum's physical footprint aid in the genre.

LEVEL TWO

Southwest and Native American Art: View works from artists who have defined the style of Southwest Art from the 1890s to today as well as art created by Native peoples of the Americas. An important part of Western art, Native American heritage is one of the pillars of the genre.

Governor Dolph Briscoe Jr. Corner: Governor Dolph Briscoe and his wife Janey envisioned a museum that would preserve the stories of struggle and perseverance of people who held a common bond to make it come to life. See his desk and learn about the museum’s founder and former Texas Governor.

Cross the Sky Bridge to the Jack Quintero Pavilion

Featured Special Exhibitions include:

SWC 2023–2024

Barbara B. and John A. Hines Special Exhibition

This exhibition, one of the premier Western Art exhibitions in the world, offers the fastest transportation in the West, and it was an integral part of our shared heritage. The values that the land and the stories that are told here both.

The Briscoe offers a rotating schedule of temporary exhibitions. These must-see shows feature artworks by Western women artists and portrayals of Western women.

Women are an important part of the foundation of the West. This permanent gallery features artworks by Western women artists and portrayals of women.

Gloria Gaines Clingman Education Gallery:

From Selena Barbie Doll to a Roy Rogers lunchbox, and exquisite pottery and beading, this gallery offers nostalgic memorabilia and is a restful place to find a seat to engage with the museum's founder and former Texas Governor.

Ruth Bowman Bowers Women of the West Gallery:

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