



**The 1911 Group Guide**  
*SMU Alumni-Founded Businesses*

Volume 1 | 2026



# Welcome to

# The 1911 Group Guide

## to SMU Alumni-Founded Businesses

The 1911 Group is the premier Southern Methodist University alumni organization, created by two SMU graduates who wanted to strengthen the community from which they came. Founded in 2023 by Mitchell Brown (Dedman College '10, Cox School of Business MBA '20) and Lindsey Marsh Brown (Dedman School of Law '13), the organization provides a place for alumni to connect, collaborate, and build meaningful relationships.

Since launching our membership program in 2025, we have grown to more than 300 members and engaged over 1,000 alumni through our events and programming.

Our offerings include industry-focused luncheons with notable speakers, leadership programming, recognition opportunities through our SMU Stories podcast highlighting alumni and their paths from SMU to success, and private dinners at upscale Dallas restaurants.

### Our mission is simple:

*elevate SMU alumni and expand opportunities throughout the network.*

---

### What This Guidebook Highlights

This first edition of *The 1911 Group Guidebook* features outstanding businesses founded or led by SMU alumni, as well as notable services and providers across the alumni network. It showcases the entrepreneurs, founders, and leaders who are building companies worthy of recognition and support.

---

### The Purpose of This Guidebook

SMU alumni owned businesses deserve greater visibility. This guidebook brings together our members and alumni led companies so the community can discover, support, and celebrate the brands created by SMU graduates.



# Join Us

## Why Join?

The 1911 Group connects accomplished SMU alumni across industries through high impact events that drive growth, build meaningful connections, and create strategic partnerships across Dallas–Fort Worth.

## Members receive access to:

- A seasonal series of industry-focused luncheons featuring notable speakers from business, sports, and related fields.
- Private dinners hosted at premier Dallas venues, along with special events that highlight and support SMU-founded and alumni-led businesses.
- A multi-session leadership development program guided by experts in the field.

For alumni looking to strengthen their connection to SMU, The 1911 Group provides a community built on shared ambition, meaningful engagement, and lasting relationships.



## Apply now

For more information or to apply for membership, please scan the QR code.





## Rogers Healy

Founder + CEO | *Meadows School of the Arts '03*

**MorrisonSeger.com**

 @morrisonseger

 morrison-seger

 @rogershealy

 rogershealy

# MORRISON SEGER

---

Venture Capital Partners



# Alec Keating

Alec Keating (Cox School of Business, 2020) is the President of Keating Resources, a real estate development firm with assets across the US.



# DEER MOUNTAIN VILLAGE

## Get To Know Alec Keating

Keating Resources has become known for acquiring and repositioning assets that are undervalued relative to replacement cost or otherwise require creative redevelopment. They have invested across many sectors, including agriculture, industrial, office, multifamily, mining, port terminals, rail terminals, casinos, and a ski mountain.

For Alec, a particular standout in their acquisitions is Deer Mountain Village, KR's private mountain community in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

He's a big outdoor enthusiast, and is known to hike across DMV whenever he has the opportunity, which is no small feat, since the summit of 6,654 feet is the highest elevation community east of the Rocky Mountains in America.

Keating Resources has made substantial investments in the property, and have turned it into an elevated destination (no pun intended). Alec and the team at KR made South Dakota real estate history in 2024 when they sold the first \$1 million residential lot in South Dakota History at Deer Mountain Village.

Since joining Keating Resources upon graduating from SMU, Alec has completed acquisitions, development, and dispositions in excess of \$200 million in value. Majoring in Real Estate Finance (BBA) at SMU made an undertaking like Keating Resources possible. He also married his wife, Arden, in 2024, after meeting her on campus in 2018. To say SMU has been instrumental in his journey thus far would be an understatement. In that vein, he's always happy to connect with fellow SMU alumni, and see how he can give back. In his free time, in addition to hiking and skiing, Alec enjoys traveling and spending time with his wife, Arden, and his friends and family.

*Alec Keating*

Alec Keating  
Alec@KeatingResources.com  
(630) 648-9967

Alec  
 @aleckeating  
 @alec-keating-7b80a315a

DMV  
 @deermountainvillage

Keating Resources  
 @keating-resources





**Benjamin Lavine**

Owner

*Cox School of Business '98*

**stoneacorn.com**

**f** @StoneAcornBuilders

**@** @stoneacornbuilders

**p** stoneacornbuilders

**in** @stoneacornbuilders





**PICTURED LEFT**

## Beverly Skyline project

Austin, TX | 2023



**PICTURED ABOVE AND RIGHT**

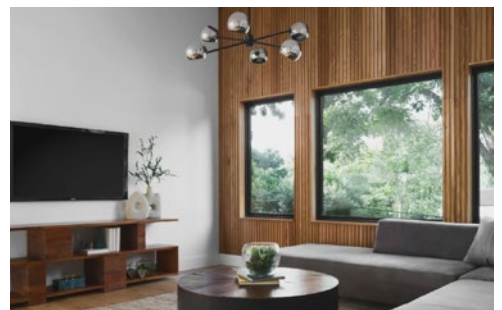
## Whiteway Drive project

Austin, TX | 2024

**PICTURED LEFT**

## Holly Street project

Houston, TX | 2018



# Bea COLETTE

delivering European elegance to your doorstep

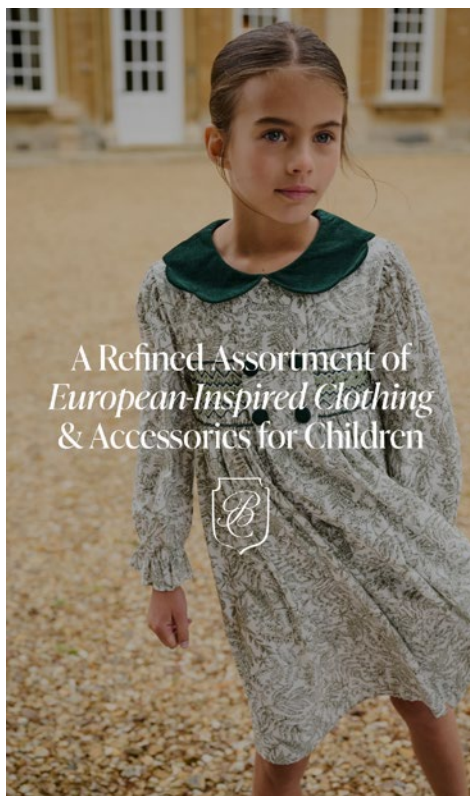


**Meghan Guffey**

Founder & CEO

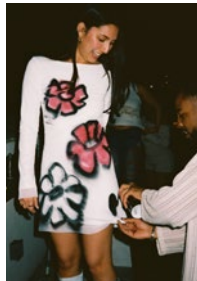
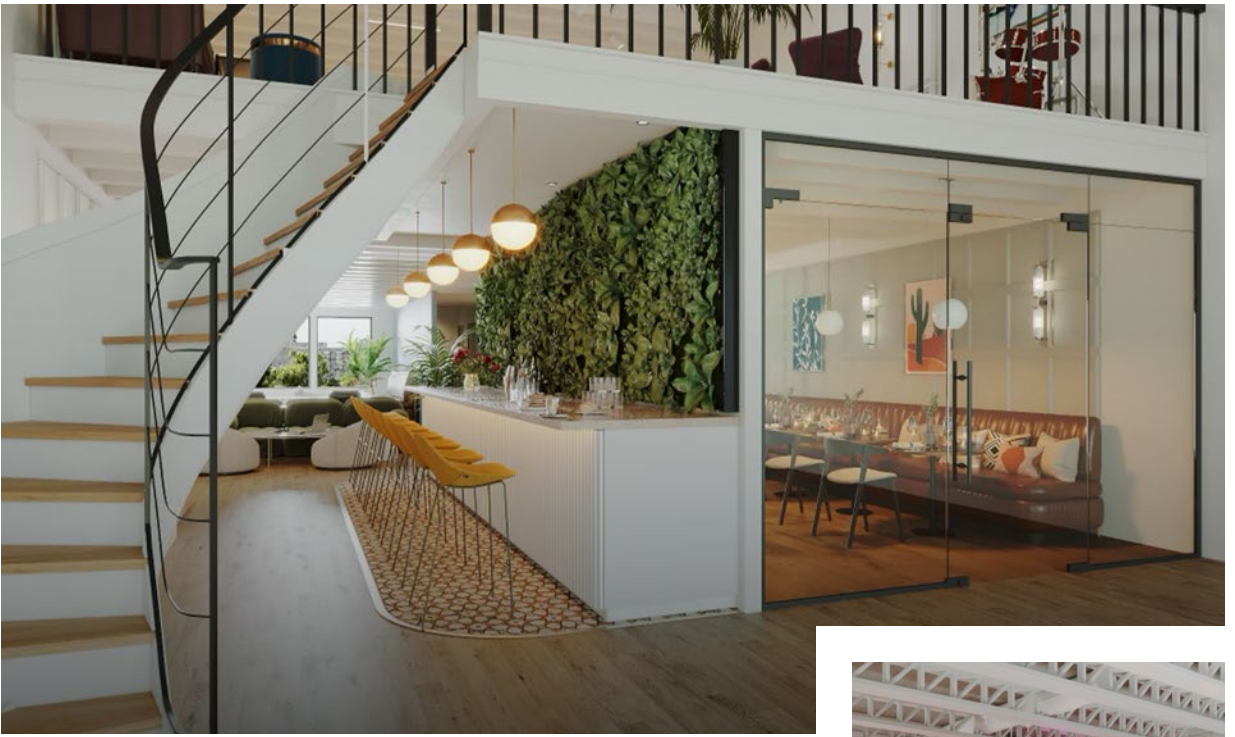
*Meadows School of the Arts '12*

[beacollette.com](http://beacollette.com)



A Refined Assortment of  
*European-Inspired Clothing*  
& Accessories for Children





## Ra Kazadi

Co-Founder, Chief Brand Officer  
NOSTA and Nostalgia and Noise

*Meadows School of the Arts '22*

PICTURED ABOVE

*Nosta*

**withnosta.com**

📷 @withnosta

PICTURED LEFT

*Nostalgia and Noise*

**nostalgia-noise.com**

📷 @nostalgiaandnoise

🎵 @nostalgiaandnoise



# Brady Wood

CEO

WoodHouse, a Dallas-based experiential hospitality group

[woodhouseus.com](http://woodhouseus.com)

---

PICTURED RIGHT AND BELOW

## *Banner House at T Bar M*

North Texas's premier destination for tennis and racquet sports.

[thebannerhouse.com](http://thebannerhouse.com)

📷 @bannerhousedallas



PICTURED RIGHT

## *Park House*

A private members' club dedicated to curating world-class, culturally enriched experiences—both inside and outside of the house.





PICTURED LEFT

*José*

A regional Mexican restaurant celebrating Mexico's rich culinary diversity.

**jose.mx**

📷 @joseonlovers



**Brittany Cobb**

Founder + CEO

*Meadows School of the Arts '05*

**fleastyle.com**

f @fleastyleLLC

ig @fleastyle

p fleastyle

td @fleastyle

yt @FleaStyle



**FLEASTYLE**  
THE ORIGINAL HAT BAR



# LE BLOOM



**Layne Tenenbaum**

Owner & Founder

*Cox School of Business '21*

[lebloomdallas.com](http://lebloomdallas.com)

📷 @lebloomdallas

🎵 @lebloomdallas



THRIVE  
AVIATION



## Curtis Edenfield

CEO & Co-Founder

*Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences '09*



**Above your standards. Beyond your expectations.**

**flythrive.com**

**f** Thrive Aviation

**@** @thriveaviation

**in** @thrive-aviation

THE  
**LUMEN**  
DAL **ROOM** TEX

EST. 2016



**Hilary Cinque**

Co-Founder & Creative

*Meadows School of the Arts '13*

**thelumenroom.com**

📷 @thelumenroom





# stonethrow

FAMILIES ONLY

A PRIVATE CLUB EXCLUSIVELY FOR FAMILIES ONLY

*Now under construction in East Dallas, opening 2027.*



**Nick Clark**

Co-founder

*Cox School of Business '05*

**Dawson Williams**

Co-founder

*Dedman College of  
Humanities and Sciences '14*

[stonethrowclub.com](http://stonethrowclub.com)

📷 @stonethrowclub





# JESSICA WOOD

interiors

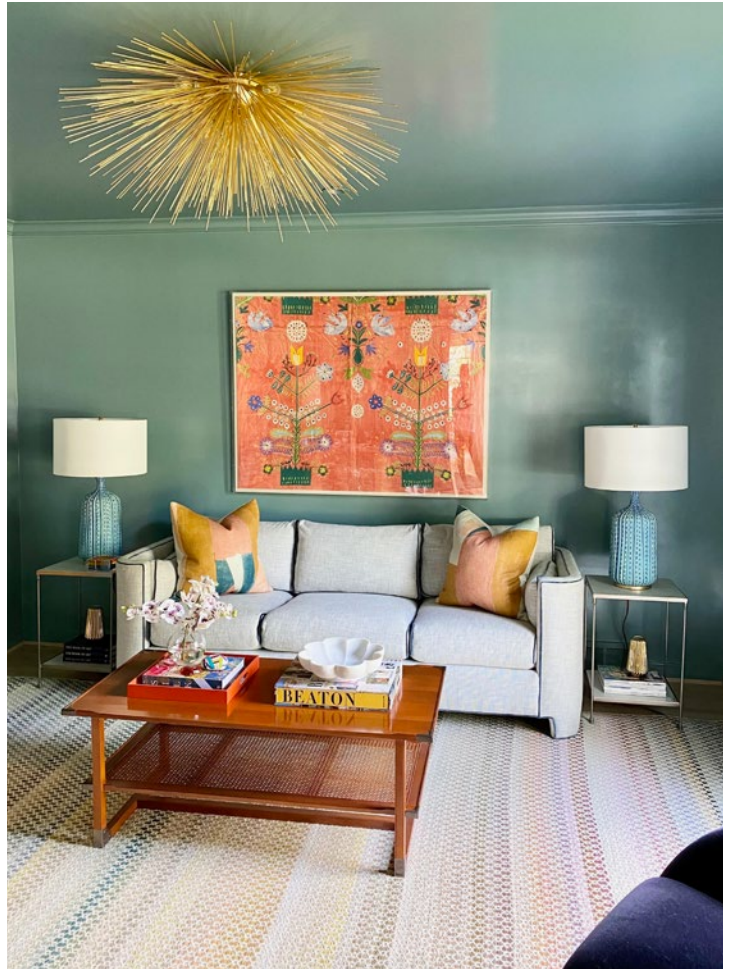


**Jessica Hipschen**

Owner/Lead Designer

*Meadows School of the Arts '05*

📷 @jessica\_wood\_interiors





---

PROBITY ADVISORS, INC.<sup>®</sup>

---

*Helping Individuals and Families Create and Conserve Wealth*

Financial Planning • Estate Planning • Portfolio Management

**Porter L. “Buddy” Ozanne, III**

President | *Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences '70*

[probityadvisors.com](http://probityadvisors.com)

**f** ProbityAdvisors   **in** @probityadvisors



**Nick Natour**

Owner

*Dedman College of Humanities  
and Sciences '17*

*Cox School of Business '23*

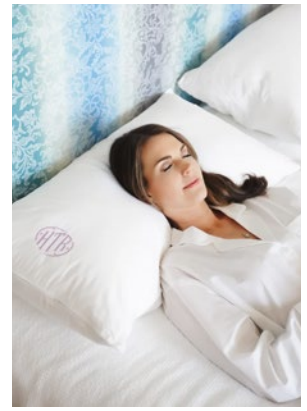


[mignonplano.com](http://mignonplano.com)

[f mignonplanotx](https://www.facebook.com/mignonplanotx)

[@mignon\\_plano](https://www.instagram.com/@mignon_plano)

[X @mignonplano](https://twitter.com/@mignonplano)





# THE PILLOW BAR®

**Connie Kleinert Babikian**  
President

*Cox School of Business '12*  
*Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences '12*

[thepillowbar.com](http://thepillowbar.com)

 @thepillowbar

 @thepillowbar



DINE

..... *with* .....

SMU

ALUMNI

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SMU DINING DESTINATIONS

## MORNING RITUALS

### **La La Land Kind Café**

Francois Reihani

### **Le Bloom**

Layne Tenenbaum

## LUNCH & LEISURE

### **Pok The Raw Bar & sibling concept Namu**

Brandon Cohanim

### **Milo Butterfingers**

Len Critcher

### **Park House**

Brady Wood

## CLASSICS

### **Kuby's**

Karl Kuby Sr.

### **Shugs Bagels**

Justin Shugrue

## NEW & NOTEWORTHY

### **Mamani**

Brandon Cohanim

### **il Bracco**

Robert Quick

## EVENING ICONS

### **José**

Brady Wood

### **Café Pacific Restaurants Inc.**

Jack Knox

### **Duro Hospitality: Mister Charles, Cafe Duro, Sister, El Carlos Elegante, Normans Western Japanese Grill**

Chas Martin

### **Vandelay Hospitality Group: Hudson House, D.L. Mack's, Jack & Harry's, Le Bistrot Bar Sardine, Drake's Hollywood, Slider & Blues, and Anchor Sushi Bar**

Hunter Pond

### **Urban Taco**

Markus Pineyro

### **Roly Poly**

Linda Wolf and Julie Reid

### **The Rustic**

Josh Sepkowitz and Kyle Noonan

### **Chelsea Corner**

Len Critcher

### **Inwood Tavern**

Len Critcher

### **Lakewood Brewing Company**

Wim Bens

### **Checked Past Winery**

Sandro DiSanto

### **Maple and Motor**

Austen Wright

## DESSERT

### **Baldo's Scoop Shop Café**

Schuyler Grey, Will Ammons, and Tyler Kleinert



# COMPASS


SCHOOL OF TEXAS


**Frances Mitchell**

Co-Founder and Secretary of the Board

*Cox School of Business '10*

[compasschooltx.org](http://compasschooltx.org)

 [Compass-School-of-Texas](https://www.facebook.com/Compass-School-of-Texas)

 [@compasschooltx](https://www.instagram.com/compasschooltx)





**LIVE  
LOVE  
POP!**

[livelovepop.com](http://livelovepop.com)

📷 @livelovepop

🎵 @livelovepop

✂️ @livelovepopLLC



**Lauren (Brundage) Mariel**  
CEO & Founder

*Dedman College of Humanities  
and Sciences '10*



**Andrea North Lamarsaude**

Owner | *Cox School of Business '82*

[artonmaindallas.com](http://artonmaindallas.com)

**f** @artonmaindallas   **@** @artonmaindallas

**PICTURED BELOW**

*Tranquility*, watercolor, acrylic ink, oil pastels, ink pencils, dried flowers and collage on watercolor paper, 24x24 in.





# SMU<sup>®</sup> Cox School of Business



[smu.edu/cox](https://smu.edu/cox)

f @smucox

@smucox

in @smucox

X @smucox

@coxschoolofbusiness



***THE WAY WE PLAY***

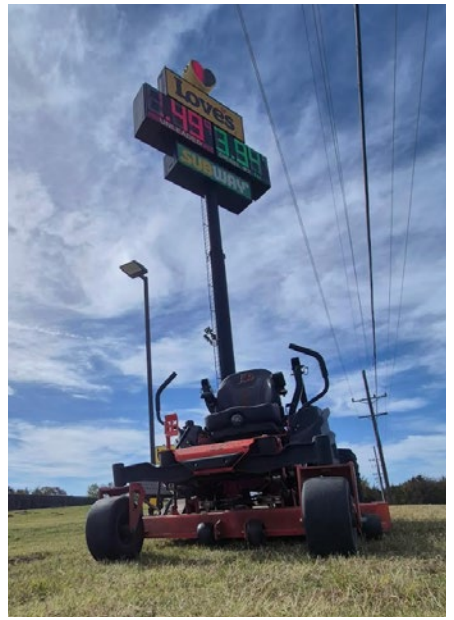
**Esteban Mariel, Manuel Mariel**  
Founders/Owners

*Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences '09*

**cityfutsal.com**

**f** CityFutsal    **@**cityfutsal    **d** @city\_futsal





**OPW  
SOLUTIONS**  
YOUR PROPERTY, OUR PRIORITY

[opwsolutions.com](http://opwsolutions.com)

f OPW Commercial Services    @opwsolutions  
🎵 @teamopw    @opwcommercial

**AJ Krow**  
Owner

*Dedman College of  
Humanities and  
Sciences '13*

# OMISDIGITAL

## THE MODERN WEB DESIGN AGENCY

**David Sassower**

Founder and CEO

*Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences '25*

**omisdigital.com** | **in** @omisdigital

# Saint Spritz

*Saint Spritz is a wine-based collection of premium spritzes in a can inspired by iconic Italian flavors. A commitment to creating a better-for-you, ready-to-drink spritz — no added sugar, no artificial sweeteners or dyes, low alcohol, and made with real juice; naturally gluten- and vegan-free.*



## **Mallory Vaughan Patton**

Co-Founder, Chief Sales Officer

*Meadows School of the Arts '10*

## **Jordan Cunningham**

Chief Brand Officer

*Meadows School of the Arts '08*

## **Leah Mitchell**

National Field Marketing Director

*Meadows School of the Arts '12*



[saintspritz.com](https://saintspritz.com)

f SaintSpritz    @saintspritz    @saintspritz    @saint-spritz    @malloryvaughanpatton

**Matt Ayres**

*Meadows School of the Arts '92*



[www.upshotgoods.net](http://www.upshotgoods.net)

We produce quality goods. **YOUR BRAND. YOUR WAY.**





# Jackson Walker

Texas' Largest Law Firm



[jw.com](http://jw.com)

**f** @JacksonWalkerLLP

**@** @jacksonwalker\_llp

**in** @jackson-walker-llp

Providing a higher level of personal service since 1964.



TEXAS

Security National Bank remains privately held and family-owned, with Landen family members in bank leadership. (Shown left to right): James E. Landen, Jr. '10, Executive Vice President, Chief Revenue Officer and Texas Market President; James "Jim" V. Huerter III, Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer and Nebraska Market President; Clarence "C.L." Landen III, Chief Operating Officer; and James "Jim" E. Landen Sr. '82, Executive Chairman.

[securitynational.bank](https://www.securitynational.bank)

[f @SNBofTexas](https://www.facebook.com/SNBofTexas) [in @security-national-bank](https://www.linkedin.com/company/security-national-bank)



**Dominic Perry**

Founder & President

*Cox School of Business '05*



EVERY BUILD DESERVES THE GOAT!

[scrap-it.com](http://scrap-it.com)

📷 @letsgetscrapy

in @scrap-it





***BOYD, SHACKELFORD,  
BARNETT & DIXON, LLC***

## **YOUR COMPREHENSIVE INSURANCE BROKERAGE**

BSBD Group is a full-service insurance agency committed to providing comprehensive, customized coverage for individuals, families, and businesses. Our brokers' expertise spans all lines, including Commercial Insurance, Personal Insurance, Keyman Life Insurance, and Group Health Plans. At BSBD we ensure every client receives solutions tailored to their unique needs.

With an unwavering focus on clarity, reliability, and long-term protection, we deliver guidance you can trust and coverage you can depend on. At BSBD Group, we safeguard what matters most, so you can move forward with confidence, security, and peace of mind.

### **Your Insurance Solutions**

- Commercial Insurance
- Personal Insurance
- Claims Solutions
- Group Health Insurance
- Individual Life Insurance
- Bonds

**[bsbdgroup.com](https://bsbdgroup.com)**

**in** Boyd, Shackelford, Barnett & Dixon, LLC (BSBD Group)

# Bigham Agency



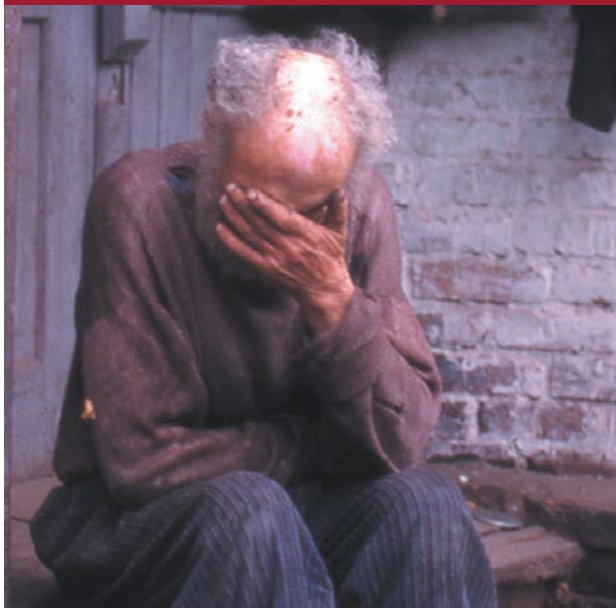
NONPROFIT FUNDRAISING • DIGITAL, DIRECT, SOCIAL



**E. Paul Bigham**  
President

*Cox School of  
Business '70, '75*

Bigham Agency is a direct response marketing firm specializing in nonprofit fundraising and communications, as well as commercial advertising and strategic consulting.



**BighamAgency.com | 972-978-2561**

Bigham Agency has raised over \$3 billion in operational funds for nonprofits to feed the hungry, house the homeless, clothe the naked, and heal the sick around the world, including Holocaust survivors in Ukraine as pictured above.

# LIFE AFTER BALL



**Life After Ball** assists SMU student-athletes with the transition from their sport to the professional world upon graduation.



Instagram: @smu\_lifefterball  
LinkedIn: SMU Athletics' Life After Ball (LAB)  
Twitter: @LifeAfterBall\_



20<sup>th</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY

# SMART PLAY FOR GROWING MINDS

*PlayWisely® is a scientifically structured developmental class designed to enhance cognitive processing and motor skill*



## ABOUT US

Combining science, education, and play, PlayWisely® helps children ages 0-5 build strong cognitive, sensory, and motor skills during the brain's most important early years. Join thousands of families who've given their child a smart start!




Owner / CEO

**Haley Huffines Gigliotti**

Cox MBA '17

## FAST FACTS

- ✓ Science Based
- ✓ 30 min. weekly classes
- ✓ 3-5 kids per class
- ✓ Certified Coaches

 PlayWiselyKids  
 [www.PlayWisely.com](http://www.PlayWisely.com)  
 [Haley@PlayWisely.com](mailto:Haley@PlayWisely.com)



*Founded in 2006*

SCAN TO LEARN MORE!





# Agility

HOLDINGS GROUP

[agilityholdingsgroup.com](http://agilityholdingsgroup.com)

---

**Jason Wright**

Board Member/Chief Government  
Affairs Officer

*Cox School of Business '14*



before

# SOUND OF A ROSE



after

The Whole Package - We're a full-scope content agency that makes creation simple for busy marketing leaders.

[soundofarose.com](https://soundofarose.com)

[in @soundofarose](#) [▶ @soundofarose](#)



**Aaron Rose**  
Founder / Owner

*Meadows School of the Arts '12*



# HILLTOP

PROPERTY TAX

**Austin Federer**

Founder

*Cox School of Business '16, '17*

**hilltop-tx.com**

**in** @ hilltop-property-tax

Trusted Advisors for Your Property Tax Needs



# SEWELL BUICK GMC

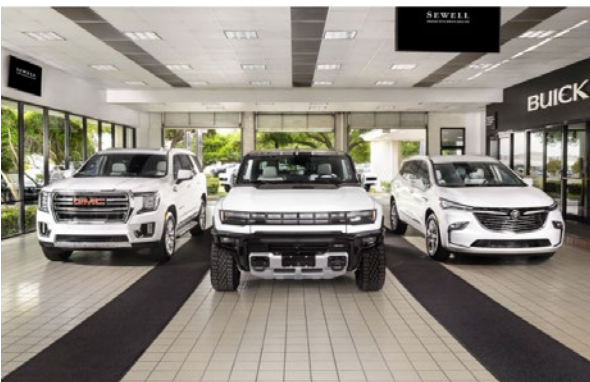
Obsessed with service since 1911.

[sewell.com](http://sewell.com)

f @Sewell

@drivesewell

@SewellTV



# Thank You to Our Partners

Thank you to our partners for supporting our programming and member initiatives.

Your commitment strengthens our work and the SMU alumni community.

Your support drives the continued growth and success of The 1911 Group.







[1911gp.com](http://1911gp.com)