



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 21, 2025

Cheekwood Welcomes New Board Trustees

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Cheekwood Estate & Gardens welcomes several new Board Trustees whose initial three-year term began January 1, 2025. The Board Officers for 2024-25 are **Ronald Roberts**, Chair; **Matthew Kisber**, Vice Chair; **Vicki McCluggage**, Secretary; and **Josh Trusley** Treasurer.

Officers:

Ronald Roberts, Chair, is a managing partner for Finn's Partners Nashville office and leads its client retention program. He is a member of DVL Seigenthaler's crisis communications team and is certified in crisis communications management via the Institute for Crisis Management. He also specializes in media training, message development, media relations and strategic planning and has expertise in corporate communication and conflict resolution. He has also provided counsel and direction for clients in the development and implementation of DEI and DEI-related programs. Ronald has been inducted to the Middle Tennessee State University College of Mass Communication's Wall of Fame and was recognized as a 100 Black Men of Middle Tennessee Distinguished Member.

Matthew Kisber, Vice Chair, is a co-founder of Silicon Ranch Corporation and served as CEO of the company until becoming Chairman in July 2019. Matt brings a unique background to Silicon Ranch, having been a business owner and having served eight years as Tennessee Commissioner of Economic Development. Matt is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and served 10 terms in the Tennessee House of Representatives. In the private sector, Matt grew up in his family's department store business in Jackson, Tennessee. Matt has also served as Chairman of the Tennessee Business Roundtable and is a founding board member and former Chairman of the Tennessee Advanced Energy Business Council.

Josh Trusley, Treasurer, serves as EY's Nashville office managing partner where he leads engagements for public and private companies, assists companies with capital raising activities, M&A, advises on governance frameworks and has lead consulting engagements related to the deployment of new technologies and the development of governance frameworks. Josh has served on the Cheekwood Finance Committee since 2020. He was recognized as one of Nashville Business Journal's 40 under 40 in 2018.

Vicki McCluggage, Secretary, is a California native who moved to Nashville in 2013 with her husband Kerry. A graduate of the University of Southern California, she enjoyed a successful career in international television programming sales with CBS and LORIMAR. As a volunteer she held positions on the Board of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, The Pasadena Showcase for the Arts, The Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation, and was very committed to the Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism Board at USC, receiving several Alumni Awards from USC for her dedicated service and fundraising.

New Board Trustees include:

Will Alexander, Chief Investment Officer, Hall Capital

Ran Carthon, Investor and former EVP/General Manager of the Tennessee Titans

Laurel Creech, Director of Tennessee Nature Conservancy

Aaron Dorn, President and CEO, Studio Bank

Lisa K. Helton, Attorney, Sherrard Roe Voigt & Harbison

Giles Ward, Chief Financial Officer, Equitable Property Company

Jerry Williams, Former President of Leadership Nashville

Sally Williams, President, Nashville Music & Business Strategy, Live Nation

“We are excited to welcome these new trustees who bring their distinct skills and perspectives to our board, as Cheekwood continues to serve our community with a diverse array of public programs, educational classes and outreach initiatives,” said Ronald Roberts, Cheekwood Board Chair.

To read more about Cheekwood’s leadership and board of trustees, visit cheekwood.org/about/leadership-board-of-trustees/

About Cheekwood Estate & Gardens

With its intact and picturesque vistas, Cheekwood is distinguished as one of the leading Country Place Era estates in the nation. Formerly the family home of Mabel and Leslie Cheek, the 1930s estate, with its 30,000-square-foot Mansion and 55-acres of gardens, today serves the public as a botanical garden, arboretum, and art museum with furnished period rooms and permanent collection galleries devoted to American art from the 18th to mid-20th centuries. The property includes 13 distinct gardens including the Blevins Japanese Garden and the Bracken Foundation Children’s Garden, as well as a 1.5-mile woodland trail featuring outdoor monumental sculpture. Each year, Cheekwood hosts seasonal festivals including Cheekwood in Bloom, Summertime at Cheekwood, Cheekwood Harvest and Holiday LIGHTS. Cheekwood is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and nationally as

a Level II Arboretum. It is a three-time voted USA Today Top 10 Botanical Garden and in 2021 was recognized by Fodors as one of the 12 Most Beautiful Gardens in the American South. Cheekwood is located eight miles southwest of downtown Nashville at 1200 Forrest Park Drive. It is open Tuesday through Sunday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., with extended days and hours of operation depending on the season. Visit cheekwood.org for current hours and to purchase advance tickets required for admission.

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Media Contact

Emily Luxen

Cheekwood External Relations Manager

eluxen@cheekwood.org

(629) 666-9986