



JUNE 2021

FOUNDATIONS

ASHLEY FURNITURE INDUSTRIES INVESTS \$1 MILLION IN NEW HALL OF FAME HOME

The Wanek Family and Ashley Furniture Industries recently made a generous \$1 million investment as a lead donor in the Hall of Fame Building Fund for our new home.

The contribution establishes the Center for Leadership in High Point, will provide a platform for education, networking and inspiration. As a catalyst to leverage the power of the \$150 billion home furnishings industry, it will serve as a unifying source to enrich the education of its leaders.

Plans call for the exploration of new technology, new techniques and whatever the future holds to improve the quality of decisions made throughout our industry for generations to come.



Ron Wanek



Todd Wanek



"We are deeply grateful to the Wanek family and Ashley Furniture for the vision they bring to this project," says Karen McNeill Pond, Hall of Fame CEO. "They have encouraged us to build collaboration across all categories by developing a broad base of support for ongoing education. Their leadership and partnership will be instrumental in helping us fulfill this mission."

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A CHAT WITH THE ARCHITECTS

To learn more about the concept behind our new home, watch the conversation with our architects, Peter Freeman and John Kennett of Freeman Kennett Architects. The glass and steel structure, leading with digital imagery, will be spectacular in both form and function. This will be a living space, constantly changing, flexible and inspirational – a Center for Leadership worthy of our industry.



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COVID-19 SPOTLIGHT TEMPUR+SEALY



As part of our initiative to preserve and highlight the industry's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Hall of Fame was recently delighted to receive a considerable donation of materials from Tempur Sealy. Included were signs, window clings, and banners that prominently advertise Tempur Sealy's Clean Shop Promise, and inform visitors about the steps being taken to ensure a safe experience for customers and employees. In May 2020, Tempur Sealy announced that they would be taking steps to change their in-store and delivery experiences, with an emphasis on increased deep cleaning, employee health and training, and safe shopping. The materials donated to the Hall of Fame detail the Clean Shop Promise, and are an example of the quick adaption seen throughout this industry during a time of uncertainty.



The Home of the Hall of Fame: A Center for Leadership

During Market, the International Market Centers hosted a cocktail party to unveil the plans for our new home and for our lead donors to share why they are supporting the project. Todd Wanek spoke about how our new home will be a catalyst for actionable change through leadership education and transformation. Hunt Broyhill shared why the family is naming the emerging leader award the Paul Broyhill Future Leader Award. Bill Hinks told about the Celebration Hall as a world-class gathering place to connect, learn and honor. Irv Blumkin talked of the need for a place to create a legacy as an industry of generations of families. Keith Koenig spoke of promoting our industry through a digital universe and video that tells the story of home furnishings. Michael Amini talked of the need to preserve our memorabilia and our stories. Our emcee, Bob Maricich, poignantly compared the \$15 billion football industry and the \$10.3 billion baseball industry with home furnishings. "We are a \$150 billion industry without a home for ongoing discovery, inspiration and networking. We need a home worthy of this industry that has provided our livelihood and lifelong friends. This is not just another donation."

*We serve a noble purpose:
We improve lives by
creating beautiful homes.*

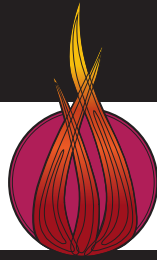
The Hall of Fame is a 501(3)(c) nonprofit public charity. Our donors represent individuals, corporations, other foundations, and the government. Our DTC account can receive gifts of appreciated securities.

To play a significant role in our industry, please contact Karen McNeill, 336.882.5900.

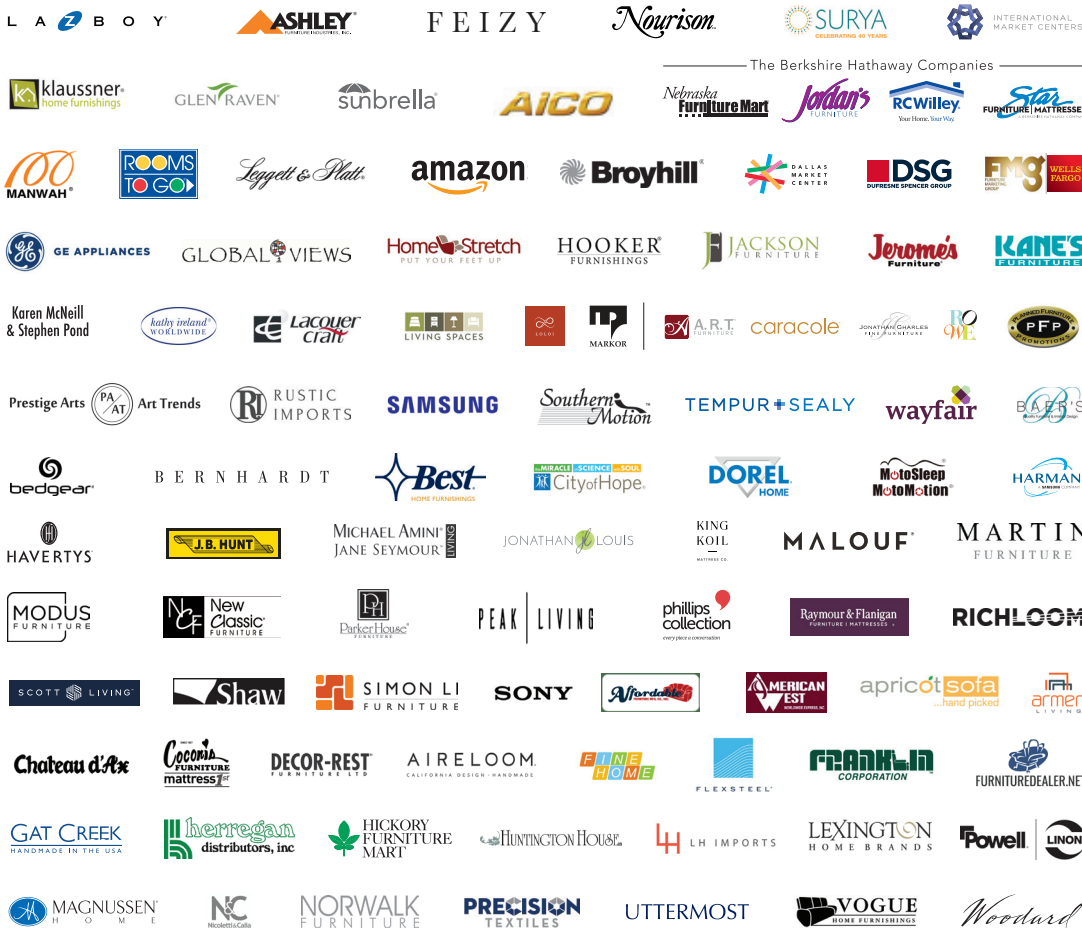
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THE INDUCTION CELEBRATION Sunday 10.17.21



Banquet Sponsors



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We are always eager to hear and share good news from our members, sponsors and the industry. Please tag us in your social posts @homefurnishingshalloffame.