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Media contact: Kate Edwards, kate@cielostrategy.com, 210.414.9469

Position posting and application instructions: <https://www.kittlemansearch.com/news/current-searches/>

Arboretum San Antonio Launches Chief Executive Officer Search

San Antonio (July 25, 2024) – Arboretum San Antonio, a planned 188-acre arboretum, is launching a nationwide search for a Chief Executive Officer to succeed current and founding CEO Thomas Corser.

Corser has served as the founding CEO for three years. He has initiated and overseen all major activities, including the initial board formation, site selection and purchase, fundraising, communications, master planning process, and operations. Arboretum San Antonio, located on the former Republic Golf Course, will be a leading recreational, ecological, economic, and educational resource for residents and visitors of all ages. The site will feature pedestrian and bicycle trails, a nursery to propagate native and climate-resilient trees, nature-based programming, event spaces, and public art displays.

As part of its succession planning process, the Arboretum has hired Kittleman & Associates, a national search firm that specializes in recruiting CEOs, to find the organization's next leader. Cory King, Kittleman's President & CEO, will lead the search in partnership with Arboretum San Antonio's Board of Directors. Kittleman & Associates focuses on CEO searches across the nonprofit sector, with a particular emphasis on public parks, gardens and arboreta, conservation organizations, and foundations.

"Arboretum San Antonio will be a world-class arboretum and destination for visitors and residents of all ages. A project of this magnitude will take a significant investment of resources, and our Board of Directors is forever grateful to our founding CEO, Tom Corser. His dedication and passion have brought us to where we are today. As Tom is ready to enjoy his next phase of retirement, we have chosen Kittleman & Associates as our expert partner to bring our next leader to the arboretum," said Evangelina Flores, Chairman of the Board.

Kittleman & Associates has a strong background in recruiting CEOs for arboreta and public gardens across the country, having worked with many of the country's top institutions. In addition, Kittleman has a deep background in Texas, having worked in every major market in the State, with a significant presence in the San Antonio community.

"We are honored to be partnering with Arboretum San Antonio as it realizes its vision of creating a landmark destination for both locals and visitors," said King. "We are confident our partnership will identify the right leader to develop this new arboretum reflecting the unique culture and character of San Antonio."

The position posting and guide can be found here: <https://www.kittlemansearch.com/news/current-searches/>

Arboretum San Antonio will be the first arboretum in San Antonio and South Texas and Texas' second-largest arboretum, boasting 188 acres of green space with heritage trees, Salado Creek, four-plus miles of existing paved trails, and a recycled water pond. The southeast San Antonio location, formerly Republic Golf Course, was purchased in the fall of 2023. A 12-month master planning process through May 2025 is underway to engage the community with input and visioning to create the foundational plan for the future. For more information, visit arboretumsa.org.

Founded in 1963, Kittleman & Associates is a national executive search firm that specializes in the recruitment of CEOs for tax-exempt nonprofit organizations, public charities, and philanthropic organizations. Kittleman recruits leaders for the entire nonprofit sector including parks, gardens and arboreta, conservation and advocacy organizations, and foundations, among many others. Kittleman was founded in Chicago, IL, and has offices in Denver, CO, Philadelphia, PA, and Boston, MA. For more information, visit kittlemansearch.com.

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